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Blue-Butterfly Day

It is blue-butterfly day here in spring,
And with these sky-flakes down in flurry on flurry
There is more unmixed color on the wing
Than flowers will show for days unless they hurry.

But these are flowers that fly and all but sing:
And now from having ridden out desire
They lie closed over the wind and cling
Where wheels have freshly sliced the April mire.

Robert Frost

MAG Headlines:
Spring Fling Rocks!
DoMore24 Yields Big Returns

MAG News

Spring Fling Brings the Fun

Spring Fling has kept the gallery busy! The first week featured 13 artists, with another 13 artist tables the second week. This is the first time Spring Fling ran two full weeks, and based on sales and visitor enthusiasm, it was a popular event!

Another new feature of the annual market were Friday night “Sip & Shops,” where visitors perused the artist tables with a glass of wine in hand while being serenaded by local musicians.



Charles Certain (*pictured left*) entertained the crowd with his jazz saxophone melodies during the first Friday Sip&Shop, and Wanda Russell sang her jazz standards and contemporary tunes during the second Sip & Shop (*pictured right*).

Wanda is the mother of Preston Russell who owns both Lago and Zava restaurants on our block!



State Representative Alonna Berry stopped in to shop and chat with our president, Lynda Rae Gannon, at the second Friday “Sip and Shop.”

In the end, Spring Fling generated \$4,255 for our artists! Congratulations and thanks to Jeanne Steck and her Spring Fling committee!

DoMore24 Yields Big Returns for MAG

Thanks to the generosity of our members and friends, including Dogfish Head Beer & Benevolence, MAG raised \$5,336 during the 24-hour DoMore24Delaware fundraising event! With a stretch fund grant from the Delaware Division of the Arts (DDOA), an additional \$1,282 has been added, taking our final total to \$6,618!

That money will be used to build a handicap ramp at ArtSpace on Park Street, as well as to purchase additional accessibility equipment, including chairs with arms for more support when standing up. *(More on the ramp under "ArtSpace Improvements Underway.")*

Congratulations and thanks to member Liz Dittmar, who led Milton Arts Guild's efforts before and during DoMore24Delaware!

MAG Shows the Green for St. Patrick's Day Parade

Our happy band of Easter leprechauns were ready, once again this year, to participate in Milton St. Patrick's Day parade! Jeff Crawford, Marcia Sabo Williams and Donna Sheppard made merry along the route, with Tom Rosinski driving his antique auto – bedecked in MAG's St. Patrick's Day regalia – along the parade route.



(Pictured: Top right: Jeff Crawford, Marcia Sabo Williams & Donna Sheppard; Far left: Tom Rosinski's antique "float;" Bottom right: Tom readies the car before the parade.)



Steady Improvements Made at ArtSpace

One event and several classes have already been held at ArtSpace, our new education center at 9 Park Street, and we continue to make steady progress in improvements at the building.



Our vice president, Jeff Crawford, assembled racks in the large storage closet (*pictured left*). Jeff also moved the large mirror – used during many classes -- into ArtSpace (*pictured right*).



Susan Donohoe, our education director, and her team then spent time organizing art supplies on those shelves, so our artists and instructors can easily retrieve the art supplies they need on the fly (*pictured left*).

Thanks to Jeff, Susan, and the education committee for pulling together the classroom elements!

The next major project is the handicap ramp installation, which should be completed within the next couple of months. Thanks to the generosity of our members and the community, the funds donated during DoMore24 can now be put to use! We have chosen a contractor to install the ramp, and are currently waiting on town approval of the design and procuring the proper permits to begin construction. Stay tuned for more updates on the ramp progress!

Parking Issues at ArtSpace & Federal Street

Now that we are settled in at ArtSpace, we are asking our members to respect the designated parking spaces. We do have a neighbor in our building whose business also needs parking, so if all the MAG spaces in the front of the building are taken, there is ample parking next door at Milton Elementary School or across Federal Street in the medical complex.

