

# GARDEN: Art community gives back



All photos by Joshua Dillen The Clackamas Print

Top: Ceramics instructor Katy McFadden (center) talks about kinetic sculptures as students admire some of the new art exhibits at the site of the Clemans Memorial Garden. Bottom right: Tyler Foster, CCC art student, admires the reflective appeal and the movement of metal after another student sets the gleaming piece in motion.

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“Right now we’re in the state of fundraising when we get enough money to start constructing. We’re going to hire a landscape architect to help us plan things out, and turn the existing area into a nice contemplative space where we can present the artwork,” said Nora Brodnicki, the Art Department Chair.

“With a landscape architect, we are going to refurbish the rectangle area in front of the art building which may serve as the epicenter, but there will be paths going out to the nearby forested area which will feature sculptures as well. We’re going to have two copper gates to serve as the entrance to the garden, one by the parking lot, and a big one between the college and garden so people coming from the college can see it well,” said Thomas Wasson, digital media art instructor.

By all accounts Clemans was a true believer in giving back to the community. The

effects of his influence prove that he showed much love and appreciation for many aspects of the community. He was a very active member of society, and supported things he loved with great loyalty.

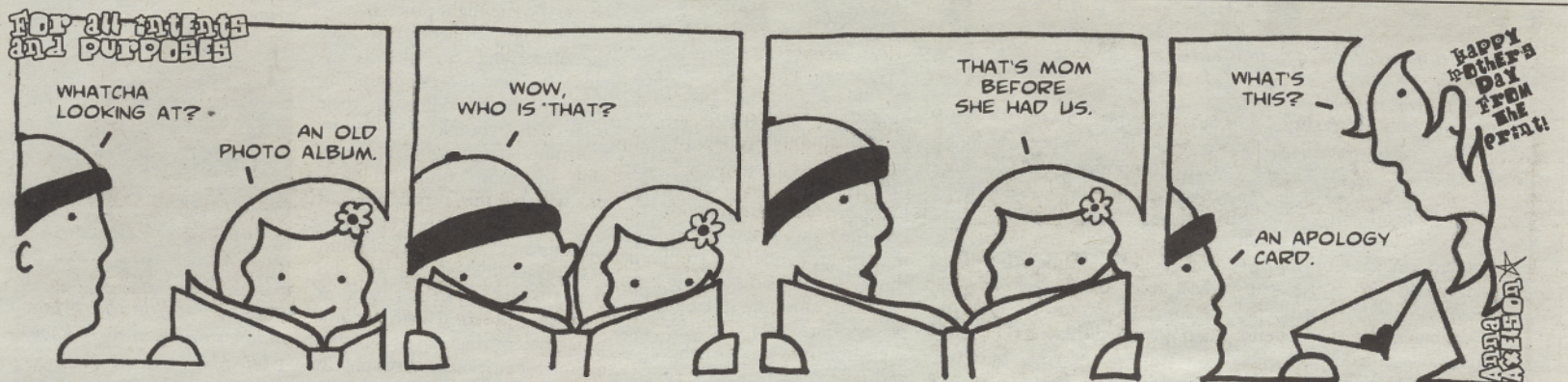
While Clemans was a lover of art, he had many other interests and hobbies throughout his life. He was an instructor at PSU, he was named Oregon City Citizen of the Year in 2009, and he even raced sports cars. Back in 1979 Clemans drove his Lotus Europa to victory five out of six times that year in the Pacific Northwest’s largest sports car racing sanctioning body, the international conference of sports car clubs.

On Thursday, May 3 the art department held a meeting and presentation for the memorial garden celebrating Clemans. The attendees were mostly friends of the Clemans’ family, faculty, community members and potential art investors. After the presentation from members of the

CCC foundation, attendees were treated to the sights of the Memorial Garden and jazz duo, Screaming Cake, band members Sacha Muller and Paul Paresa, both music students at CCC and play at various events around the college.

“The Clemans family has donated some sculptures to us already. We’ll also have a rotating exhibition to showcase loaned or leased sculptures combined with the donated or purchased sculptures. So it will be a combination of permanent purchases, and sculptures already on campus that will be relocated to the garden. It’s a multi-year plan actually,” said Wasson.

When you have a moment to spare for a walk, or just want a quiet place to eat, head toward the art department, sit at a picnic table and check out the sculptures. Take in the feeling of serenity as you let your worries fade away for a moment of true bliss and insight in an image of Clemans’ world.



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