

FOR BRUCE from page 1A

BRUCE'S FATHER

Bruce was a water person from day one. We lived very close to Lake Erie, and there was water everywhere. He scared me half to death half the time, because if I didn't have a hold of him,

he would be out in the water.

Early on, we got a little row boat, and went out on a little lake. I had to watch him because he was almost in the water himself after the fish.

He had his own mindset. He would do whatever it is he felt he wanted to do and felt what was right, and some-

times, not always as wise as I thought he might be.

He was still a teenager, about junior college age, and it was the height of the hippie movement.

Bruce, all of a sudden, calls me up and says, "Dad, I've decided to join the army."

I said, "Join the army, Bruce? You gotta be kidding. If you're going to join something, join the Coast Guard or the Navy. You want to wind up in a rice paddy in Vietnam?"

He said, "No dad, I got it figured out. I know they're going to have an examination to start out, and I learned that if you score high enough in the exam, you get to choose where you go. Only dumb people enlist in the Army, so I'm going to be in the top one percent."

Sure enough, he got in the one percent and got to be a psychiatric assistant in the Army.

I got a call from Bruce early on. He said, "Dad, the Army stinks, I'm going to resign."

I said, "Lots of luck, Bruce."

A couple of months later, he calls me and says, "Dad, they ordered me to go to Kansas City to police the rioters and anti-Vietnam protestors. I'll be damned if I'm going to play pig for the US Army."

So, he refused to go, and he got busted down to KP duty for the rest of his term. He was told that he would get a dishonorable discharge and lose all of his benefits. They fought the army and won the case.

If he hadn't have done that, he would not have had his Army benefits and would be able to come to this part of the country and get his education degree and become a teacher.

I'm just so proud of him.

People say that he was lucky. Indeed, I was always very appreciative of the luck that Bruce had.

But the greatest stroke of luck that Bruce encountered in his entire life was encountering and getting to love his wife Sandra.

NOLAN HUNTINGTON

He was an avid fisherman, and just passionate about it. If it wasn't some kind of fishing that challenged Bruce, he didn't really seem too interested in it. He would find places that nobody knew where to fish.

Once, were going up the coast, looking for near-shore halibut. We

went up by sea lion caves.

Bruce was watching a whale, out in the distance. We've seen whales out there, humpbacks, gray whales and orcas. This one was different. It would blow, and we would see it come up, then go down, up, then down. We thought it was just a different kind of whale, just coming towards us. It was the biggest whale we had ever seen.

When we got in that evening, we both concluded that it was a blue whale, the largest creature to ever be on this earth.

I called Bruce Sunday night, the night before he died. We would always call each other, talk about what we were going to do. I was going to go tuna fishing. Bruce wasn't going to fish tuna; he had already caught all the tuna he could stand.

I was asking him about his radio.

We could always hear him on his radio, and the thing about Bruce is, he was the commentator of the fishing community here. If there was anything going on, he was always talking about how many fish he caught, what the weather is like, how many whales there are.

But then he'd have to stop and go pee.

There was never a time when you were on the ocean and you wouldn't get a chuckle with Bruce on the radio. We're going to miss that. We've really appreciated all the radio talk, and the fishing experiences we had.

He was a special person, for sure.

JULIA TOUSLEY-RITT

I taught with Bruce for many years at the elementary school.

When I first moved to teaching fourth grade, Bruce was a couple doors down from me. He came into my room, and I had put up these beautiful posters from the U.S. Forest Service of butterflies and all these wonderful things.

Bruce came in and said, "You're decorating too much! You don't want those kids looking up at the walls, you want them looking at you. That's why I don't decorate my room. I'm the entertainment."

And he certainly was.

Way back when, the teachers' lounge was always a lively place when Bruce was around.

Bill McKenzie got a big stump and wrote "Bruce's Stump" on it because Bruce had an opinion and a story about everything. He would go on and on.

Whether you agreed with Bruce or

not, he was fun to argue with, and he was fun to agree with.

The kids loved him. He was unique.

I do want to say that his love of teaching was wonderful, but he always thanked Sandra immensely for letting him retire early, so he could fish.

MIKE, SANDRA'S BROTHER

Bruce was a fanatic about everything. He was a fanatic about fishing, teaching and, a long, long time ago, he was a fanatic about frisbee.

