

10th Annual Community Art Show At The Kettle Falls Historical Center!

Entries are due on June 7, 2010 and the show will last from June 9 until August 15, 2010.

We invite entries from residents of the Northeast Washington area, of any age, to exhibit their artistic endeavors: oil or acrylic paintings, water colors, wood carvings, sculptures, fiber art, photographs, or any other art form. A Peoples' Choice Award will be given, chosen from balloting by visitors to the Historical Center.

Entry forms can be found at Picture Perfect in Colville and at Windermere/Kettle Falls Real Estate office in Kettle Falls. Call 738-2827 or 738-6735 for more information. The Kettle Falls Historical Center is located 3.5 miles west of Kettle Falls on St. Paul's Mission Road. Hours are 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Wednesday through Monday. Tuesdays are staffed by volunteers and the Center is not always open; call 738-6964 to inquire.

Annual Mother's Day Plant Sale: Enhanced

by Susan Urhausen

The Mother's Day Plant Sale, an annual fundraiser for the Kettle Falls Food Bank, will have some extras available this year. In addition to the wide (and hopefully plentiful) selection of donated house and garden plants, the food bank is offering some free seeds, advice and demonstrations.

Eldon Roush, organic gardener and vocal proponent of the health and cost benefits of growing one's own food, will be at the plant sale. Roush serves on the Board of Directors of Kettle Falls Horizons. For many years, he has focused on a self-sustaining way of life. The plants in his garden are heirloom varieties, that is, the seeds from those plants will grow that same plant variety when planted. Many hybrids available have lost that capacity. He has saved a wide variety of plant seeds that will be available on a donation basis. Roush can offer suggestions as to gardening in general, organic gardening in particular, and some alternative solutions in food storage, primarily drying. Mr. Roush is currently trying to organize either a community garden or a number of shared backyard gardens to help combat hunger in Kettle Falls. Also in the works are a series of gardening classes hosted by Roush. Roush can be reached at 684-6912 for further information on community gardens or classes.

Melody Huntley is a Master Gardener who serves on the Kettle Falls Food Bank Board of Directors. Huntley has over 35 years of experience gardening organically in Stevens and Ferry counties. She will have a table set up for a plant clinic. Huntley will be able to answer questions and hopefully solve problems related to gardening. Those wishing to tap her knowledge can sit down with her and find some solutions. There will also be examples on hand of cost-saving cold frames built out of spare materials.

Carol Bezold is also on the Kettle Falls Food Bank Board of Directors. Bezold is also a vocal proponent of self-sustenance by way of growing one's own vegetables. Last summer she conducted a series of canning classes in conjunction with the Food Bank. In addition to the classes, she sought out sponsorship in order to provide several water-bath canners and one pressure canner available on a lending basis at the Food Bank. Bezold will offer several examples of container gardens. Containers offer a way for those with no available garden space to

get some benefit of home-grown food in a typical flower pot.

Steve Schott, long-time Kettle Falls Food Bank Board of Directors member will also be available to help answer questions and assist at the Mother's Day Plant Sale. Schott is also an avid organic gardener with years of practical experience that he is eager to share.

It is worth mentioning as well, that two of the available experts have had to find alternative ways to garden due to back injuries. The knowledge and creativity of Eldon Roush and Melody Huntley in this area is invaluable to anyone with a disability who wants to garden. This is a great opportunity to get inspired if it seemed like gardening days were in the past due to injuries.

The pricing of plants will change somewhat this year. In the past, all plants had fixed prices, as this event was looked upon primarily as a fundraiser. Times have changed, and so has the Food Bank. This year, all house plants will have fixed prices, but all food plants will have suggested donation prices. No offers will be refused, even if that offer is nothing. The main interest this year is to make food plants available to everyone, regardless of their ability to pay.

This is an exciting turn of event for the Kettle Falls Food Bank. To have four such interesting and knowledgeable gardeners in one spot at one time is spectacular. To have them all helping the Kettle Falls Food Bank, its patrons and the entire community is heartening.

The Food Bank needs donations of yard plants, (flowers, shrubs), house plants, and all matter of starts for vegetable gardens. Strawberry plants are a great draw for this sale as well. Please bring all donations to the Food Bank during the week of May 3rd through the 6th. The Food Bank is closed on May 7th, but special arrangements for a drop-off can be made. Plants can also be dropped off the morning of the sale, Saturday May 8th. The sale will begin at 9 AM and go until around noon or after if attendance warrants. The Thrift Store attached to the Food Bank will also be open during the Plant Sale. The Kettle Falls Food Bank is located at 472 Meyers and can be reached at 738-2326. Look for the white canopies on the day of the sale. Hope to see everyone there!

