

Food and drink, gifts and art mark holiday events

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"It's really a fun art form," said Carnes, whose artwork has been showcased in juried shows and galleries in Michigan, Florida and Oregon, including at the Stormy Weather Arts Festival. Her hand-crafted woven baskets include materials found in nature.

Creativity runs in the family. Her daughter Rachel Laura displayed her paintings and sculptures, also found at White Bird Gallery, and Laura's young daughter and son created handmade earrings for the event.

Other pieces on display included paintings by Scott Johnson, mixed-media designs by Allyn Cantor, woodblock prints by Thomas William, jewelry by Libby Pattison, herbal tonics from DJ Ankendbrandt, clothing from Jen Jenune, watercolors by Amy Carleton and more.

The pop-up art show is a yearly tradition for the Tolovana Arts Colony that has coincided with the Stormy Weather Arts Festival in recent years. This year, the nonprofit arts association aimed for a holiday destination event instead.

Combined sales were more than \$2,700 from sales throughout the weekend, Tolovana Arts Colony Program Coordinator Andrew Tonry said.

Haystack Holidays

The Christmas tree lighting is a longtime tradition, beginning in the mid-1970s when the gas crunch and economy kept visitors away, according to organizer Margo Dueber.

Business owners began the tradition of performing Charles Dickens at the newly remodeled Coaster Theatre.

"One of the most beloved characters was the lamp-lighter who went up and down the street with his ladder every eve in December



Joy Sigler, right, was among those who gathered to support local artists and crafters at the first night of the Tolovana Arts Colony Holiday Gift Party.



The colorful hand-made woven baskets by Debra Carnes on display at the Tolovana Arts Colony Holiday Gift Party.

lighting the lamps," said Dueber, who has organized the event since 2010.

Jay Schwerer, who died in 2013, lit the lamps for more than 36 years.

"The event was great this year," Dueber said. "For the first time, we had a real sound system engineered by Bruce Smith Sound and everyone could hear."

Fifth-graders Keira Rodriguez and Marcel Atwi lit the lamp. Mayor Sam Steidel reminisced about Christmases as a child in Cannon Beach, musician Lauren Sheehan shared

Christmas tunes and artist Bill Steidel sang his "Christmas in Our Hometown" song, which he has sung at the event since its inception.

"Pictures With Santa," another Haystack Holidays event, took place at the Cannon Beach Library on Dec. 10. After taking photos with Santa, children enjoyed story time and arts and crafts activities with library volunteers.

Drones, glow-in-the-dark shoes and a space station were among the items on kids' wish lists this year, said Santa, who has entertained kids at the library for about 29 years.



Work by Rachel Laura was among gift items on display at the Tolovana Arts Colony Holiday Gift Party.

Cultural group awards grants

Arts from Page 1A

Community Library, accepted \$600 for the library's "Libros" program for Hispanic readers.

Program coordinator Daniel Keesler accepted \$2,000 on behalf of the Lower Columbia Hispanic Council for the Teatro Milagro bilingual arts residency.

Carol Lambert of the Clatsop County Historical Society spoke about John Andrew Buchanan, who helped to found the Clatsop County Chapter of the Daughters of the Amer-

ican Revolution in 1920 and the Clatsop County Historical Society in 1921. Lambert's maternal grandfather, Buchanan is best remembered as the lyricist for the state song, "Oregon, My Oregon," chosen among 200 entries. The historical society's grant of \$750 will help provide a monument for Buchanan at Ocean View Cemetery. Overall, the group has raised a third of their goal of more than \$8,7238, Lambert said.

Tita Montero accepted \$1,500 on behalf of the Seaside

Museum and Historical Society for updating the Clatsop Nehalem Peoples social studies curriculum, in use for 390 students in 15 fourth-grade classes throughout the county.

"Art saves lives," KMUN host Carol Newman said in opening remarks. "Culture, libraries, music, history, education, the things you are all facilitating or offering. Thank you so much for making this community so rich. It feeds everything: our river, our land, our earth and our people."



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