



Barbara and Art Linnemeyer (Photo provided)

‘Art From the Earth’ exhibit reception June 2 at So. Oregon Guild in Kerby

By JOYCE ABRAMS
A public reception will be held Saturday, June 2 to honor the five Southern Oregon Guild artists exhibiting in a new group show, “Art From the Earth,” in Kerby.
The show will open Thursday, May 31 at the Southern Oregon Guild (SOG) Gallery and Artists’ Center in the RCC Belt Bldg. across from Joe’s Market on

Tuesdays and Wednesdays, when it is closed.
The show includes representative works from Selma woodworker John Ellis; and ceramic artists Art & Barbara



The exhibit includes raku pottery by Irene Stephens, and a stone top table by John Ellis (Photos provided by Southern Oregon Guild)

Redwood Hwy.
The public can view “Art from the Earth” and meet the artists during the Artists’ Reception Saturday, June 2, from 1 to 3 p.m. at the RCC Belt Building in Kerby. Refreshments will be served.
Regular gallery hours are 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. daily except

Linnemeyer, of Cave Junction; Roxanne Hunnicutt, of Grants Pass; Heidi Rousseau, of Selma; and Irene Stephens, of Grants Pass.
Said SOG: “With his unique vision for using found local wood, Ellis creates highly individual pieces of furniture, which evoke the woods around us. John incorporates the actual shapes of naturally formed roots and branches into the functional structures of his unusual pieces.
“Art & Barbara Linnemeyer also gain inspiration from their environment, their home and studio on Hope Mountain. Combining technical experimentation with their collaborative creativity, they transform the colors and

shapes that surround their woodland studio into rich glazes and designs that bring nature into the home.”
The Linnmeyers added that, “A love of the depth and richness possible in high-fire glazes has kept us experimenting like the sorcerer’s apprentice.”
SOG continued, “One of the techniques used in Roxanne Hunnicutt’s work also evokes the forest, using wood smoke firing to color decorative platters and bowls. Roxanne explores many avenues with clay, including sculptural works and adding metal and enamel to hard-fired functional pieces.
“Heidi Rousseau’s work often lives outdoors. She focuses on one-of-a-kind earthenware garden art and wall hangings, often with a bit of whimsy. Though she also throws some of her pottery, much of her work is hand-built from clay slab and coils.
“Irene Stephens especially enjoys working with colors and incised designs. Her work in the show illustrates these interests with lovely raku pots and wall-hangings and her signature clocks that always bring a smile.”
“I work intuitively and spontaneously, and have a playful attitude toward clay. Opening my kiln is like opening gifts at Christmas,” explained Stephens.

Online contracting permits state first

House Bill 2405, establishing the nation’s first statewide online program for contracting permits, has been signed into law by Gov. Kulongoski.
The bill will allow Oregon contractors to electronically submit and manage building-related paperwork with any city or county across the state.
“This groundbreaking program will save contractors time and help complete projects more quickly -- a win for businesses and consumers,” said the governor. “This program is a prime example of business and government working together to find creative, innovative ways to improve service and Oregon’s economic competitiveness.”
With the program, contractors will now be able to use the Internet to apply, pay for and receive permits; submit building plans for review and tracking; and schedule, track and receive inspection reports with 132 cities and counties across Oregon.
The statewide program

will build on the existing e-permitting pilot project at BuildingPermits.Oregon.gov. Currently the site, hosted by the Dept. of Consumer and Business Services, allows contractors in 15 cities and counties across the state to apply and pay for simple permits.
“In less than two years of the pilot’s operation, contractors have purchased more than 10,000 permits online. Contractors and local governments have praised the new system, saying that it saves both parties a significant amount of time and makes each of them more efficient on the job,” noted Kulongoski.
HB 2405 is one of 31 regulatory streamlining bills submitted at the request of the governor to make it easier to do business in Oregon. He already has signed into law SB 89 and HB 2614, which respectively allow the temporary transfer of water rights in certain irrigation districts and permitting wineries to sell malt beverages at licensed

special events off-premises.
During the past four years, the governor said, state agencies have completed nearly 200 projects, and the Legislature has enacted more than 100 measures to simplify business regulations business, while preserving protection for the public.
“As a result, our improved regulatory climate has helped us turn our economy around -- and Oregon is now a national model in regulatory streamlining,” he said.
Oregon’s e-permitting program has received national attention. During the legislative hearing process, the Alliance for Building Regulatory Reform in the Digital Age, a national public-private sector partnership, hailed the statewide e-permitting program as a streamlining model other states can replicate.
Many states have requested information on Oregon’s program, specifically how to reduce construction costs and delays and speed economic recovery after a disaster.

Save fuel by driving in a mellow way

With record-breaking gasoline prices, Response Insurance offers tips that can help squeeze extra miles from each gallon.
*Smooth your driving by avoiding “jack rabbit” starts and sharp braking. Both waste fuel and can be hazardous for others.
*It is estimated that every mile driven faster than 55 mph costs 1 percent in fuel economy. Maintaining a constant speed also helps reduce fuel consumption.
*Air conditioners can account for a decrease of 10 to 15 percent on mileage. When entering a hot vehicle, open windows to get rid of the warmed air before turning on AC. This will enable the unit to work more efficiently.
*Accelerate when approaching a hill, rather than stepping on the petrol and switching gears once on the incline.
*Lighten your vehicle’s load by removing all unnecessary items from the trunk or rear. Every 200 pounds reduces gasoline efficiency by one mpg.
*Avoid placing items in roof racks, as it increases the air drag. Open beds on pickup trucks have the same effect, but tonneau covers can help.
*Keep tires inflated to the level recommended by the manufacturer. Fuel efficiency is affected by incorrectly inflated tires.
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