

heart and your home with some good memories.

Do we have these in our town? A number of places with the space are starting to offer these creative times in the evenings and afternoons. No longer just an art show to visit and leave, now the patrons can drop by, see what is available, check their calendars, and start their art during general studio times as well as with planned events.

Some places also have live music for ambience, so it reminds me of the grand times of enjoying the belle époque of last century, only this version is for an afternoon or evening while we visitors are treated like royalty. Almost every version of this new craze that I've found has a common plan of a sign-up calendar per the themed paintings, with eight to 12 people attending.

Local venues offering these art-making nights include Secret Window Studio and TCLA/Uncorked Art Nite. Hopefully we'll all enjoy more of this type of fun throughout our summer art season. Our long twilight evenings offer perfect light for painting outdoors, too.

Art events about town

Tri-Lakes Center for the Arts (304 Highway 105, Palmer Lake) held the March 30 artist reception for the "Predictions and Perceptions from the Spiritual Realm" show to the music of Mango fan Django as crowds filled both galleries to overflowing. Bright colors, many large works and a wide variety of paintings, photography as art, and a special photography exhibit of traditional Tibetan mandalas of prayers in sand by Lau Maddox rounded out the wide range of interpretations. The show runs through April.

Monument Arts (meetings held at Secret Window Gallery, 47 Third St., Monument) begins a monthly Friday Night Art Walk on April 13 and will continue the fun monthly event into the fall. It is a recently created local arts group that includes the town of Monument as well as the surrounding environs, for some upcoming arts events.

With an eye to getting the same lively Friday night culture going for locals as well as enticing weekend visi-

tors traveling between Denver and Taos, Monument Arts ongoing events span an area including Monument, Palmer Lake, Woodmoor, Jackson Creek, Larkspur, the Air Force Academy, and Colorado Springs, adding a plethora of high-level art studios and local galleries.

The Historic Monument Merchants Association's "Monument Art Hop" will on be held the third Thursday of each month beginning in May.

Calls for artists

Monument Arts Second Friday Art Walks: Artists who would like to share their art with the community may contact Monument Arts at info@monumentart.net, or talk to Anthony at Secret Window Fine Art Gallery, phone 719-481-9600, or Maggie at Bella Art & Frame, 183 Washington St., Monument, CO 80132 (719) 487-7691 for more information and requirements.

Janet Lee Sellers is an American painter and sculptor who works in paint, metal and, most recently, concrete. Sellers lives in Woodmoor, Colorado. She can be reached at janetsellers@ocn.me.

Snapshots of Our Community

Visions of Light



Above: During March, the Tri-Lakes Center of the Arts (TLCA) hosted the third annual *Visions of Light* photography exhibition. The talents and artistry of 39 photographers were on display in 90 photographs. The exhibit judges are, from left, Mark Kirkland of Kirkland Photography & Design Inc. and Terry Moore of The Family Studio. They selected Doug Bennett's *Eden's First Light* as Best of Show. Bennett's subject for this photograph was Metlako Falls, located in Oregon's Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area. He captured the moment when midday light streamed through fog. *Photo by David Futey.*

Wendy Woo at TLCA



Above: On March 10, Wendy Woo returned to the Tri-Lakes Center for the Arts stage with her usual dynamic combination of room-filling vocals and driving guitar sound. She is working on a 10th CD that will be available next year. She continues to receive accolades in her 20th year of performing. Her band, The Wendy Woo Band, was recognized as the Best Local Band at Denver's Channel 7's 2011 A-List competition. Information on Woo is at www.WendyWoo.com. Information on upcoming events at the TLCA is at www.trilakesarts.org. *Photo by David Futey. David Futey can be reached at dfutey@ocn.me.*

Mining women at WMMI



Above: On March 10, the Western Museum of Mining & Industry (WMMI) celebrated Women's History Month with "Women in Mining." The day was filled with historic portrayals, hands-on activities, and mining-related displays from the Women in Mining organization. John Stansfield portrayed Dr. Charles F. Gardiner, who cared for miners in early Colorado mining camps and was an advocate of the innovative, "fresh air" cure for tuberculosis. Author Nancy Oswald (left) brought to life delightful characters from her children's novel *Rescue at Poverty GulchBlack*. Trisha Dudding (right) told the famous riches-to-rags story of Colorado's Baby Doe Tabor. Information about upcoming events at the WMMI is at www.wmmi.org. *Photos by David Futey. David Futey can be reached at dfutey@ocn.me.*

TLWC thanks Zarkovacki



Above: The Tri-Lakes Women's Club (TLWC) thanked Palmer Ridge High School (PRHS) student, Matt Zarkovacki (center) for donating his time and shop skills in support of the club's Sponsor Program. The woodwork for the plaques was done in David Bedia's shop class on equipment donated by the TLWC under their grant program. Pictured on each end are the Tri-Lakes Women's Club Co-Presidents, Sally Stephenson (left) and Debbie Kessler along with Bedia (left) and PRHS Principal Gary Gabel. Matt and Gary are holding one of the boards produced by Matt. *Photo provided by the TLWC.*