We will be adding parking information to class registration confirmations and reminders, so students will also understand the parking options.

In other parking news, our neighbor at the liquor store has been increasingly unhappy and belligerent about anyone parking on our side of Federal Street who is not his customer. Several times, he has chastised our docents and customers about their cars taking up parking spaces for what he deems is too long. Lynda Rae Gannon met with town leadership and was assured that they are aware of the problem. Anyone is free to park on Federal Street, but you may choose to park on other local streets or area parking lots to avoid any confrontation.

MAG Talks on Iconography Generates Great Attendance



Approximately 25 people attended our MAG Talks “Iconography: The Art Behind the Image” in early March. Noted iconographer, Richard Christin (*pictured left, in white shirt*) led a detailed explanation of iconography throughout the centuries, and fielded several questions from the audience.

Attendees were also treated to coffee from our friends at Milton Home Coffee Roastery and EPIRON Extra Virgin Olive Oil provided by Lewes-based Olympic Imports LLC.



Many thanks to Joe Catrambone and Bonnie Rosinski who pulled together this event, and made it the inaugural public event in our new ArtSpace.

New Member’s Meeting Attracts 12 New Members

A dozen new members attended our quarterly new members’ meeting on March 24, learning more about MAG and asking questions about procedures and process. The meeting also gave new members their first look at ArtSpace.

Thanks to Sharon Hammesfahr, our new member coordinator, and her team of Donna Sheppard, Marie Mayor and Elaine Petrowski, for hosting the event.

If you are a brand new member, or if you were unable to attend this meeting, another will be held in the next few weeks. Watch for email invitations!

William Murphy’s Photography Fills “Spotlight” Window

Photographer William Murphy has filled the MAG “Spotlight Window” with several of his beautiful pictures to brighten the entrance to our 107 Federal Street gallery.

Make sure to pause before entering the gallery to admire the display. Bill’s photographs will hang in the window through the end of April.

If you’d like to add your name to the list of artists interested in exhibiting your work in the window, please contact Carol Bell at cbell7153@gmail.com.



Following Scholarship Fundraiser, Milton Art Teacher Sends Heartfelt Note



Shortly after our Scholarship Fundraiser in February, Milton Arts Guild received a nice notecard (pictured left) and donation from Ali Selders, the art teacher at Milton Elementary School.

The note read: “Dear MAG, I was unfortunately unable to attend your scholarship event, but wanted to contribute nonetheless. My son Charlie was lucky enough to have been the recipient of this

scholarship a few years ago, and I’m happy to report he is thriving as a junior at Maine College of Art, thanks in part, to scholarships like this. Thank you for continuing to support our future artists in Milton!”

(Right: Charlie Selders with Sue Dutton in 2023, receiving his MAG scholarship.)



Fun Hat Day at Spring Fling

Early in the two-week Spring Fling event, there was a rush on Candace Barbaccia’s beautiful hats! Both docents – Eileen Ferro and Bonnie Rosinski (pictured behind desk) – had purchased and donned their hats, and then happily sold yet another to a hat-loving customer!

Pallet Village Invites MAG Members and Seeks Vendors for Mother’s Day Event

Our fellow artists at Pallet Village have invited all MAG members and friends to attend their Mother’s Day Arts & Craft Show on Saturday, May 9, from 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

They are also requesting any MAG artists who would like to set up a table at the event to call John Wanner at 302-344-2026 or Lynda Rae Gannon at 302-632-7868.

A small group of MAG members visits Georgetown’s Pallet Village – a transitional housing neighborhood -- for “art nights” each Monday.



New Members

- ❖ Memo Faraj
- ❖ Joe DiSalvo
- ❖ Jose Quinones
- ❖ Barbara Smiley Ingalls
- ❖ Richard Fanelli
- ❖ Robert Porter & Maria Ruffin
- ❖ Heather Beauchemin
- ❖ Claudia Cobianchi
- ❖ Alisha Broughton



We're glad you joined us!

