

Crafters invited to display works

From earrings to quilts, mittens to baskets, teddy bears to ornaments, crafters of every sort are invited to display their work at the Gallery at Columbia Center during the month of December. The Arts and Crafts Show will accept work Thursday, December 1, from 4:30 to 6:00 p.m. at the Columbia Center, 375 S. 18th Street, St Helens.

All handcrafted work is welcome, including seasonal items such as holiday ornaments and decorations. Artists are encouraged to offer their items for sale, as this would be a great opportunity for holiday shoppers to purchase one-of-a-kind gifts. Displays at the Gallery at Columbia Center are always free.

For more information contact Patty Kadel, 503-369-1624, or email <phkadel@yahoo.com>.

Hargis showing at Froelick

Artist Kris Hargis will have a showing of his artwork at the Froelick Gallery in Portland from November 29 through December 28.

The show is entitled *Unsettled* and will feature his works in grease pencil, colored pencil and other medium.

The Froelick Gallery is located at 817 SW Second Avenue in Portland and is open Tuesday through Friday from 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. and on Saturdays from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Patterson work on display

The work of Jeffery Patterson, of Vernonia, is on display at the Kathrin Gawein Gallery of Art at Pacific University through November 28.

Patterson works in clay and his show is entitled *An Installation: Architectural Tile and Sculpture*.

The gallery is located at 2043 College Way in Forest Grove and is open Monday thru Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and Saturdays from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. The gallery will be closed for Thanksgiving from noon on November 23 through Sunday, November 27.

Bits & Bites

By Jacqueline Ramsay



"The Rains Came" – that was a great old movie – but we are having our bursts of weather also. Did you happen to notice the sun bursts last Friday or catch that Channel 12 had Vernonia on their weather map that day. Gee Whiz.

Around the lake, someone with an earth eating machine has cut back the blackberries and have widened the road. It will be interesting to see how they shore up the hill side, but the road will be welcome as a second way to get into and out of the lake area.

Shadow (my dog) has finally become an accomplished hunter at the lake. She has for months been tracking and sniffing at things in the weeds.

any money.

The CCB advises homeowners to be extra careful of door-to-door repair solicitations, contractors using vehicles with out-of-state license plates and "too-good-to-be-true" bids. It is also important to get a detailed written contract of what is to be

Pouncing along one day she pounced, grabbed and came up with a big fat mouse. She looked so satisfied I had to laugh before I said "Drop it." I don't need her tasting blood and wanting to really chase birds and cats. She has tried to run down a deer, she lost, I jumped a ditch.

I do wish to say hello to those folks that have just recently moved into our town. Check out our Senior Center, the lunches Monday – Friday are good. Wednesdays is "Golden Oldies" day (old time music, westerns and gospel, dancing allowed), requests played – if they know the tune. Visit our churches. If you enjoy peace and quiet and exercise – walk the lake and the Webb Way trail. If you park at Anderson Park – Webb Way is 3/4 mile, around the lake is 9/10 of a mile, and back to the park, you've accomplished what I can't do – 2-1/2 miles in one fell swoop. The Breaktime serves Tillamook ice cream.

done and at what price, and to not pay 100 percent of the bill before the repairs are properly completed.

Free consumer publications with helpful tips are available at the CCB's website and 503-378-4621.

Scam Artists arrive as winter blows in

November in Oregon usually means the beginning of the high wind and heavy rain season. Homeowners whose property is damaged by Mother Nature's fury may also be prime targets for unscrupulous thieves.

The Oregon Construction Contractors Board (CCB), the state agency that protects consumers and regulates the construction industry in Oregon, has the following advice:

If you need roofs, windows,

fences, or patio coverings fixed, or if you have damaged trees that should be removed, "Stay away from unlicensed contractors," said CCB Enforcement Manager Richard Blank. "Scam artists come out of the woodwork after severe weather to prey on people who are anxious to get their home fixed because more winter weather is on the way."

Legitimate contractors performing home repairs must be properly licensed with the CCB.

A license offers financial protection to consumers through the business' CCB bond and insurance and access to the CCB's dispute resolution services.

"Most contractors are honest, skilled, professional business people," said Blank. "But stay away from those who aren't." Consumers should verify a contractor's CCB license at <www.ccb.state.or.us>, or 503-378-4621 before signing a home repair contract or paying

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