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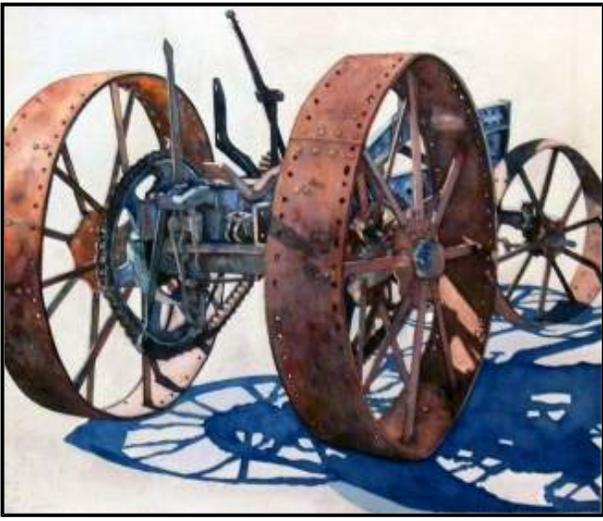
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Staff Reports

May 9, 2013

Arts council hosts mixed media exhibit



Special to the R-C 'Timed Out' by Carolyn Denning.



Special to The R-C 'Blue Dog' by Cheyenne McAfee.

The Carson Valley Arts Council is hosting a mixed media exhibit by Carolyn Denning and Cheyenne McAfee through July 3.

An artists' reception is 5 to 7 p.m. Saturday at the gallery, 1572 Highway 395, Minden. The reception is free, and includes complimentary wine and snacks. The artists will have their works available for sale.

Denning served as art editor of the yearbook in high school, and was granted several national scholastic art awards. She attended Scripps College, graduated with an art major, and received a masters of art education from Claremont graduate school.

“The next 30 years, I put producing art on the back burner, spent my creative energies on teaching special needs students and finally raising, training and showing llamas,” Denning said. “After retiring from those pursuits, I felt a need to revisit my art interests. My earlier training had included almost every art form, which probably was why I never settled on any one thing.”

In her older years, Denning concentrates on drawing, painting in watercolor and most recently, working in pastel.

“I am most interested in landscapes, both real and imaginary and old farm machinery, however, I enjoy the challenge of painting all subjects. I want my paintings to catch the viewers interest from afar and to reward them as they move closer,” Denning said. “I want color to sing and the subject to be from an interesting viewpoint. I find that attempting to meet these criteria within various subject matter to be an artistic challenge that I enjoy and never totally accomplish.”

Denning serves as president of the Carson Valley Artist Association, and is a member of gadZooks, a creative place in Gardnerville.

Cheyenne McAfee has lived in the Eastern Sierra for more than 35 years in addition to Colorado, Arizona and New Mexico. She is primarily a self-taught artist.

“I work mainly in watercolor, both transparent and opaque. For some subject matter I prefer acrylic on canvas and for fun I do tinwork figures embellished with paint,” she said of her work. “My subject matter relates to natural things, but rendered in a stylized manner with symbolic references and always a bit of whimsy.”

McAfee’s accomplishments include a Defenders of Wildlife commission of a painting to be used for their Mexican wolf poster, inclusion in the top 100 paintings for the national arts for the parks show, various commissions for poster and T-shirt designs both locally and outside the area, and first place awards and Best of Show award at juried art shows in Minden and Carson City.

“Currently I reside near Bishop, Calif., where I have been doing commissioned work, and I occasionally have a few pieces for sale,” McAfee said. “My other passion is training my dogs for sheep herding and other dog sports.”

The Carson Valley Arts Council is in a capital campaign to raise funds to retire the debt on the Copeland Lumber Warehouse.

The galley is open 10 a.m. until 5 p.m. Monday through Saturday.

To learn more about the Carson Valley Arts Council and its capital campaign go online to www.cvartscouncil.com or call 782-8207.

The Carson Valley Arts Council is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization; donations may be tax deductible as allowed by law.

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