If you threw a frisbee, Bruce was going to catch it. That was his only goal. We're throwing one day, and I was like, "Let's see if you can catch this one." I throw one, and I'm watching Bruce and the frisbee go full speed toward a building. I'm thinking, "Oh my God, he will not stop."

He grabbed that frisbee going full blast about three feet from the building. I could see burning rubber on his shoes as he was trying to stop hitting the building. He caught the edge of the window seal, glasses shattered. I could see blood gushing.

I ran toward him, and he was on the ground. I thought, "I killed Bruce. Now my sister is going to kill me."

I stood over him for a while, and he finally came to, saying, "I caught it, didn't I?"

I said technically, when you hit the ground, it dropped out of your hand.

That's the way he was. When you interacted with Bruce, he was full speed.

DEANNA FRAIZER

He was my PE teacher 20 some odd years ago. No matter what we were doing, whether it was dancing the macarena or going underneath the big parachute, every day was something different.

He always had a smile on his face, and to me, that's one of the best things you can do. Have fun.

He loved us, no matter what. Not everyone always did what he wanted us to do, or how he wanted it to be done, but he didn't care. As long as you were trying and having fun, that's all that mattered to him.

I loved that every time I saw him, he still remembered me. Even though I didn't see him very often when I graduated, he still knew my name and remembered things that happened when I was in his class.

I'll miss him.

See FOR BRUCE page 7A

**shoppe™**

Keep it local.

Bud's Upholstery**20% off****Materials on any new job**

When you present this coupon. expires August 31, 2018

541-997-4856

4981 Hwy. 101 N., Florence

Cross Road

Assembly of God

We invite you to join us for Sunday Services, 9am and 10:45am.

First time visitor coupon for a free espresso drink.

Corner of 10th & Maple

541-997-3533**Denture Services, Inc****OFFERING FREE Consultations****William Foster, LD (541) 997-6054****524 Laurel Street - Florence**
(coupon required)**Hobergs**

Complete Auto Repair

20% OFF**Muffler /Exhaust work**

(541) 997-2413

345 Highway 101 - Florence
Expires August 31, 2018**KRAB KETTLE**Fresh Fish and Seafood in the case,
Krab Kettle brand tuna.Enjoy a complimentary
cup of chowder
with purchase of \$25 or more.

One per coupon/Expires August 31, 2018

541-997-8996

280 Hwy. 101 • Florence

DENTUREMASTERS & IMPLANT CENTER**45% OFF IMPLANTS NOW****Dr. James Ridley, DDS****(541) 997-6226****206 Nopal Street - Florence****Swanson's Pest Management****Get Ready for Spring****FREE Inspections**Inspect-Correct-Protect
Sustained Pest Management
solutions for your
home and businesses.

541-997-4027 • 800-622-8993

www.swansonpm.com

CCB#79884

WALLY'S

Septic Tank Pumping

\$25.00 off Pumping or**\$10.00 off a Service Call**Call Today to Schedule an
appointment
Call 541-997-8885Payment must be made at the time
of service to receive discount.
Excludes payment made with Credit Card
Coupon expires - August 31, 2018

www.shoppelocal.biz

Buying or Selling? I can help.

82864 S Canary Rd – Location, Location! 40 acres of land, approx 13 miles down South Canary. How much more privacy can you get? Build your dream home here and get all the views you can ask for: ocean, lake and mountain. **\$175,000.** #2181-13278114



Brian Jagoe
Principal Broker
541 999-1314

**1749 Highway 101 • 541-997-1200****Watch****"In Search of the Lord's Way"****Sunday, 7:30 AM****KMTR Cable Channel 12****Western Lane Translator Channel 16.2****Then visit the****Florence church of Christ****1833 Tamarack****Florence, Oregon**and experience the joy and simplicity of
pre-denominational New Testament Worship. (Romans 16:16)**Bible Study: Sunday, 10:00 am**
Worship: Sunday, 11:00 am**www.churchofchristflorence.org**

Join Us In Worship

BAY BERRY CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

Friday Evenings – 7 p.m. SINGSPARATION

You are invited to come and sing your favorite Ole Time Gospel songs. Come and enjoy a time of fellowship & refreshments before we sing.

