

Art Matters

Collecting art to live with and love



By Janet Sellers
Allow Painters to Influence You. "I was learning something from the painting of Cézanne that made writing simple true sentences far from enough to make the stories have the dimensions that I was trying to put in them. I was learning very much from him but I was not articulate enough to explain it to anyone."
—Ernest Hemingway.

People have been putting art on cave walls and on their home walls since there have been people and walls. Visual communication has a powerful influence on our daily lives as a sort of visual diet and we should be very careful of what we consume. We may never know the history of the common person from an illiterate point of view, but we will indeed know it from a visual point of view. Artists make art in the moment and over time, which becomes a record of sorts; museums and collectors obtain art and some of the reasons they collect are that art is a marker of the culture, the civilization of the time.

Our online screen life has changed a lot of our perceptions, also changing the way we consume and support commerce. This made a huge shift in the art world's way of doing things. The last three decades of boutique art gallery venues catered to competitive, elitist patrons buying "as investment." The venues had to have a consistent product, causing many artists to limit their exploration of creativity in order to sell work for a consistent living.

In most communities, especially ours, we have visual art available to us via art galleries, artist studios and, of course, art available to us online. As an artist, I'm constantly looking into where the art world is going on the global scale as well as our local area. These days, people from all purchase levels just want something nice to put on their walls at home and feel comfortable and happy.

Artnet, the leading online resource for the international art market, recently published the 2019 Intelligence Report on buying art. According to this

excerpt, "Online art buyers overwhelmingly purchase art in order to live with it. Seventy-one percent of collectors surveyed said they buy art to decorate their home. Even for investment-minded collectors, this was the most frequently cited driver to buy art. The motivation here appears to be deeply personal in its origins: 67% of collectors—the second-largest group—reported buying art to provide a source of inspiration in their daily lives."

The report went on to say "Similarly, when asked about the biggest factors to consider when making a purchase, collectors reported aesthetics as the most important, cited by 78% of respondents—three times the number that cited an artwork's potential to increase in value as a key motivating factor."

Janet Sellers is an award-winning artist, writer and speaker, and enjoys sharing her love of art and nature. Send her your comments: JanetSellers@ocn.me.

Snapshots of Our Community

Black Forest Arts & Crafts Show



Above: Falcon resident Stephen Kline shops the 55th Annual Black Forest Arts & Crafts Guild (BFACG) Fall Show and Sale held at the Black Forest Community Center on November 1. The show is attended by thousands over four days attracting patrons from far and wide. Proceeds from the sale benefit the BFACG Scholarship Fund and the Black Forest Community. Since 2006, \$18,900 in scholarships have been awarded to D20 and D38 students. Non-perishable donations were also welcomed at the show for Black Forest Cares. BFACG is a Colorado non-profit organization. For further information see www.BFACG.org. Photo by Natalie Barszcz.

Crawford House Vets, Nov. 1-3



Above: On Nov. 1, 2, and 3, members of American Legion Post 9-11 and the St. Peter Catholic Church Respect Life Ministry were stationed at the entrances of Walmart collecting personal care donations for the veterans of the Crawford House-Colorado Veterans Resource Coalition. Nate Hartling, a member of the Sons of the American Legion (SAL), came up with the idea and enlisted the help of the Respect Life Ministry Coordinator Stephanie Kemp. Kemp and Hartling expressed gratitude for the community's markedly generous response—four truckloads of donated items and \$1,500 in Walmart gift cards. All donations support veterans who were forced to leave Crawford house when the 2019 spring bomb cyclone caused roof and water damage. From left, Sons of the American Legion Post 9-11 Nate Hartling and his father Sean, and St. Peter Catholic Church Respect Life Ministry Coordinator Stephanie Kemp. Photo by Jennifer Kaylor

TLC Harvest of Love, Nov. 7, 14



Left: The annual Tri-Lakes Cares Harvest of Love food drive, coordinated by Kiwanis, gathered food donations from Lewis-Palmer School District 38 to help local families during the holidays. A total of 14,655 pounds of food and \$6,871.67 in cash donations were collected on Nov. 7 and Nov. 14. Pictured are Monument Hill Kiwanis members, from left, Pete Peterson, Jim Murphy, and Larry Young. They, along with 25 other members, gathered food to support Tri-Lakes Cares families. Photo by Sharon Williams

PL Town Hall designated historic



Above: On Nov. 5, Palmer Lake celebrated the Town Hall joining the Colorado State Register of Historic Properties. Pictured are key community members who participated in the research and nomination process. Front Row from left, Palmer Lake Town Hall Office Manager Tony Vega, Palmer Lake Historical Society Vice President Su Osgerby Ketchmark, and the leaders of research and nomination, Margo and Jack Anthony. Back Row from left, Board of Trustees member Glant Havanar and Colorado State Register of Historic Properties Board Director Amy Unger. Photo by Sharon Williams