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Others did the same. Within minutes, one of the round tables was strewn with magazines. Hands wielding crafts scissors were cutting without hesitation. Martin strolled through the room, offering advice and encouragement.

“Start with your background and build on top of that,” she said. Martin suggested they choose a picture from a magazine, their phone or other source for reference, and quickly sketch their idea on paper before working on their collage base.

On a creation of her own, atop a base of paper that was fairly heavy, she started her background with wrapping paper, then added colors and textures to create a portrait of Vincent van Gogh. Martin is a long-time painter and muralist and a former secretary for the Peninsula Arts Association. She quickly set a plan and used her skills to execute it.


Someone else in the class who at first said she “only came to observe” soon grabbed scissors and a magazine and started her own collage.

Free or low cost

Once a month, Don and Brenda will provide this artistic environment. Skilled artists on the peninsula will teach and make the workshops available to community members. “We are trying our hardest to keep it free or low cost,” Brenda said.

The next class will take place Saturday, March 23, and feature oil painting techniques led by Elizabeth Todd, who has won numerous local and national awards and is a signature member of the American Academy of Women Artists.

Todd’s March 23 class begins at 2 p.m. in the church’s all-purpose room. “We will try to wrap things up by 4 p.m., but we will be flexible to the moment,” Brenda said. “If the instructor needs more time to instruct, or if the participants need more time to finish their projects, we will accommodate them.”

Preregistration is not required at this time, but that might change, she added, “if it catches on and a lot of people start participating.” 



John Cothren of Long Beach, Wash., participated in the class.

Lynda Layne



FORT GEORGE

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