Bay Berry Square is 1.5 miles north of Fred Meyers' Store
88906 Highway 101 N, Florence, OR (milepost 185N)
For Info: Jack - 541-999-8278 + Ron - mccrarty9483@gmail.com**THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST****OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS**Located at Munsel Lake Road and North Fork Road
Worship Services 10:00 AM Sunday
All are welcome! 541-997-7268**COMMUNITY BAPTIST CHURCH**4590 Hwy. 101, Across from Fred Meyer -- 997-7418
Sunday School, 9:30a.m. – Worship, 10:45
Wed. Prayer - 6:00 p.m. –Wed. Ministries 1-8 Grade 7 p.m.**CROSS ROAD ASSEMBLY OF GOD**

Corner of 10th & Maple –997-3533

Wednesday, 7 p.m. - Family Connections

Adult Bible Class, 9:30am on Sundays.

Sunday Services, 9am and 10:45am.

florencecrossroad.org • office@florencecrossroadag.org

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH - SBC1935 25th St. – 997-7660 • Pastor, Dr. Marvin Owen
Series "People of the Bible." on Wednesdays 6 p.m.
A friendly place to worship, vacationers welcome.
Sun.; 11am & 6pm, Sunday school 9:45am.**FLORENCE CHRISTIAN CHURCH**

2nd & Ivy – 997-2961 – Non-Denominational

Worship Service: 9:00 am & 10:30 am

Middle School and High School youth groups meet on
Wednesday.**FLORENCE CHURCH OF CHRIST**

Pre-Denominational (Romans 16:16)

1833 Tamarack Street (2 blocks east of Hwy. 101 on 18th St.)
Bible Study: Sunday 10 a.m.; Worship: Sunday 11 a.m.
www.churchofchristflorence.org**FLORENCE CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE**

12th and Nopal –997-9020

Worship Service 10:30 a.m.

Saturdays, Mens' Breakfast @ 8 a.m.

Online Worship Service@ www.florencecnaz.com

FLORENCE SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST

4445 Hwy 101 (South of Fred Meyer) – 997-3951

Worship on Saturday 10:30 A.M.

Adult/Children's Sabbath School 9:15 A.M.

FLORENCE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP87738 Hwy 101 at Heceta Beach Road
RUAUU? All are welcome to explore the answer.
Sunday Worship Service ~ 10:00 a.m.
www.FlorenceUUF.org - (541) 997.2840**FLORENCE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

Worship Services 10:00 a.m. Sunday

Adult Classes at 9am; Children's Sunday School at 10:30m

Coffee Fellowship Following Service

2nd & Kingwood • (541) 997-6025

FOURSQUARE CHURCH1624 Highway 101 (next to A&W) -- 997-6337
Pastor George Pagel – Something for the entire family.

Sun. Services: 10:45 a.m., Wed. Bible Study 7 p.m.

Website:florence4square.com

NEW LIFE LUTHERAN CHURCH, E.L.C.A.

21st & Spruce Street – 997-8113

Adult Forum 9 a.m. – Sunday School 10:30 a.m.

Worship services; Sun. 10:30am & Mon. 5:30 pm

Pastor Lori Blake

www.lutheranchurchflorence.com

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF THE SIUSLAW

Traditional Worship Service 10:00 a.m., Reverend Greg Wood

Sunday School and Nursery – Organ and Choir

All Welcome. Come as you are.

3996 N Hwy 101 997-7136

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS (QUAKERS)

"War is still not the answer." FCNL

We worship in homes at 11am Sundays

Call 997-4237 or 902-9511 for locations.

RESURRECTION LUTHERAN CHURCH, L.C.M.S.

Every Sun., Bible Class 9 a.m., Worship Service 10 a.m.

85294 Hwy. 101 S. – 997-8038

DVD of Weekly worship service available.

Pastor Randy Benschoter

ST. ANDREW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

2135 19th St. – 997-6600

8:30am, Tuesdays, Morning Prayer

Sunday Services: 8 a.m. and 10 a.m. - Wed, 11 a.m.

Everyone Welcome – Come walk our Labyrinth.

SAINT MARY, OUR LADY OF THE DUNES

CATHOLIC CHURCH

Masses: Sat. 5:30 p.m., Sun. 11:00 a.m.

1.5 miles south of river on Hwy 101 – 997-2312

Join Us In Worship**4 lines,****approx 15 words,****\$10 a week****4 week Minimum****Deadline****3 p.m. Mondays.**

**To be included in this directory contact
the Siuslaw News at 997-3441, or drop off
information at 148 Maple St., Old Town, Florence.**

**Florence Antiques &****Coast Jewelers****1220 Bay Street. #100
Florence. OR 97439****541.997.8104**