

# Astoria Visual Arts' artist-in-residence program continues into the new year

ASTORIA — Astoria Visual Arts will have local artists Andie Sterling and Terry Robinett working in its downtown studios from January through April as part of the AVA artist-in-residence program.

“What a treat to have a place with no interruptions and terrific view! It’s a dream,” wrote Robinett on Facebook during her first week as an AVA artist-in-residence back in October. It’s a dream from which she won’t have to awaken until May 1. Robinett’s application for an extension of her residency through April 30 was approved by the AVA selection committee based on the quality of her work and her proven and planned utilization of the studio space.

Robinett works in a variety of styles and moves from one to the other with regularity. Her mixed-media figure paintings are primarily oil. Her papier-mâché sculpture incorporates mixed-media — pattern paper, latex, steel wool, metal and fabric — to create characters.

Robinett attended Portland State University, studying fine arts and painting under modern artist Mel Katz. By 1996 she was a founding member of the Hawthorne Arts Guild and Gallery in Portland and a partner with Portland’s Broderick Gallery. Robinett also has worked creatively in film and theater, which included stints of directing, performing and stagecraft. She moved to Astoria with her husband, Todd, in 2014. The Robinetts own and operate the Merry Time Bar & Grill in Astoria.

AVA a-i-r’s newest artist-in-resident is Andie Sterling, a recent transplant to the area. Sterling says she’s



“Untitled” by Terry Robinett.



“Whirl,” oil on layered Plexiglas, by AVA artist-in-residence Andie Sterling.

excited about the creative culture and arts community she’s encountered since moving here.

“The existing network structure of AVA and introduction into the community as a working artist will be instrumental in creating the level of relationships, conversations, professionalism and community collaboration in my work that I am looking to develop as a new artist in Astoria,” she wrote in her AVA a-i-r application.

Sterling’s work is visually inspired by the shifting landscapes, meandering

rivers, tidal action and erosion patterns that mark the rhythms of time’s passage on Earth. She creates stop-motion animations by photo-documenting the process of her line drawings, and the finished animation video is then projected onto the drawing.

During the Second Saturday Art Walk on Jan. 14, Sterling will showcase “Respire,” a video projection produced in collaboration with local sound artist Olaf Ydstie. The projection will take place at 1170 Commercial St. For more informa-



SUBMITTED PHOTO  
Andie Sterling is the newest AVA artist-in-residence.



SUBMITTED PHOTO  
Terry Robinett, who had an AVA a-i-r residency from October to December, has been granted an extension to April 30 to continue her work.

tion, see Page 18.

AVA a-i-r is designed to encourage the creative, intellectual and professional growth of emerging local artists. The program is supported by the members of Astoria Visual Arts and the Astoria Coffeehouse & Bistro, the Astoria Co-op Grocery, City Lumber Co., Dots ‘N Doodles Art Supplies and Fort George Brewery.

Astoria Visual Arts was founded in 1989 as a non-profit membership organization to enhance, strengthen and promote the arts in the greater Astoria area. For more information about AVA or to learn more about the AVA a-i-r program visit [www.astoriavisualarts.org](http://www.astoriavisualarts.org)

# Join a new South Bend book group for adults

National Science Foundation values reading programs in rural libraries so highly, it’s paying for a local one

SOUTH BEND, Wash. — Question: What has the National Science Foundation done for you lately?

Answer: If you live in South Bend, it has sponsored Pushing the Limits, a reading and conversation series for adults.

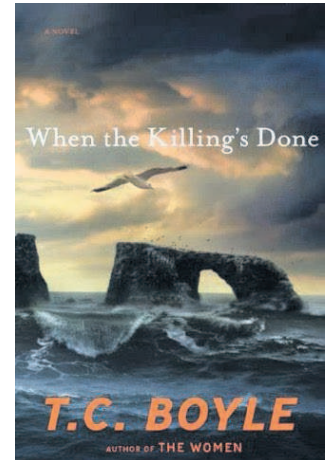
Starting this month, South Bend Timberland Library patrons will have four opportunities to connect with each other as they explore four different books with common threads: dreams, limitations and heroic outcomes.

Here are the program details:

- 5 to 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 18 — “When the Killing’s Done” by T.C. Boyle
- 5 p.m. Feb. 15 — “Thunderstruck” by Erik Larson
- 5 p.m. March 15 — “The Land of Painted Caves” by Jean Auel
- 5 p.m. April 12 — “Arctic Drift” by Clive Sussler

South Bend High School science and robotics teacher Lili Newman will co-facilitate the discussions with library manager Jenny Penoyar.

Pushing the Limits is an National Science Foundation-funded reading, movie viewing and discussion program for adults living in rural areas, served by small, rural libraries. It was created by a team of library professionals, scientists and filmmakers from several organizations, and the Asso-



SUBMITTED PHOTO  
“When the Killing’s Done” by T.C. Boyle is the first book to be discussed in the Pushing the Limits program at South Bend Timberland Library.

ciation for Rural and Small Libraries.

A simple notion shapes the program: We humans have survived and thrived by dreaming big, then pushing the limits until dreams become reality. Today, we understand that our dream-achieving tools come from science, technology, engineering, arts and mathematics.

This is where South Bend’s library manager, Penoyar, comes in. Last summer, Penoyar had a big idea and no money. She wrote a grant proposal. The result was a \$3,500 award to fund adult programs in science, technology, engineering and math. The grant also provides funds to train librarians as science education facilitators. Pushing the Limits is the program funded by this award.

All TRL programs are free and open to the public. The South Bend Timberland Library is located at First Street and Pacific Avenue. For more information, call 360-875-5532 or visit [www.TRL.org](http://www.TRL.org)