

Art About Agriculture Celebrates the Agrarian Landscape in its 34th annual touring exhibit



Crossroads is pleased to welcome our featured exhibit for July 2016 when Oregon State University's College of Agriculture Sciences brings its 34th annual Art About Agriculture touring show to Crossroads' Showcasing Art Center from Friday July 1 through July 30. The walk will open during First Friday Art Walk in beautiful Downtown Historic Baker City. Sponsored by the College of Agricultural Sciences, the exhibit celebrates the beauty and heritage of the agrarian landscape, with 11 artists from three western states who work in a variety of two and three dimensional media. These artists were invited because of their choice of subject matter and use of materials resonate strongly with this year's theme: "Agriculture of the American Landscape".

"Our goal with the 2016 show is to inspire audiences with the heritage and evolution of American agriculture, including agriculture practiced by Native Americans for centuries," explained Shelly Influss, director of Art About Agriculture. "Their influences, and the influences of early colonists and immigrant settlers, evolved into practices and sciences of our country's modern agriculture."

Montana photographer Amanda Brietbach said her work deals with the history of people on the land where she grew up. "My most recent project investigates the decline of family farming and the emotional and spiritual issues that underlay the human relationship to land," she said. By telling her family's story through her art, Brietbach hopes to make "larger, universal relationships visible."

Oregon painter Sue-Del McCulloch said she finds most of her subjects within 25 miles of her home on a small acreage near Salem. "The landscape as shaped by agriculture has become my work," she said. "The landforms that lie under the sky are undulating swells that have been used to our various needs for a long time: ditched and rolled and sprayed and plowed and planted and cut and carved and crossed with roads and fences. All such activity leaves its mark and visually alters the land."

Portland textile artist Kyla Mucci is concerned with using natural fibers in her creations. "The materials I use range from wool, linen and cotton, and vegetable dyes." She said. "Using materials as my vocabulary, I aspire produce works of art that tell engaging stories."

Besides Brietbach, McCulloch and Mucci, the other eight artists in the show are:

Christopher Rehwalt, Sara Siestrem and Mark Rupert of Portland, Ore.; Lance Morrison of Yamhill, Ore.; Neal Philpott of Oregon City; and Donna Trent and Stephanie Frost of Missoula, Montana; and Donna B. Trent of Gig Harbor, Wash.

This show generously sponsored by Sharron Bannister Opening Night Reception on First Friday Art Walk, July 1, from 5:30 to 8 p.m. Light Refreshments provided by Friends of Crossroads.

Art About Agriculture Celebrates the Agrarian Landscape in its 34th annual touring exhibit will be on display through Saturday, July 28, 2016.

This is a free event open to the public.

July Events at Crossroads Carnegie Art Center

Art Access Lecture Series - Wednesday, July 6 from 10:30 to 11:30 am

We are pleased to welcome back the venerable Karma Namgyel Rinpoche. In this lecture series Rinpoche will share stories about his life as a Tibetan Buddhist monk from Bhutan. He will discuss universal principles of loving kindness, compassion, and living in harmony.

Join us at Crossroads for a free community conversation about art and culture.

This is a free event open to the public

Crossroads Art Center, Inc., is a 501(c) (3) non-profit founded in 1963. Our mission is to create opportunities for the entire community to be engaged, inspired, and transformed by the arts.

Smokin Boot Kitchen Recipes

— by Nina Stephens

The following recipe is provided this week by our very own Haines 4th of July Queen, Nina Stephens. Many *Record Courier* readers may remember Nina's Smoking Boot Kitchen Recipes from years back. She has graciously offered to contribute once again, and we are very excited to have her back in the RC kitchen. ENJOY!

Danny's Favorite

Ingredients:

- 2 cans refried beans
- 2 lbs. browned hamburger
- 6 flour or corn tortillas (6" – 8")
- 2 cups sour cream
- 3 cups shredded cheese
- 1 bottle salsa
- 5 green onions or 1 white onion – chopped
- 2 tomatoes, diced

Instructions:

- Mix refried beans and hamburger, together.
- Place tortillas in a 9x13 pan.
- Layer browned meat/beans, sour cream, salsa and shredded cheese.
- Repeat layers starting with tortillas.
- Place chopped green onions and tomatoes on top of final layer.

Cook at 350 degrees for 45 minutes.



I think I messed up with the calendar last week. Especially with first and third Tuesdays and Thursdays. Hope you're keeping better track than I am!

