

New art now on display at Florence Chamber of Commerce

The Florence Area Chamber of Commerce's Visitor Center, 290 Highway 101, features a different local artist each month. Their July display of local artistry features a variety of pieces from Backstreet Gallery.

"Backstreet Gallery's display fills the walls and counters of the Chamber's Visitors Center with original paintings, photography, fiber art, pastels, ceramics, glass art, gourd enhancement, woodwork and even books," says Executive Director Bettina Hannigan.

"The artists from Backstreet love to express their love of Florence and the Oregon Coast in their art work," says Karen Nichols, Backstreet Gallery's publicist. "To express this love, showing at the chamber gives them a chance to promote tourism and economic growth in their community and brag a little about the beauty we have here in Florence through their art."

Backstreet Gallery features the work of local artists Stephanie Ames, Karen Nichols, Kristin Anderson, Pattie Brooks-Anderson, Judy Fleagle, Daphne John, Colleen



COURTESY PHOTO

Pattie Brooks-Anderson, "Legend of the Spirit Bear"

McKnight, Kathryn Damon-Dawson, Jim Prentice, Jane Rincon, Jayne Smoley, Kathy Shamey, Susan Thomas, Charles Draper and Kathy Elfers.

"We are delighted to feature the work of the artists from Backstreet Gallery this month," adds Hannigan. "Backstreet Gallery has been an integral part of growing the arts in Florence for more than 12 years and we welcome their partner-

ship in raising Florence's profile with potential visitors and attracting visitors to Florence to appreciate and participate in this burgeoning area of tourism."

"The background of each artist is varied from teaching, graphic design, public relations, floral design, corporate administration, to theater and more," Nichols explains. "They are well traveled and have lived in various places around the United States and the world. They bring with them the diversity that makes Backstreet Gallery one of the best galleries on the Oregon Coast."

According to Nichols the artists' work has been shown in

various venues around Florence and Oregon, the Florence Events Center, Old Town Coffee and Gallery, the Florence Regional Arts Alliance gallery, The Studios at Jayne Smoley Design, the Siuslaw Library, Peace Harbor Hospital, Newport Art Center, Earthworks and Wave Gallery in Yachats and A Great Gallery in Gerhart. Several artists are members of the Watercolor Society of Oregon.

"Part of our plan in remodeling the chamber's Visitor Center this spring was to be able to offer local artists a place to exhibit their work, especially works that bring attention to the beauty of Oregon's Coastal

Playground," explains Hannigan.

To enjoy the artists' complete array of art, visit Backstreet Gallery, 1421 Bay St., in Florence. It is open daily from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., or visit backstreetgallery.org.

The Visitors Center is open Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Each month, the Chamber features new 2- and 3-D exhibits by local artists and galleries.

For more information about the Florence Area Chamber of Commerce, and how to join or volunteer, visit FlorenceChamber.com or call 541-997-3128.

'Big Pharma: Market Failure' documentary to be screened

The Florence chapter of Health Care for All Oregon will be holding a public screening of the film "Big Pharma: Market Failure" on Sunday, July 16, at 1:30 p.m.

It will be presented in the Bromley Room at the Siuslaw Public Library, 1460 Ninth St.

The new film from producer Richard Master (CEO of MCS Industries) explores the complicated relationship between the pharmaceutical industry and lawmakers.

The film is being presented at the same time Oregon lawmakers have been debating the Oregon Affordable Drug Prices Act, HB 2387.

A discussion will follow the film led by health professionals and local health care advocates, with time for audience participation.


For more information call 541-997-2997 or learn about Health Care reform in Oregon by visiting www.hcao.org.



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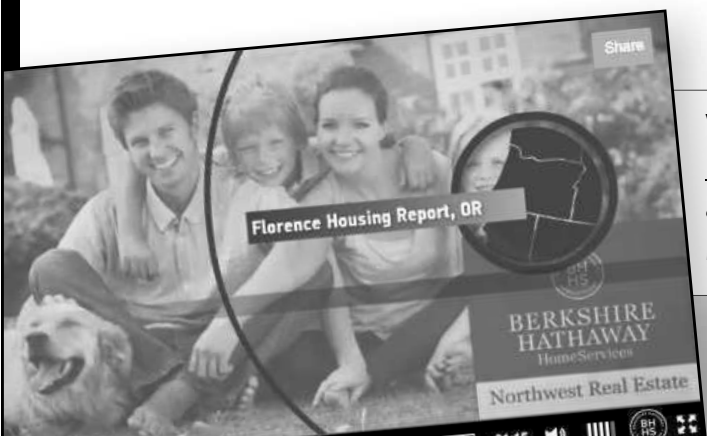


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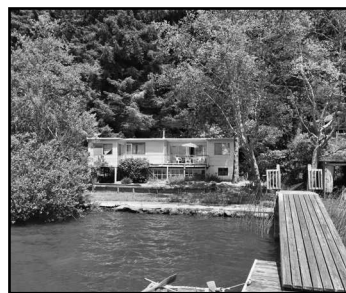
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3 Bdrm, 2 Ba 2148 sq ft
\$349,900 BH7513 ML#17043882