Upcoming MAG Dates:

- April 6: Sketch Club, 10:00 – 11:00 a.m., Federal Street Gallery. All are welcome!
- April 7: Gallery Around Town Intake, Irish Eyes Milton, 9:00 – 11:00 a.m. Watch for a Sign-Up Genius to reserve a spot.
- April 8: Freewheelin' Photo Day, 10:00 a.m. – Noon, Federal Street Gallery. An email will be sent to reserve a slot to have a photo of your Freewheelin' pieces photographed for publicity purposes.
- April 12: Student Show Reception, 3:00 – 5:00 p.m., Federal Street Gallery. Come celebrate the Milton schoolchildren on their fine works of art! It's always a blast!
- April 22: Freewheelin' Show Intake, 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m., Federal Street Gallery. An email will go out with prospectus and submission form.
- April 23: Gallery Around Town Intake, Milton Library, 10:00 a.m. - Noon. A Sign-Up Genius will be emailed to reserve a spot.
- April 26: Freewheelin' Reception: 3:00 – 5:00 p.m., Federal Street Gallery. All are welcome!

Board of Directors Highlights

The Board of Directors met on Thursday, March 12, at MAG ArtSpace, and began business by reviewing MAG's Five Year Strategic Plan, which was completed last year. The review – which will continue through the next several meetings – allows the board to assess the guild's progress on achieving our goals.



In addition, the board reviewed and approved the 2026 budget, and unanimously agreed to go forward with a handicap ramp at MAG ArtSpace, to be built by local contractor Frank McDermott. The ramp was funded in full by generous donations during DoMore24 in early March. The board also approved a \$40 donation to Milton Garden Club as a sponsorship for 2026's Milton Garden Tour, in which MAG artists participate.

And finally, the board got a tutorial on the new website, which eases many of our operations, like new membership applications and class registrations, as well as providing board members and committee chairs access to important budget documents.

MAG Shows

Four Sales From “Curves;” Student Show Brings the Fun!



Congratulations to Sue Marano, Dawn Polomski, Kathy Coyne, Tonyea Mead and Nancy Horan, all of whom sold their artwork from the “Curves” exhibit!

The gallery will soon be graced by the masterpieces of students from Milton Elementary School, HO Brittingham Elementary School and Mariner Middle School. The show runs just two weeks beginning April 8, so make sure you have a chance to admire the work of upcoming local artists. Or better yet, if you have never attended a student show reception, you have to mark your calendar for Sunday, April 12, to applaud the young artists! It is one of our most fun receptions of the year!

“Freewheelin,” an artist’s choice exhibit, will open directly after the student show.

2026 Show Schedule

Show Title	Run of Show	Photos	Intake	Sunday Reception	Comments
Freewheelin’	4/22-6/2	4/1	4/21	4/26; 3-5 p.m.	Artist’s Choice! Have fun!
Mimic the Masters (Judged)	6/3-7/21	5/19	6/2	6/7; 3-5 p.m.	Make an existing masterpiece your own or paint in the style of a master.
Coastal Clues	7/23-9/1	7/7	7/21	7/26; 3-5 p.m.	Find your favorite coast scene.
Monochromatic	9/2-10/13	8/25	9/1	9/6; 3-5 p.m.	Pick a color and make the shades work!
Wild Card (Judged)	10/28-11/24	10/14	10/27	11/1; 3-5 p.m.	Artist’s Choice! Do one for the judges!
This is Joy	11/25- 1/5/26	11/1	11/24	11/29 2-5 p.m.	Bring the joy to the season.



Lynda's Lines

A long time ago I was an impressionable Girl Scout listening to a guest speaker predict that if we weren't careful with our climate, there would eventually be no more butterflies. So, since that dire warning, I always worry until I see my first butterfly.

