

From the Valley Vision Online:

UMFK Blake Library to feature work by local artist Wendy Kindred

September 20, 2006

NR06084

Fort Kent -

"Holding Patterns," a collection of recent portrait paintings by UMFK Professor emerita of Art, Wendy Kindred, will be on exhibition at the Blake Library Gallery at UMFK throughout September 2006.

A reception for the artist will be held on Wednesday, September 27, from 3:30 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Kindred taught art at the University of Maine at Fort Kent from 1973-2003. Upon retirement, she turned her attention to painting from life. The current exhibition of portraits results from that decision. In the Artist's statement that accompanies the exhibition, Kindred writes, "One day I was holding out a pear in order to study the foreshortened arm in the mirror and realized that the expression holding out is a fine contradiction, part generosity and part refusal."

The title of the exhibition, "Holding Patterns", refers to the idea that each painting is of a person holding some object. The gesture of holding something out or holding back or holding forth gives the pose a sense of movement and character that is as revealing as the face. In one painting Priscilla Daigle, UMFK? Director of Student Teaching, holds out a sheaf of papers: in another, Jenny Radsma, Associate Professor of Nursing, currently on sabbatical, holds out a book. More important than the object that each person holds, though, are the gesture and posture that go with it.

The paintings in the exhibition were shown earlier this year in the Lewis Gallery of the Portland Public Library and in the Reed Gallery at the University of Maine at Presque Isle. A few of them also were on exhibition at the Café de la Place in Madawaska during July.

The current group of paintings at Blake Library at the University of Maine at Fort Kent portrays people who are all associated with UMFK in some way.

The exhibit also may be viewed during Blake Library hours. For more information regarding the exhibit, call Sofia Birden, gallery curator at 207-834-7527.

From the Valley Vision Online:

UMFK Blake Library to host exhibit on domestic violence

September 25, 2006

NR06089

Fort Kent -

The University of Maine at Fort Kent Blake Library will host an exhibit on domestic violence during the month of October.

October is Domestic Violence Awareness month and is observed throughout the United States.

The Battered Women's Project of the St. John Valley has initiated the exhibit to depict the theme of domestic violence and abuse within our community.

Many different exhibits will be on display, most of all have been created by local victims themselves. Items such as handmade quilts, poetry etc. will be included.

Awareness is brought about through different projects, but they all have common themes; mourning those who have died because of domestic violence, celebrating those who have survived, and connecting those who work to end violence.

The exhibit will be on display during regular library hours. For more information, please contact curator Sofia Birden at 834-7527.

From the Valley Vision Online:

Blake Gallery to feature work of local photographer Darrell McBreairty

October 27, 2006

NR06100



Fort Kent - The University of Maine at Fort Kent's Blake Library Gallery will feature an exhibit of photographs by UMFK alumnus Darrell McBreairty of Allagash, entitled "Ice Jam." The photos portray the power, beauty and destructive ability of the St. John River in a series of photographs that documented the ice jam of 1991 in Allagash, Maine.

The collection of photographs will be on display beginning Friday, November 3 and the exhibit will run throughout the month.

Utilizing both black and white and color mediums, McBreairty captures the devastation and the slow revival of a section of the Town of Allagash that is centered around the St. John River Bridge.

McBreairty's collections can be viewed in the Blake Library Gallery Mondays through Thursdays from 8 a.m. to 10 p.m.; Fridays from 8 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Saturdays from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sundays from 1 p.m. to 9 p.m.

For more information contact Sophia Birden, gallery curator, at 834-7527.

From the Valley Vision Online:

Local artist, Daniel Morin's work on display at UMFK Blake Library Gallery

January 26, 2007

NR07011

Fort Kent -

The University of Maine at Fort Kent's Blake Library gallery will exhibit works by local artist Daniel Morin through the month of February. The exhibit will contain various paintings and photographs by Morin. A reception for the artist will be held on Tuesday, January 30, from 1 to 2:30 p.m. The public is invited and all works will be for sale throughout the month.

Morin, a native of Grand Isle, is recognized as an artist who has led the life of a true Renaissance man. He is comfortable in all mediums and has an affinity for watercolor.

The 49-year-old artist sold his first work in 1977 and continues to date. He has many loves: watercolor, oil, acrylic, photography, writing music, studying the guitar and teaching art, music, voice and the guitar.

Morin is a member of the National Watercolor Society, Transparent Watercolor Society of America, American Society of Marine Artists and a founding organizing member of "Meet Our Colors," an international art symposium located in Northern Maine, which features Canadian and Maine artists. "Meet Our Colors" featured Morin's work during the summer of 2006 along with several other artists, including famed Acadian artist, Claude Picard.

Morin's work can be seen on his website at: www.TheBlackCraneGallery.com.

Morin also is a professional photographer and studied at the New York Institute of Photography and he is a member the Maine Professional Photographer's Association.

Morin is currently teaching voice, guitar and music at his Grand Isle residence. He serves as a director of The Saint John Valley Musique Guild, a nonprofit organization created for the benefit of vocalists and musicians of the St. John Valley.

Morin is a true believer in self-improvement. He is pursuing a Master's Certificate in music at The Berklee College of Music in Boston, Massachusetts. Morin resides with his wife, Jody, and their children, Heather and Andrew in Grand Isle. Morin's exhibit can be viewed during Blake Library's regular hours. For more information regarding the exhibit, call Sofia Birden, gallery curator at (207) 834-7527.

From the Valley Vision Online:

UMFK Blake Library Gallery to feature artwork by LuLu Pelletier

February 22, 2007

NR07018



Fort Kent -

The University of Maine at Fort Kent's Blake Library Gallery will feature artwork by Fort Kent native, LuLu Pelletier, throughout the month of March.

Pelletier has been painting since the age of 12 and has never lost her love for creativity in any type of craft activity. She is mostly self taught and took classes from time to time with different artists, such as the Canadian portrait artist, Claude Picard.

According to Pelletier, "The love I have for my family, my art and my pets is boundless; they continuously fill me with peace and fulfillment. They were my motivation from the beginning, when I had an idea of developing a website and then choosing to get my bachelor's degree in fine art."

Almost two years ago, with the help of her webmaster J.P. Marin, LuLu developed her own website: www.portraitsbylulu.com, of which she very proud. The website features Pelletier's work in graphite, colored pencil and oils.

"I'm most proud of how I capture the eyes in my artwork. It's always the first thing I do and if I can't see the person's spirit and personality in their eyes, I start over from scratch," said Pelletier.

Most of Pelletier's work is from commissions of portraits, people and animals. She also has completed portraits of many homesteads.

"When you meet me I'll most probably be talking. Except for sleeping, creating art is pretty much the only time that I'm silent. Hence, this probably explains why I've had so much encouragement from everyone to continue drawing and painting," notes Pelletier.

Pelletier lives with her husband, of 34 years, Louis. Together the couple raised two children, Heather Boyne of Mapleton and Hunter of Bangor. Pelletier was born and raised in Fort Kent. Currently, she is attending UMFK taking general studies and will transfer to the University of Maine at Presque Isle to complete her degree.

The exhibit can be viewed during regular library hours. For more information, contact gallery curator Sophia Birden at (207) 834-7527.