



(From top) The Buck Harms Band at Taylor's Country Store; Gwen Childs with her stoneware and sculpture at An Artist's Way; guitarist Anthony Pope at Sassy's Imports & Time Capsule; and 'Rosella' with her homemade fudge at Special Productions



Karen Yanase (above) at Jefferson State Financial Services; and 'Niki' (left) with her baskets at Nacho Mamas (Photos by Scott Jorgensen/'I.V. News')

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Deborah Dawson art at Sterling Bank

By DOROTHEA HOVER-KRAMER

Work by Deborah Dawson, one of the area's best-known and most prolific artists, is featured at Sterling Savings Bank in Cave Junction during May and June as sponsored by Illinois Valley Fine Artists Inc.

With a bachelor of fine arts degree from Southern Oregon University at Ashland, Dawson has launched a career of creating exquisite watercolor paintings that have won many awards and are seen in galleries throughout Oregon.

She is a member of the distinguished Watercolor Society of Oregon as well as Manley Art Center, I.V. Fine Artists, and Josephine County Artists. She also served as Artist in Residence for the Southern Oregon Arts Council, but has retired from the fulfillment of teaching to express her own development as an artist in now being able to produce four to five works a month.

The exhibit includes several local landscapes and highlights an old truck in a field that can be seen along Holland Loop. "Out to Pasture" is her third painting of the quaint subject, as she felt drawn to the rust-and-turquoise patina of the 1949 International truck returning to the earth as it decomposes bit by bit.

As in most watercolor paintings, Dawson worked from light to dark to layer the paint and to show the harmonious blend of subtle colors.

She explains, "The truck literally melts into the landscape with grasses and blackberry vines growing around it as it is embraced by the

earth."

As interest in the arts continues to grow in Illinois Valley, art is becoming a valuable investment for home owners. Local, well-recognized artists' work like Dawson's significantly increases in value during the years.

Additionally, acquiring local arts brings joy to one's home and enriches our lives.

Illinois Valley Fine Artists group is a welcome envi-

ronment for anyone interested in learning more about hands-on-art-making.

Noted Dawson, "I love the support and camaraderie of the group in addition to having a large working studio with excellent lighting."

The group meets Mondays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the RCC Learning Center in Kerby on Hwy. 199. Coffee is always on, and guests are welcome. For more information, phone 592-5296.



Deborah Dawson with two of her works (Photo by 'I.V. News')



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