Calendar

(dates and times subject to change)

Friday-Monday, July 1-4: Sumpter 4th of July Flea Market

Tuesday, July 5: SVFD and PRR fire training, 6:30 pm

Thursday, July 7: Planning Commission, 7 pm, City Hall

Saturday, July 9: SVRR board meeting, location and time varies

Monday, July 11: Powder River Rural Board meeting, 7 pm, Mosquito Flat

Tuesday, July 12: City Council, 7 pm, City Hall

Thursday, July 14: Friends of the Dredge, time and location varies

Thursday, July 14: SVCV, 6:30 pm, location to be announced

Friday, July 15: SVFD & Auxiliary Bingo, 7 pm, Community Center

Saturday, July 16: SVRR celebrates 40 years of operations

Tuesday, July 19: SVFD and PRR fire training, 6:30 pm

Thursday, July 21: Bag Ladies, noon, Community Center

Thursday, July 21: Planning Commission, 7 pm, City Hall

City

Due to space limitations, some material was left out last week.

It is very important for Sumpter residents, full- and part-time, to be aware of issues that face district when you call 9-1-1.

As some people at the June council meeting pointed out, these issues affect delivery drivers, too. For example, we have roadways like Bonanza Avenue chopped into two or three scattered pieces, and we also have a Bonanza Street.

Both run north and south. Without NE or SW, etc., and street versus could end up on a dead-end a mile from where they need to be.

Auburn Street divides north from south. Drive toward

Granite from Auburn Street, you're going north. Drive toward Baker City from Auburn Street, you're going south. Mill Street, parts of which are covered by the highway, divides west from east. The railroad tracks are west of Mill Street. The post office is east of Mill Street.

Another problem is that many houses don't have house numbers posted. You need numbers on your house that are easily visible from the street, and you need to be comfortable saying which quarter of the City you live in: NE, NW, SE, or SW.

Planning Commission held a brief meeting Saturday morning to try to accommodate zoning permit application approvals before the 4th of July weekend. It was partially successful.

Organizations

Sumpter Valley Community Volunteers (SVCV) held a potluck at Volunteer Park on June 20th. SVCV provided hot dogs and hamburgers. The roughly two dozen attendees provided sides and condiments. The new horseshoe pits saw a good deal of use (photo by Mark Luker). It was a sunny, warm evening of great camaraderie.

Sumpter Volunteer Fire Department (SVFD) Auxiliary held a quick meeting on June 21st. It was decided that Auxiliary will focus on support at fires and leave fundraising to SVCV. The exception to this is that Auxiliary will continue to

administrate Third Friday Bingo until someone wins the jackpot (the next Bingo is July 15).

Current SVFD money remains with the City, but funds raised for SVFD by SVCV will be held by SVCV for SVFD purposes.

People

LeLand and Nancy Myers attended the Oregon Grand Chapter of Eastern Star in Pendleton last weekend. Grand Chapter is where new officers are elected, business that affects each chapter in Oregon is conducted, and updates are given on Oregon Eastern Star's selected charities. Cancer research has been a major focus for many years.

Churches

Sunday morning services are held at St. Brigid's in the Pines at Auburn and Bonanza in Sumpter on the first and third Sundays of the month at 11 a.m. followed by a coffee 'hour.' Weekly services at McEwen Bible Fellowship include Sunday School at 9:45 a.m., and Wednesday evening prayer at 6:45 p.m.

Deadline and Disclaimer

Send in news and/or photos by Sunday evening to be included in the Sumpter column the following week. Include captions with photos.

I am involved in several of the organizations appearing in this column, but I do not report as an official representative of any of them.



Submitted photo

Dick Browne, John Young, Rella Browne-Pfleeger, and Cary Clarke help break in the new horseshoe pits at Volunteer Park

One of Baker County's Gems



Information / photo from <http://oregonstateparks.org>

Did you know the average number of visitors to the Sumpter Dredge in one year is 72,294 people?

The dredge in the park is the last of three built on the Powder River. Built in 1935, it ran until 1954. It dug up more than four million dollars worth by a simple, but dramatic method.

Sticking out from the dredge's hull is a massive boom bearing 72 one-ton buckets. The buckets, moving like the chain of a chain-saw, would bore into the riverbank and carry the loose rock back into the dredge interior.

Once inside, the rock would pass through a series of steel cylinders to separate the material by size, sending the smaller material deeper into the dredge. Using water and sluices, the gold would be separated from the sediment. The spoils from this process and larger rock pass through the back of the dredge and are deposited behind it via another boom.

Dredge operations stopped in 1954, and the dredge fell into disrepair during the following 41 years. Restoration began in 1995. The Sumpter Valley Gold Dredge was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1971. Between 1992-1993, the gold dredge, tailings and nearby property were purchased.

If you'd like to spend more time here, apply for the open Park Ranger position at the Sumpter Dredge! Go to governmentjobs.com/careers/oregon/jobs/1459466/park-ranger-2-sumpter-valley-dredge-state-heritage-area

Quick Facts:

Park Acreage: 93.44

Features: Hiking Trails, Picnic Areas, Wildlife viewing, Interpretive Display, Fishing, Presentations, Restrooms, Gift Shop

Fees: No parking or admission fees