At our last reception I saw my first butterfly of the year. She came in the form of a local fourth grader who had wandered in all by herself to see what was happening in our gallery. She studied the show pieces with an appreciative eye. She spoke in a quiet, polite, self-assured voice. I was taken with her gentle presence, and in my mind she became the assurance I needed that appreciation for the arts was strong and sure in her.

In the next few weeks we will be presenting our annual Student Show. It never disappoints. Local elementary students will be showing off their talents. The reception for the show will be full of family members and friends. Special memories will surely be made.

I hope you will come to share that day with us. It is part of our mission to foster creativity in our young people. Let's lead by example to all who step through our doors....and experience the butterfly effect.

-Lynda Rae Gannon

Upcoming 2026 Classes

April



Crochet- Market or Beach Bag with Candy Barbaccia

Four-part class

Tuesdays, April 7, 14, 21, 28

10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

\$105 members; \$115 non-members



Minis, Minis, Minis Galore with Gerilyn Gaskill

Saturday, April 11

9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

\$50 members; \$60 non-members

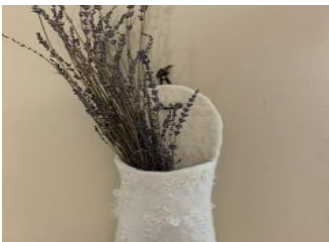


Sewing Machine Basics

Monday, April 13

5:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m.

\$40 members; \$50 non-members



Beginner Felted Wool Wall Pocket with Sharon Davis

Tuesday, April 14

9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

\$60 members; \$70 non-members



Funky Faces with Gretchen Eisenhuth

Thursday, April 16

5:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m.

\$50 members; \$60 non-members



Hemming, Repair and Alterations Workshop With Renee Brown

Saturday, April 18

10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

\$40 members; \$50 non-members



Watercolor Crabs with Gerilyn Gaskill

Tuesday, April 21

9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

\$50 members; \$60 non-members



Springtime Journal with Ruthann Arthur

Thursday, April 23

12:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m.

\$70 members; \$80 non-members



Iris Paper Folding with Pauline Powell

Thursday, April 23

9:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m.

\$35 members; \$45 non-members



Beaded Anklet Workshop with Susan Donohoe

Wednesday, April 29

1:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m.

\$35 members; \$45 non-members



Acrylic and Collage Paint and Sip – *Critters* With Kathy Fessenbecker

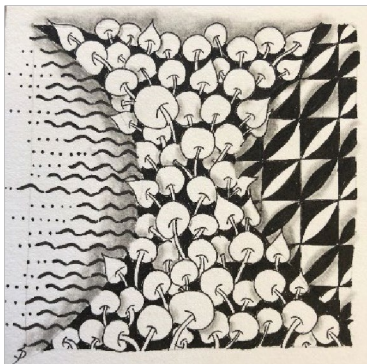
Thursday, April 30

4:00 p.m.-6:30 p.m.

\$40 members; \$50 non-members

Classes will be held at MAG ArtSpace, 9 Park Street, Milton

Recurring Online Classes & Merriment



Drop-in Zoomdoodle

Two sessions per week

Every Tuesday and Thursday

3:30-4:30 p.m.

\$15 (for a full month's sessions!)

Visit our website (www.miltonartsguild.org) to register

Open Studio

Join friends on Friday mornings for a two-hour Open Studio in-person at the *Federal Street Gallery*.

