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Notes from editor (not for publication):



HEADLINE ELEMENTS:

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1 Brattleboro-West artists to show in Newfane

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2 Since 2009, artists in the group support one another
3 professionally and personally

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4 TEXT BODY:

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5 Crowell Art Gallery at Moore Free Library, 23 West St.,
6 will feature “Spring!,” a show by members of the Brattleboro-
7 West Arts group from Saturday, May 2 to Saturday, May 30.

8 A reception will be held Saturday, May 16 from 1 to 3
9 p.m.

10 The Brattleboro-West Arts member artists include Beth
11 Aten, Maisie Crowther, Kay Curtis, John Dorsey, Cyndi Ferrante,

12 Lesley Heathcote, Naomi Lindenfeld, Steve Lloyd, Heidi Mario,
13 Kris McDermet, Greg Moschetti, Sharon Myers, Gene Parulis,
14 Jack Pombriant, Carol Violanda, and Jen Wiechers.

15 The exhibit will display a variety of artwork such as
16 paintings of oil, acrylic, watercolor, encaustic, ceramics, alcohol
17 inks and pastels, fiber arts, and more.

18 “Spring!” is a time to celebrate new beginnings as we
19 wake from the deep sleep of winter and our landscape is
20 transformed by the return of the song birds and emergence of
21 new growth all around us,” says Jen Wiechers, co-chair of the
22 group’s exhibition committee.

23 **Artists collaborate**

24 Members of Brattleboro West-Arts, which has been
25 around since 2009, largely live and/or work in West Brattleboro.

26 They individually organize group shows, take on
27 apprentices, and some teach. “We also just really try to be in the
28 community with our art and speaking about art [...] supporting
29 each other,” Wiechers says.

30 Brattleboro-West Arts also has a permanent exhibit in the
31 Brooks House atrium.

32 Co-Chair for the Exhibition Committee Cyndi Ferrante
33 discusses the range of the group’s program, which include
34 painting, works that incorporate nature, ribbon, string, and more
35 — “anything that we could put together to make, as in the garden
36 or in the yard. So we’ll just be creative with nature and develop
37 an art project and collaborate [on] pieces,” she says.

38 **Brushes to bonds**

39 The group also meets monthly to support one another
40 and be a part of a community through potlucks and other events.

41 Ferrante explains that they are a support group: “It’s
42 basically a way for us to share work and talk about [...] what
43 we’re seeing and what we vision, and if anybody has any
44 advice,” she says. “That’s a big thing about us.”

45 "It's really community and its support, and a lot of artists
46 work by themselves, so it's the time to come together, [whether
47 it's] support, or just connection, or bouncing ideas off each other,
48 or just being in that beautiful creative process together," Wiechers
49 says.

50 Ferrante describes Brattleboro-West Arts as "a very strong
51 community of people."

52 "I think we all just really care about how we work and
53 how we do things," she says. "And so for me, it's the support and
54 and just the friendships that I've developed, and the strong
55 community that we have, which is really important to me."

56 Weichers appreciates the "incredible support and
57 friendship."

58 "It goes beyond just the artistic support," she says. "It's
59 just been very valuable in my own artistic journey to keep going."

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BIO/COATTAIL:

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60 The [Crowell Art Gallery](#) is located within the Moore Free
61 Library at 23 West St. in Newfane. Hours are Tuesday and
62 Wednesday from 1 to 5 p.m., Thursday from 1 to 6 p.m., Friday
63 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. To
64 learn more about Brattleboro-West Arts, visit [brattleboro-west-](#)
65 [arts.com](#).

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