



June has been a busy month for the Alma Community Art Center. Besides our regular programming and gallery exhibitions of the Creative Arts Guild and the school-based “Above the Influence” artwork, we have just finished a very successful Youth Art Camp. Seventeen young artists between the ages of 7 and 14 years old participated 5 hours a day for 4 days and 3 more youth joined us for a day each... Twenty children’s summers have been touched by talented, creative teachers that energized their artistic senses! We thank instructors Diane Zakala for pottery and colorful self-portrait; Kirsten Keeton for creating tie-dyed T-shirts that bore the “award winning” logo created by Alma Middle School art student Aaliyah Wilson, a seventh grader; Kathy Haffey for the inspiration of Paul Klee through oil pastels; watercolor experiences with Steve Hawkes and Diane Clise; and the last day filled with Jody Schnetzler’s instruction with charcoal figure drawing, Van Gogh pastels and Monet acrylic masterpieces. Free time was interspersed with color value studies, hand weaving, sketching and lots of fun social interaction for our young artists. It was a wonderful week which we hope to do again in early August! Please check with us for the upcoming dates and times.

In addition, we are offering Uncorked Painting at Hometown Cellars on Thursday, July 18 from 6:00-9:00 p.m. We'll enjoy wine, snacks and the company of new friends. Get out and get creative with new friends in this very special event! The cost is inclusive of all materials for the class.

Both watercolor lessons with Diane Clise and Woodburning with Steven Hawkes can now be arranged by appointment. Contact the Alma Community Art Center to arrange for your lessons.

The time has come to close the doors of our Art Center on Superior Street Kurt Wassenaar, Jerry Freed and all the workmen have been *exceptionally* accommodating

in letting us stay as long as possible in this location but they now need that space to continue their Opera House restoration project work. The good news is that we have found a temporary location that will meet some of our needs and get us closer to our new location which is under renovation. We are able to use office space in the house next to our new Art Center on Woodworth Avenue in Alma. The space at 312 Woodworth is available to us thanks to Bart and Connie Barton and has a fairly large room that can accommodate scheduled 'by appointment' and small art classes. Larger classes and special events will be held off-site and there will be no gallery area or artist retail sales. Summer hours begin there July 9<sup>th</sup> and will be Tuesday through Friday from 11:00 am until 5:00 pm, with Thursday evening staying open until 6:00 pm. The phone number remains the same so if you need detailed information or wish to arrange watercolor or woodburning classes, call 989-463-8366, visit our website at [www.alma-cac.org](http://www.alma-cac.org), or stop by our new location at 312 Woodworth during our open hours.

Our Superior Street location has certainly afforded us many memories over the past 22 months and we appreciate all those that have made our artistic vision a successful reality. We are extremely indebted to Kurt Wassenaar for allowing us use of this space to develop a multi-faceted visual arts center for Gratiot county communities to have exposure to educational art opportunities for all ages - now our road continues on to Woodworth. We are not in our new Art Center yet, but we are just next door...