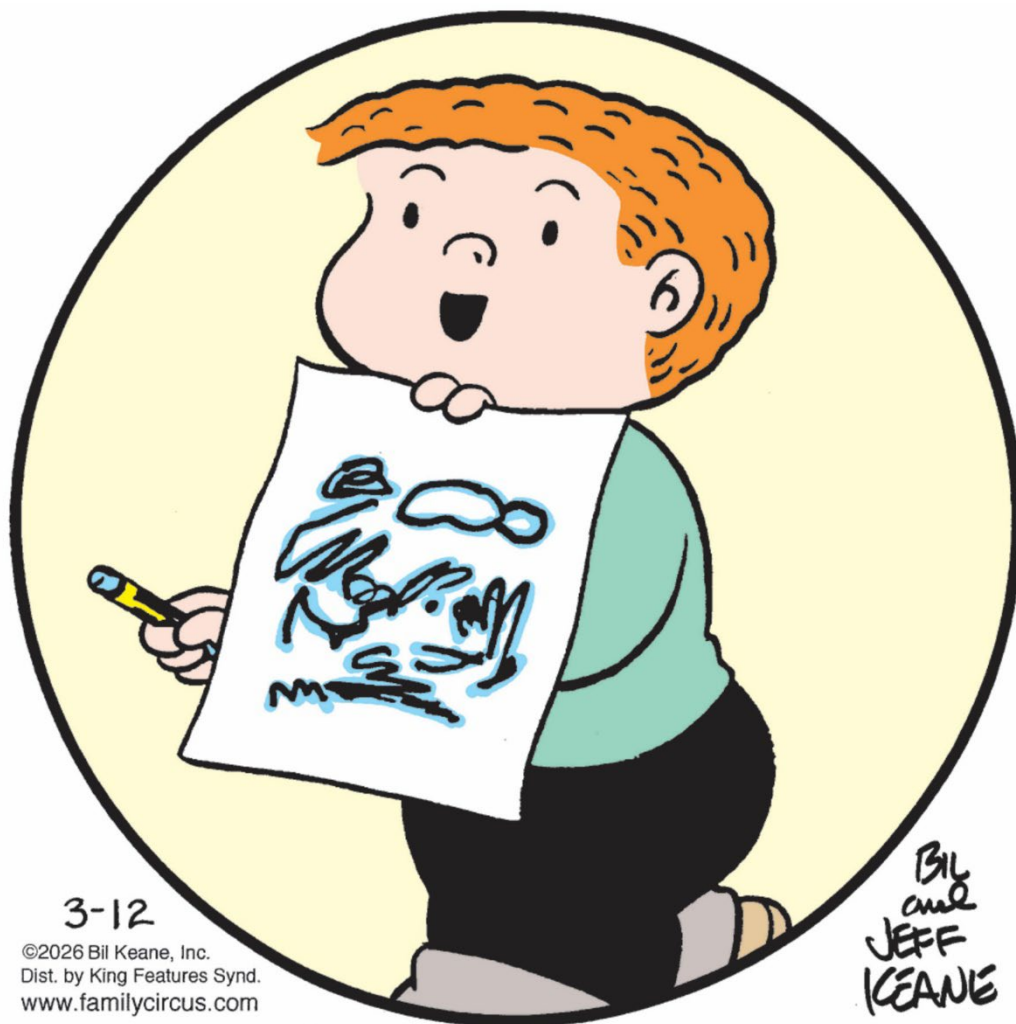
Need some feedback on a project? Inspiration?
Crave connection? This is the place for you!

Every Friday of the month 10 a.m.-noon FREE!



Just For Laughs...

The Family Circus by Bil & Jeff Keane



3-12

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www.familycircus.com

BIL
and
JEFF
KEANE

**“Grandma, will you buy
a frame for this?”**

MAG Board of Directors

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Cynthia Schmidt, Gallery Group

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Register with Delaware Division of the Arts to join their Artist's Roster. Go to <https://arts.delaware.gov>, find the heading "artist" on the upper right corner of the Delaware Artist Roster home page, and click on "Register" to create an application for a new listing or "Log In" to edit existing listings.



MAG is supported in part by a grant from the Delaware Division of the Arts, a state agency, in partnership with the National Endowment for the Arts. The Division promotes Delaware arts events on www.DelawareScene.com.