

Innisfree

VILLAGE VOICE
SUMMER 2023

Artwork
by Willie

McGuffey Exhibition

Art from Innisfree Village

by Henriette Shaffer-Whiting

During the month of May, our coworkers who take part in the Art Studio workstation had the opportunity to show their artwork at the McGuffey Art Center in Charlottesville. The McGuffey

Art Center is an artist-run cooperative that features monthly exhibitions and aims to increase access to art for all in the Charlottesville community.

Our exhibition, titled "Art from Innisfree Village" displayed work from each coworker participating in the art program, as well as from Georgia Webb,

Harry's sister. Despite no obvious theme linking the individual pieces of art, they were all made in the spirit of creativity and self expression, showcasing the variety of art styles our coworkers like to use and explore. Many different formats and mediums were utilized in the creation of the art.

In conjunction, Aaron Farington, a resident artist at McGuffey, also showed wet plate photos he took of some of our artists in the fall of 2022. They were part of the overall installation and made it possible to connect the faces of our coworkers to their artwork.

Some of our artists would like to share their opinions on the exhibition and their own artwork:

Willie: It was a really good art exhibition and the whole hallway was



filled with just Innisfree art. I liked my art, the train drawings and the embroidery pieces. When the exhibition opened, there was a choir in front of McGuffey, it added to the atmosphere of the exhibition. It was also nice to see Christopher Headings [a resident artist at McGuffey and Harry's caregiver] at the exhibition opening.

Marny: I liked it, it was different. My artwork was very colorful.

Brooke R.: It was very good, but I wish I could have sold my artwork.

Elizabeth: I liked seeing my fish and the needle point I did, because they are made of my favorite colors and took a long time to make. I liked how the stained glass melted bead circle turned out. It looks like a stained glass window.

Bee: It was wonderful to see all the art up, especially mine. I liked it up there. We got noticed.

David: I think the exhibition was interesting, seeing all the different pieces of art you don't usually get to see.



Quilt by Kelsea

We would like to extend our thanks to the McGuffey Art Center (<http://mcguffeyartcenter.com>), Christopher

Headings for helping us organize and set up the exhibition and Aaron Farington for the wonderful photos of our coworkers.



Various punchneedle art by Corinne, Marny, Brooke R., and Mitch

Remembrances

Brett Arburn

January 21, 1956 — February 28, 2023

Innisfree Coworker since 1978

By Luis Barrera

I heard the news while I was in Charlottesville, setting up a show at one of the stores that sells our woodshop products. Miriam looked concerned and just said something happened to Brett. Later as I was driving into the Village, I asked a staff member who was walking



Brett is all smiles as he relaxes in his recliner at Old Laurel.

her dog what had happened. She said “I guess you don’t know. He passed.” My heart stopped for a moment and all that came out of my mouth was “Oh Brett.”

He was so proud of how young and healthy he was. Weather permitting he walked around the

loop at least once a day. Every time the subject came up, he would ask people to guess his age, and get a kick out of telling them he was 15 years older than what they guessed.

He had the worst jokes, but delivered them with that boyish mischievous smile that warmed your heart. “Oh shut up Brett”... “Well, how about open down?” he would retort. Sigh!



Young Brett poses for a family photo.

He sat every day in his rocking chair, which we unanimously agreed to keep, and did the same job, though he could do many others. He always knew what was for lunch, and rang the bell at precisely 12:30 for the community to gather to eat. He was strangely interested in speed limits and



Brett and Bridget enjoy the festivities at the D.C. Pride Parade in 2022.

would ask visitors about them in their states. A staunch supporter of gay rights. On bad days would argue that COVID would never be over and we would live the rest of our lives using N95s. On good days he would tell you he would celebrate his 90th birthday at Innisfree. He was uniquely Brett, who left before he was ready, and when neither were we.

Julie Tannen

December 18, 1955 — June 7, 2023

Innisfree Coworker since 1974

by Trisha Costello

“How are you?” is a question that can be spoken casually but when it came from Julie, she asked and listened. Conversation and reminiscing regularly flowed together from there—about old friends shared in common, about our



Julie leads the way in the Independence Day parade.

years of doing “early morning garden”, about the length of our hair and the benefits (and cycles) of having it long and short. And always in the mix of reminiscing, Julie asked about my family, especially Clara and Lucy who she watched grow up at Innisfree.

This care and attention that Julie could share in

Artwork from McGuffey Show *continued*



Artwork by Andy



Artwork by Justin



Artwork by Kim

Julie makes sure the bread dough is properly mixed.

conversation was mirrored in her work and support of others at Innisfree. A skilled weaver and gardener and in years past

a baker, Julie had many years to fine tune her skills, and fine they were. In the veggie and herb gardens, she became our chief seeder of even the smallest of seeds, handling each seed individually to be placed carefully in the holes of seed boards—planting as many as 500-600 seeds/day. In the summer in the herb garden, she became the main stringer of our endless harvests of chocolate mint, mastering the clove hitch (which I am still fumbling along with!).

Julie enjoys her daily walks through the village.



Of course, “work” for Julie also went well beyond the hours of workstations, at times happening at hours when others might still be deep in REM sleep (if not for the dishwasher being unloaded on the floor above them, or the

compost bucket being rinsed and returned before sunrise). Where help was needed, Julie was there.

Slow (except when she liked to rush...) and steady, Julie worked with focus and rhythm. She showed a commitment to each day to show up and do her best. So many life lessons to be learned here at Innisfree from each other. I am deeply grateful to Julie for this lesson.



Julie and Dan the Cat are pros at planting seeds in the vegetable garden.

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a newsletter of
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Artwork from McGuffey Show *continued*



Artwork by Crosby



Artwork by David



Artwork by Elizabeth



*Artwork by
Chris B.*



*Artwork by
Emma*

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Your generosity allows those who we serve the ability to live a life of freedom, possibilities, and purpose...We are thrilled to offer you an opportunity to make a philanthropic gift in support of the Innisfree Village Fund!



Innisfree



Grainneog opens up the festivities with our all-time favorite Irish tunes.

JuneFest 2023



The music class performs with Nazli as a featured soloist.



Maggie is excited to get the party started.



Yummy foods from the Farmacy food truck make for a delightful lunch.

Thanks to everyone who came out for JuneFest 2023! The Village was thrilled to welcome our family and friends from the community for our first music festival in four years. It was a beautiful summer afternoon, full of music, food, and fun!



Chris L. joins the band on percussion.



Margaret and Bee enjoy a chat in the lovely shade.



We love partnering with local businesses like Knight's Gambit Vineyards.

The plant sale is a big hit with fresh flowers and organic herbs.



Willie loves Junfest and chatting with all of his friends.



Brooke W. is so proud of her special photo taken by the Nomadic Photo Ark Project.



Corinne loves dancing and clapping to the music.



Mark proudly shows off his Nomadic Photo Ark picture.



Best buds Max and Crosby enjoy a big hug.



Volunteers Charlie and Lauren are all smiles on a beautiful afternoon.

Linda is the queen of festivities in her fancy hat.



Katie takes a stroll to look at all the pictures taken by Nomadic Photo Ark.



The weavery offers an assortment of colorful items at the craft fair.