

Art and natural beauty meet in Landis Woods

BY JANE HOLAHAN
Staff Writer

Some of the best-known arts and craft shows in and around the county are major affairs.

You put on your comfortable shoes before you head out to Long's Park, or Roots or Mount Gretna, where hundreds of artists and artisans sell their work.

But the 13th Annual Landis Woods Outdoor Fine Art Show is different.

It's a low-key affair.

Forty-three artists will be selling their work during the show at Landis Woods, off of Route 501 in Manheim Township, behind the Neffsville Mennonite Church (enter on Meadow Lane).

"It takes about an hour to go through the show," explains photographer Jennifer Cavalcante, one of those 43 artists and a member of the art show committee.

"We don't want to get too big," says H. Clair Garman, chairman of the show. "We've grown some, but we've decided 43 is a good number."

Those artists mostly work in the two-dimensional realm, which includes painting, drawing and photography. But there also will be jewelry, sculpture and pottery.

"The show is juried," Garman notes. "We want to make sure we get high-quality work."

This year's juror is landscape artist John David Wissler.

In addition to the exhibitors, five bands will be performing, including Sopa Sol, Sorrentino Jazz, Fire in the Glen, the Stone Soup String Band and J.B. & Wally G.

And food, provided by the Neffsville Mennonite Church Youth Ministry, will be for sale.

While the show is not huge, there are plenty of reasons to stick around after seeing the



Artist's booths are set up under the trees at the Landis Woods Outdoor Fine Art Show, to be held Saturday.

beautiful artwork.

"You can go for a hike in the woods," Cavalcante says. "We're pet-friendly, so you can bring your dog."

The Landis Woods setting is a big draw for folks who like the outdoors. There are three different trails, the longest one about a mile, and none very difficult.

(So maybe you do need those

comfortable shoes, after all.)

"I like to say we are the best undiscovered place in Manheim Township," Garman says.

And the Boettcher House will be open. It houses a small museum featuring both the natural and historical heritage of Manheim Township.

Garman knows the property well, having lived with his par-

Landis Woods Outdoor Art Show

Sat. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Free
Landis Woods Park.
Meadow Lane, Neffsville
www.landiswoodsartshow.org

ents there when he was a kid. His father was the caretaker.

The stone building was built in 1920 as a lodge.

Henry Boettcher was an architectural draftsman at the Armstrong floor plant. He and his wife, Alma, used the lodge for entertaining.

In 1932, the lodge and the surrounding grove were purchased by Anthony and Blanche Napolitan, who enlarged the lodge, turning it into a home.

After Blanche's death, the township purchased the house and Landis Woods in 1989.

Garman has been involved with it ever since.

"We want folks to come visit," he says. "We'll have tour guides Saturday for part of the day."

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artCalendar

SPECIAL EVENTS/EXHIBITS

COLUMBIA FOURTH FRIDAY. Monthly celebration of the arts with exhibits, refreshments and artist openings. Tonight, from 5-9 p.m. (and beyond). Free. Downtown Columbia. 456-0278. Printable walking maps at www.fourthfridays.org.

LANDIS WOODS OUTDOOR FINE ART SHOW. 13th annual event features a wide variety of artwork, plus live music and food. Sat. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Free. Area around the Boettcher House Museum in Landis Woods Park. (Enter on Lititz Pike and Meadow Lane in Neffsville.) www.landiswoodsartshow.org.

MOUNT JOY FOURTH FRIDAY. Over 20

destinations to enjoy with a different theme each month. This month: Blues, Brews and BBQ. Tonight from 5-8. Call or visit for details. Downtown Mount Joy, 653-4227. www.msmj.org.

GALLERIES/ART SPACES

Opening...

GARTH GALLERY. Exhibit featuring the work of Robert E. Buchanan, Barbara A. Buchanan, and Craig M. Andrews. Opening reception, tonight from 5-9. Cont. through Oct. 20. Tues.-Fri. 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sat. 9 a.m.-1 p.m. 22 S. Second St., Columbia, 684-0651. www.garthgallery.net.

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Exhibit

Continued from 7

plein-air watercolor sketches.

Andrews, who will exhibit realistic watercolors of nature and structures around the region, sometimes accompanies Robert on those hikes.

"I like to get around York County, Lebanon County, Harrisburg anywhere where I can get a vibe for capturing stuff," Andrews says. "Whatever mood I'm in, I just go there."

While the Buchanans can paint in their quiet studio, Andrews must often fit his art work into the hours outside his full-time job managing a team of graphic designers at the state Department of General Services.

"I've got a family, kids running around, the dog's barking and I'm trying to paint,"

Andrews says.

Some of the bright works he'll show at the Garth Gallery include a cluster of orange flowers, the marquee of the Allen Theatre in Annville and a white bridge reflected in Swatara Creek.

Robert has been teaching at the Art Institute of York—Pennsylvania, formerly Bradley Academy, for 30 years. His wife teaches at the York Art Association and the Mechanicsburg Art Center and has taught at the Willow Valley Retirement Communities and the Lancaster Museum of Art.

"I'm actually related to James Buchanan," Robert says, through one of the president's brothers. He has portrayed his famous relative at a few Lancaster events.

After studying art at York College, Andrews went to the former Bradley Academy. He

approached Robert's office, introduced himself and found a mentor and friend.

From the time he met the Buchanans, Andrews says, "I've just studied their work, not just looking at their pictures but looking at their brush strokes and the colors that they use and their shape and their line."

"So it's one of the things that I've taken from them, because they're kind of like the masters and I'm kind of like the apprentice."

"Thank you, Craig," the Buchanans say, nearly in unison.

"Everything is our love of Pennsylvania, and the local scenery," Robert says. "We try to convey our emotional experience about these things—things that we're really connected to."

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