

Santa to make visit to Florence Elks Lodge

Santa Claus is coming to town on Saturday, Dec. 15, from noon to 2 p.m. for the Florence Elks Lodge #1858's annual Children's Christmas Party Extravaganza.

This year there will be musical entertainment, along with the children from Children's Repertory of Oregon Workshops (CROW) performing some Christmas dances and skits.

There will be a game show with McDonald's gift cer-

tificates as prizes, piñatas will be loaded with candies, gifts will be available to every child in attendance and cookies and ice cream will be served.

And lodge members fully expect a visit from Santa Claus, who has said that he would take time out from his busy schedule to visit Florence and our children.

All children are welcome.

Florence Elks Lodge is at 1686 12th St.

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THE SIUSLAW NEWS.COM

Library celebrates 'Hang-It-All' art winners



COURTESY PHOTO

(From left) Photographers Craig Shreeve and Jerry Schneider with their award-winning art.

Florence artists Jerry Schneider and Craig Shreeve were each recognized for their outstanding photographic pieces after the completion of the annual "Hang it All" community art show at Siuslaw Public Library.

This non-juried public art display is open to all and takes place each November.

"I was excited to see such a strong showing of art at this year's event," said Library Director Meg Spencer. "I was so struck by the diversity and quality of the show. It is special to see so many community members share their art with all of us as part of each year's

display, and I really think both winning pieces captured that spirit of public art."

Schneider's image, "Chestnut Visitor," was chosen as the People's Choice Award. This designation was determined after a month of voting from patrons who viewed the full display and selected a favorite.

"I'm really grateful for all those people who voted for my art," said Schneider. "Photography has always been a passion and I'm inspired by what nature has to offer."

Schneider was also inspired by the show to apply to the Library's Art Display Committee, and is now serving as a member

of the group.

Selected for the Bob Kutsch Award by the Library's Art Display Committee was Shreeve's "A Dramatic Depiction of Heceta Head Lighthouse." This digitally altered image, printed on canvas, shows the famously photogenic lighthouse in a new light.

Speaking about his work as a photographer, Shreeve said, "My hope is that I never stop creating."

Shreeve is also a member of the Siuslaw Viewfinders, a Florence-based camera club. In addition to the display of his winning piece, Shreeve is featured along with other members of

the Viewfinders throughout December in the library's lobby display.

Both winning pieces are on display at the Siuslaw Public Library in Florence throughout the month of December.

In addition to viewing the winning entries, community members are invited to begin working on a piece for the Hang It All 2 show in May 2019. The theme for the spring show will be "Things with Wings."

For more information about the Siuslaw Public Library District's monthly art displays or to apply to display your work, go online to www.SiuslawLibrary.org or call 541-997-3132.

Rodger Bennett photography featured at Visitor Center

The eye-popping work of local photographer Rodger Bennett is being featured in the monthly art exhibit at the Florence Area Chamber of Commerce's Visitor Center in December. The chamber features a different local art exhibit each month.

Bennett's exhibit includes nine of his photos, self-framed, on high-gloss metal with sharp-as-a-tack detail and brilliant color. The pieces vary in size from medium-sized accent photos to larger murals. There is also one of his photos printed on canvas with a floating frame.

All are available to purchase after the exhibit ends in December.

"This year's theme is largely wildlife that I enjoy photographing and displaying," said Bennett. "Most are North American, but there are a couple of African creatures mixed in. It is pretty typical of my studio, although there are no portraits on display. I really enjoy making portraits that people like."

"We are delighted to have Rodger's work on display this month at the Chamber's visitor center," Chamber Execu-

tive Director Bettina Hannigan said. "The chamber is listed in the local art tour listings because of our monthly displays of photography, paintings, or three-dimensional art by local artists and galleries."

"It's an honor to have been chosen by the Chamber to hang my work in the Visitor Center," Bennett said. "And I'm thankful that the chamber appears to see the commercial, as well as the aesthetic and cultural, values, of local people's creative abilities. The chamber's support is certainly meaningful and appreciated. It's flattering to have

one's work included with all the attractive displays that are shown throughout the year."

Bennett's work generally includes what he enjoys most — Oregon landscapes, wildlife, art, action photography, individual and family portraits, and business/commercial photography.

"There are a couple of familiar local scenes on display as well; although the images are not the more often seen views of the sights we call our own," Bennett added. "The studio is full of more photos ... and many stories."

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