

## 'Monet's Garden' is on display at the Seaside Public Library

SEASIDE — Through April 25 the Seaside Public Library is exhibiting photos by Claudia Toutain-Dorbec of Cannon Beach.

The show is titled "A Season At Monet's Garden" and will be on display in the Community Room and foyer.

Beyond his technique, beyond his palette, what Claude Monet brought to Giverny was his vision.

Similarly, beyond her camera, beyond her experi-

ence, Claudia Toutain-Dorbec delivers a vision with lavish creations of color and form.

"Personal, novel, philosophical, poetic:" these are the ways French curator Nicole Zapata-Aubé describes Toutain-Dorbec's work.

The circumstances under which the compositions were gathered and photographed are quite interesting. Toutain-Dorbec only had a few morning hours, one week a month, to gather

the gardener's trimmings, then compose and photograph her pieces. She created her arrangements on a black background that make the images appear in three-dimensional.

Toutain-Dorbec became interested in photography in the 1970s. She is a contemporary multi-media artist and author, known mostly for her botanical photographs. Her work is currently on display in New Mexico and New York.

## AVA celebrates high school artists

ASTORIA — Astoria Visual Arts is showcasing local student artists in the first Clatsop County High School Art Exhibition at the Fort George Lovell Showroom during the Astoria Second Saturday Art Walk on April 8, from 5 p.m.-8 p.m. Light snacks will be provided.

The exhibition brings together students from the As-

toria, Gray, Knappa, Seaside and Warrenton high schools and includes a variety of styles and approaches.

Selection was based on use of materials; application of artistic elements and design principles; and creativity and originality.

A First Place Jurors' Award of \$100 and a Second Place Jurors' Award of \$50

will be presented at the reception on April 8.

AVA believes that art appreciation and art-making hold immense value for students' personal and academic development and is an active advocate for the arts and arts education locally.

For more information about AVA, visit <http://www.astoriavisualarts.org/>.

## Plight of the Pygmies focus of library event

ASTORIA — Wendee Nicole is presenting about her work with the indigenous Batwa Pygmies in Southwest Uganda at noon Saturday, April 8 at the Astoria Public Library. The presentation is titled, "In the Shadow of Mountain Gorillas: Empowering the Batwa Pygmies of Uganda."

Batwa and Bakiga handcrafted, fair-trade baskets will be available for purchase at the event.

Nicole is founder and director of Redemption Song

Foundation, a nonprofit that works with the Pygmies in Southwest Uganda. She has devoted the last three years to assisting the Batwa.

The tribe was evicted from their homeland when the country created Bwindi Impenetrable National Park to save endangered mountain gorillas. The Batwa, hunter-gatherers who had lived in the forest, received no land or money for their forced removal from the park. They live in poverty.

Redemption Song Foundation works to give hope for the future through educating the children.

The foundation also provides hygiene kits for girls so they will continue to attend school while menstruating.

Colorful baskets are woven by the Batwa and Bakiga to sell in fair-trade markets in the U.S. Proceeds from sales support ongoing education, health, and sustainable interventions.

## Quilt Trunk show, sale with Karen Snyder

ILWACO, WASH. — A Quilt Trunk Show and Sale is 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, April 8 at the Columbia Pacific Heritage Museum.

Noted quilt historian and author Karen Snyder will display vintage quilts from her collection displayed as a "Bed Turning" every hour on the half hour.

In addition there will be Karen Snyder original quilts for sale. A portion of proceeds from the sale will support museum programs. Admission to the Quilt

Trunk Show is free.

Snyder grew up knowing that someday she would be a quilter. However, in 1995 she received a free quilt pattern in the mail. Having passed her 40th birthday, she thought perhaps the time to start quilting was at hand. She plunged in and stitched her first quilt.

Within two years of making that first quilt, Karen had added quilting fabric to her gift shop, Anna Lena's, in Long Beach, Washington. The shop's original

product, homemade fudge, remained a major attraction and the fabric inventory grew to more than 5,000 bolts. In 2006 Anna Lena's was named one of the Top 10 quilt shops in the country and was featured in Quilt Sampler magazine.

Karen's love of quilting led her to write four books of quilt patterns. Then, with a little push from her friends, she made a presentation to a New York fabric manufacturer and began designing fabrics.

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