

Heppner a perfect place to launch art career

By Kim A. Cook

Sandra Haynes knows Heppner is the perfect place to launch her national career as a Western and wildlife artist.

"Heppner is the body and soul of what I'm trying to capture-the heart of the Western image," she said.

Haynes' work will go on display at Murray's Drug Store in Heppner, courtesy of John and Ann Murray and her aunt and uncle, Meg and Rod Murray. The artist isn't sure who is more excited about this event, her or her aunt. "She's been my champion for a long time," said Haynes.

Currently living in Molalla, Haynes is a self-taught artist practicing since age five. She waited until the ripe age of 12 to begin seriously training herself in Western and wildlife art. "My family were all involved in music, woodworking, stone cutting-everyone had an interest in the arts," she adds. "It was considered normal."

Horses were her first subjects and being around the rodeo circuit after high school reinforced her love of Western scenes. Life came along and she put her art aside to raise a family, but she couldn't resist finding time to practice and learn the basics of acrylics, pen and ink, pencil and pastels.

"My personal style developed about 15 years ago," said Haynes. "I describe it as a step beyond photo realism. More like a photo painting, showing animals as they look in the wild, instead of a romanticized effect. I want to capture the reality and preserve the heritage that makes up the American West."

A trend Haynes has noticed creeping into her paintings lately are scenes which many might consider rare or unknown animal behavior. "People who've spent a good deal of time on the land or living in the wild see these types of behaviors," said Haynes. "But they're seldom in the reference books."

True to her art, Haynes spends many days in the wild observing animal behavior. "I'm probably better known in Troy than Heppner," she laughed. "They call me the artist lady in Troy."

Haynes is probably one of the few campers who actually entices wildlife into her camp. She spends much of her time in the Wenaha wilderness, away from the public and campgrounds. Her payoff comes with the volume of wildlife she sees.

"A special thanks goes to the people of the Wenaha game commission district," she acknowledged. "Those folks have schlepped me all over to get close to mountain sheep and other wildlife. I may not see another human the whole time I'm out there."

Haynes career is off to a good start with successful juried shows this past year at the 1995 Wild West Art Show in St. Paul, a one-person show at the Art Reach Gallery in Portland and the Canby Wine and Art Festival. She is slated to show at the Canby and St. Paul shows again in June and July, then the Pendleton Round-Up and Mule Days in Enterprise during September. Other shows, as yet undecided, will be added during the year. The Western Reflections Art Show in Spokane in November will wrap up her schedule next year. Her work is in many private collections and is placed in public and private offices.

Haynes credits her husband, Ron Zacher, her father and stepmother, Jake and Phyllis Haynes of Lexington, and many family members throughout Oregon with being her biggest fans. "My family encouraged me to quit my full-time engineering technician job and take the plunge three years ago," she said. "My art career has far exceeded anything I ever dreamed about. Quitting my job couldn't have been a better move for me. Besides, Ron likes having an artist in the family. There's never a dull moment."



"Dad and Buck" 1995 mixed media by Sandra Haynes

Commissioned animal portrait drawings, original paintings of wild animals and Western life, and paintings on leather and prints are Haynes' main focus these days. She can be reached at (503) 829-6390 to answer questions about her work.

Murray's Drug Store will have exclusive showing rights in this region of Haynes' images. Displayed works will feature local people and places, ranging from calf brandings to old homesteads in the Heppner area and that's how Haynes thinks it should be.

Health District airs child care programs

The Morrow County Health District will air two community health education programs on Tuesday, March 26, beginning at 7 p.m. on channel 3.

Each program will last one-half hour. The first, "Child Safety for New Parents", will discuss the preventive measures that should be taken to effectively childproof a home. In "Confronting the Bogeyman: Dealing with Nightmares", a sleep disorders specialist suggests ways to calm a child after a nightmare and how parents can prevent nightmares from recurring.

Both programs were produced by the University of Wisconsin Hospital and Clinics.

Museum to present history of sheep ranching in Morrow County

The Morrow County Museum, in the spirit of the St. Patrick's festivities, will present "The History of Sheep Ranching in Morrow County" on Saturday, March 16, at 2:30 and 3:30 p.m. in the main exhibit room.

This slide presentation will be given by Clint Krebs, a Morrow County native, whose family has been in the wool growing business in Morrow County for several generations. The presentation includes his family's history of sheep ranching, as well as other Morrow County sheep ranchers and the migration of the Irish sheep growers to this community. Krebs has also given this presentation at the 1995 Oregon Wool Growers Convention and at the Oregon State Agriculture Research Station in Hermiston.

Sheep ranching became an important industry in Morrow

County in the 1870s. The sheep industry was one of the reasons for bringing the railroad into lone and Heppner and was a base for economic development for the region at that time.

The museum will also feature demonstrations of spinning and weaving wool by the County Fibre Artists and an exhibit of historical photos and artifacts from local sheep growers on Saturday.

For more information, contact the museum at 676-5524. Hours are from 1-5 p.m. Saturday through Wednesday. The museum will be open on St. Patrick's weekend on Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

Leprechauns prepare for Volkswalk

Temporary Irishmen Earl O'Fishburn, John O'Edmundson and Jim O'Wishart (actually two Brits and a Scotsman) completed painting the shamrocks on the Heppner Walking Tour-Volkswalk route last week.

"Irish good luck is activated by smiling and greeting the next person you meet after seeing one of the kelly green Irish shamrocks," said one of the leprechauns.

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Justice Court Report

The Justice Court office at the courthouse annex building in Heppner reports handling the following business during the past week:

Jennifer Dawn Marvin, 19, Heppner-Violation of the Basic Rule, 70 mph in a 55 mph zone, \$77 fine;

Dale Jay Wilson, 18, Lexington-Harassment, \$301 fine.

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