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Artist

Continued from Page 5

"I did nothing but watercolor from about 1998 to about 2007," Sutton said. "When I moved up to the mountains, I started taking a lot more classes at NPC (Northland Pioneer College) up there. I explored different mediums with my college classes and started spreading out up there."

Today, the Maricopa resident is mixing both art and teaching just as she mixes mediums through her artwork. Sutton's preferred medium is watercolor, but she combines it with acrylic, colored pencils and oil paint to create wildlife, still life and landscape designs.

"I'm a watercolorist at heart," Sutton said. "But I've been doing acrylic for the last three years because I started teaching and that's what they wanted me to teach."

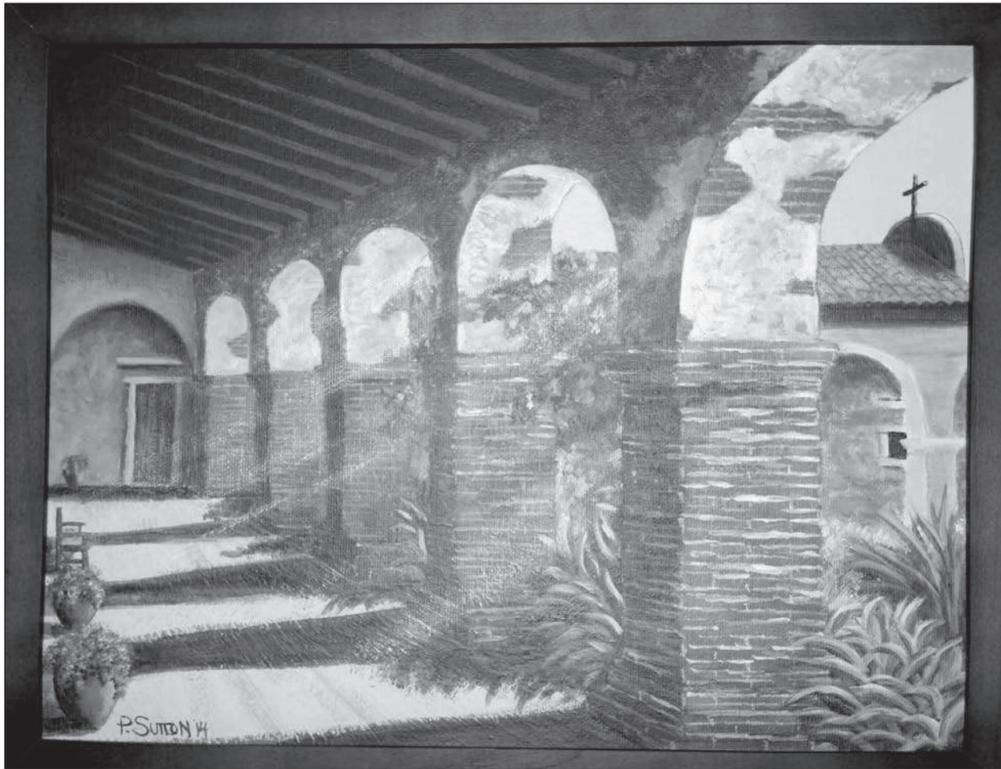
Sutton teaches art classes in Ahwatukee three to four days a week to share her passion for art with others.

When it comes to painting, Sutton explains that while she is more drawn to impressionism, her pieces look more like photos, which leans toward realism. Sutton strives to learn and grow as an artist; painting is something that is now wholly a part of her.

"It's like breathing oxygen," she said. Sutton is inspired by her environment. She has traveled from the mountains to the desert and takes countless pictures she uses as a reference for her works.

"When we travel I do a lot of watercolor pencil and when we get home, I wet it down. So when I travel I make up a whole bunch of these miniatures," Sutton said.

She always has four or five



Maricopa artist Pam Sutton is now a multi-medium artist, but did nothing but watercolors for nearly a decade, from 1998 to 2007.

Carrie Vargas/Maricopa Monitor

pieces going at once so that if she needs to take a break from one, she can go on to the next one. Sutton's process for creating her paintings and drawings starts with a game plan.

"I look for inspiration through my photo references, (and) find a few that I like," said Sutton. "I start with a thumbnail sketch and decide the values. The sketch tells me which medium is best for that piece whether it's watercolor or acrylic. Then I go large with it."

As far as the time needed to complete a piece, Sutton said that it can vary.

"When there's a show coming up, I can do one in a week or

less," Sutton said. "Sometimes the tiny ones are a few hours when I do some of the small 5x7s. The bigger pieces, maybe a couple of weeks."

She has one piece that has taken a year. It's a painting of a pair of hands, one belonging to Sutton's mother and the other to her niece. Her mother passed away while Sutton was working on it, and she has yet to complete it.

"It's been up there for a while. Sometimes they nag me if I leave them propped up where I can see them and say, 'finish me, finish me,'" said Sutton.

