

Quilt show week kicks off with art stroll

By Jim Cornelius
News Editor

Folks turned out in big numbers on Sunday to rock around the block in Sisters during the annual fiber arts stroll that officially kicks off Quilt Show week.

At 28 locations around town, fiber artists of all kinds — from felted-fiber artists to makers of prayer flags, fabric painters to bookmakers — showed their work and interacted with visitors. That

interaction is a key feature of the Around the Block Fiber Arts Stroll.

“I think it’s so great that you’re doing a live demo,” said one visitor to Jean Wells as she worked at Twigs with her partner, Judy Hoiness.

The quilt show founder and her artist friend collaborated to create mixed-media wall art.

“We get together and I bring fabric and she brings paper and we just start throwing things together,” Wells

said. “You’re working with another person’s ideas and it’s really fun.”

Myrna Dow was holding forth at Beacham’s Clock

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PHOTO BY JIM CORNELIUS

Jean Wells discusses her mixed-media work with a visitor during the Around the Block Fiber Arts Stroll.

art.

“I started my first one with the Quilt Show poster,” she recalled. “It was (poster artist) Dennis McGregor’s hand. I found fabric that worked really well with the poster and wrapped the mattes.”

She was so pleased with the results that she adopted the technique for other work, especially when the featured work has bright colors.

“If you have a lot of color, a regular matte is always going to look dull,” she said. “It (fabric matting) just gives a much richer tone and quality.”

Artists kept their hands

busy while being peppered with questions from patrons — most of whom are artists in their own right. The weather was hot, but it didn’t keep people down. Quilt Show Executive Director Jeanette Pilak told *The Nugget* that the turnout was strong — far more than last year.

Many visitors are coming for the whole week before Quilt Show to take classes and enjoy the pre-show events, including the art stroll. Like the visitors, the artists find the week exciting and inspiring.

“It’s so good,” Dow said. “I love this week.”



PHOTO BY JIM CORNELIUS

Myrna Dow demonstrated fabric-wrapped mattes.

Co., describing her hand-wrapped fabric mattes. Dow is an expert in matting paintings and has won numerous awards for her conventional matting work. Fabric matting is both a form of personal expression and a key part of her framing business.

As the description implies, Dow wraps the mattes in fabric and adheres them with glue and a press. Fabric matting offers a wide and vivid palette of colors and textures to set off a piece of featured

Quilt Raffle

for

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The third-annual Furry Friends quilt raffle art quilt, “No! No!,” was designed and pieced by Valerie Fercho-Tillery. The intricate detail and mischievous subjects make this a quilt you’d love to bring home.

The quilt is currently on display at The Nugget office, 442 E. Main Ave. Bring your pup by for a dog cookie and have a look!

Tickets may be purchased at The Nugget office or online at our website, www.furryfriendsfoundation.org.

Drawing will be held Monday, September 7, 2015.

100% of the proceeds go to Furry Friends Foundation.



Tickets are \$1 each, six for \$5 or go for it, 25 for \$20.



Info: 541-549-9941



“No, No!” by Valerie Fercho-Tillery | 44" x 62"