Sandy's Drive-In

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until Darrell and Karen Shute bought it in 1974. Karen ran the restaurant and did the cooking; a lot of work. In 1991 employees took over some of her responsibilities, and she created Karen's Corner in the restaurant, an area for showcasing gifts for purchase. Karen retired in 1996 after 22 years at Sandy's. Sandy's remained an appropriate name for the restaurant since Darrell and Karen's daughter was also named Sandy.

Current owner Leona Coleman started working at Sandy's in 1989 as Karen's relief cook. Three years later she moved on to the Plum Creek Sawmill in Arden, where she met her husband Rich. She "got tired" after five years at the sawmill and a friend happened to ask her if she was interested in getting back into the restaurant business at Arby's; she accepted. When the opportunity arose to lease Sandy's in 2002 Leona joined forces with Judy Rickard to manage the restaurant. After one and a half years or so Judy left, and Leona told Rich, who was still working at the sawmill, that he needed to "come and help me". He did, although he admitted he had no business or restaurant experience at the time. Health regulations, taxes, ordering the proper amount of food and managing employees made for a lot of learning. Leona's mother, Jacque Delp, did the books. Before 2002 Sandy's did not serve breakfast and was only open in the summer months; the Coleman's really turned the business into a full-time, full-serve restaurant.

Sandy's is open seven days a week. They always open at 6a.m. Closing is at 9p.m. during the summer months and 8 p.m. in the winter. Breakfast is served from 6 a.m.-11 a.m. Monday-Saturday, and 6 a.m.-noon on Sunday. Also, an all you can eat brunch is served on Sunday from 8 a.m.-1 p.m. Cash, checks and debit and credit cards are accepted. Sandy's is located at 1045 Highway 395 N., Kettle Falls, WA 99141. The phone number is 509-738-6444. Stop by for a treat.



Leona and her crew

New Auto Repair And Off-Road Specialty Shop In Town

by Peggy Mandin

Sam Thomas opened his doors on April 1, 2010 in the building that previously housed the Old Towne Garage, now renamed The Shop. Sam's business is auto repair, and so much more. Besides offering oil changes and computer diagnostics, Sam works on brakes and transmissions and does major engine repair. He is also known as an off road specialist.

Sam has spent 15 of his last 20 years in the Kettle Falls area working at different auto repair shops. Most recently he has spent five years working as a railroad electrician and mechanic. After a reorganization at the railroad he decided to get back into auto repair. He stated that he has found working on vehicles "more gratifying" because of the personal relationships with customers. Sam finds it rewarding to fix something and find the customer satisfied with his work.

Ironically, Sam first worked in this building "for another individual", and so has found himself renting the same place he once worked in. Because of his previous work experience Sam has "collected a lot of tools", so he is now able to do a lot of different kinds of work for reasonable prices.

Sam welcomes work on four wheel drive

vehicles. He currently works on vehicles for the Kettle Falls Police Department and the Forest Service.

Besides auto work, Sam finds himself drawn to racing work. Since high school Sam has loved off-road vehicles. He currently travels all over the Pacific Northwest racing his mud and sand road "rail", a vehicle so modified that it "barely resembles a jeep".

Sam's racing is sponsored by Benny's Colville Inn and a national company, K & N Filters. He has always loved cars and working on his own cars, which led to his work on other people's vehicles. He understands racing, and how other racers enjoy working on their machines.

Last August Sam won first place in the Mug Bog race at First Thought Day in Orient; no small feat since no one else was able to finish. Sam and Becky's son, Collin, age 10, already enjoys racing his outlaw kart; he even won first place in Spokane during his first race of the season this year.

The Shop is open Monday-Friday 9 a.m.- 6 p.m. and closed on Saturday and Sunday. It is located at 515 Meyers Street, Kettle Falls, WA 99141, across the street from the Post Office. The Shop accepts cash, Visa and Mastercard. Sam can be reached by phone at 738-6500 or by email at theshop@centurylink.net.



Sam Thomas at 'The Shop'



Sam Thomas

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This month is your last chance to meet the current Kettle Falls 'Grouch' - Leanne Pomeranky before she ends her year and a new grouch is named

Dont Forget we are also available online
www.kettlefallsfocus.com