Sutton's ultimate desire is to express her initial feelings from

the first encounter with a particular landscape or flower.

When asked what the best thing about painting is, Sutton said, "That's like asking 'what's the best thing about life.' I think it's a meditative journey. To me, creative expression is a wonderful journey into the natural world around us as well as one of self-discovery."

Sutton also said that painting is a continual learning process. In the future, she hopes get her work into galleries and use her website to share her work with the world.

Sutton will be one of the artists participating in the upcoming

Art on the Veranda event. The returning artist plans to have variety to purchase, including roughly 38-45 framed pieces and 30-40 prints of different mediums, including water color and pastel. Prints are only \$20 matted with a range swinging up to \$400. Her largest paintings are 16x20.

Sutton has a website (Pam-suttonart.com), and a Facebook page and is available to do commission pieces, but says that she is not yet comfortable enough to do commissioned portrait work. You can check out her work at Art on the Veranda being held at The Duke on Nov. 8 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

F.E.A.R. Online

Continued from Page 5

that the series became known for was on-hand, as several enemies did take cover behind objects, while oddly enough, others continued to attack in very linear fashion without attempting to utilize any cover.

Equipped with grenades, a knife, a pistol and an assault rifle, we made short work of the first round of the game.

Entering into a subway level, things became progressively more difficult as ghostly creatures poured in from everywhere, making short work of our team. Attempts to revive fallen players were difficult due to the limited ammunition and the abundance of enemies to contend with. A second effort was more successful as I backed my player against a wall and we formed a fire line to decimate the oncoming enemies.

As play progressed, things became increasingly more difficult but the nostalgic enjoyment returned. While there is still work to be done and tweaks to be added, I have to say that I'm impressed with what I've seen to date. As a free-to-play game, F.E.A.R. Online offers solid action and enjoyment for fans of the series old and new and is definitely one that you will want to check out.

Marriage ban

Continued from Page 1

and Education Fund, who represents other challengers, was less charitable in her reaction. She described the state's filing as "a white-knuckled grip on the last remaining shred on the last remaining straw of a legal position where they've conceded that the 9th Circuit decision is binding."

What Horne is arguing to Sedwick is that the appellate court issued but then withdrew its "mandate" to Nevada and Idaho to start issuing marriage licenses. And while both states have, in fact, started allowing gays to wed, Horne told Sedwick he cannot legally rely on the 9th Circuit ruling to void the Arizona law - at least not yet.

In fact, Horne called any effort by Sedwick to void Arizona's laws based on the 9th Circuit ruling "a gamble."

Pizer, however, said Horne and his staff have not identified a single issue that would somehow make Arizona's ban on gay marriage legally different than the ones already overturned.

"And yet these lawyers working for Tom Horne are blocking the door to prevent this particular group of people from being able to enter the room where everybody else lives," Pizer said. "It's hardly an honorable position for the state."

Horne referred all calls to Rob Ellman, the state's solicitor general, who works for him. Ellman declined to comment.

The Alliance Defending Freedom, a Christian-based law firm which has helped the state defend the law, has consistently referred all calls to Horne.

That legal point on which Horne and his staff are hanging their hopes stems from the fact that last week's ruling about Idaho and Nevada laws was issued by a three-judge panel of the appellate court.

There are interests in those states who want to preserve a ban on same-sex weddings. So they want that decision reviewed by the full appellate court.

The U.S. Supreme Court last week already refused to provide an emergency stay of the 9th Circuit ruling while the foes of same-sex marriage prepare an appeal.

That should have ended the matter. But it didn't.

In a brief order earlier this week, the appellate court said it would "afford the state a second opportunity to obtain an emergency stay of our order from the Supreme Court, even though we see no possible basis for such a stay." That leaves full and final implementation of the 9th Circuit ruling in legal limbo.

The move may end up being, at best, a stalling tactic.

Every other federal appeals court in the country that has looked at the issue has concluded that state laws banning same-sex

marriage are unconstitutional. And each and every attempt to get the Supreme Court to intercede -- or at least delay the order -- has been spurned.

Sedwick already has tipped his hand a bit, ruling in a related issue that it appears Arizona's 2008 voter-approved ban on same-sex weddings and older state statutes violate constitutional rights.

Less clear is what will happen the moment he rules, assuming he sides with challengers.

Pizer said that unless the judge also agrees to stay the effect of his order, that would allow same-sex couples to immediately go to county clerks and demand marriage licenses. And with Arizona having no waiting period, that could mean weddings shortly thereafter.

Macre was more cautious in her analysis, saying a lot of it depends on exactly how Sedwick words his order. And if nothing else, she said county clerks are not prepared to issue same-sex licenses.

Letters

Continued from Page 4

decision making skills in the spirit of collaboration, yet he is not afraid to stand alone if it means standing up for what is right. Henry has always been proud of his community and has organized and participated in a number of community events in the city of Maricopa and throughout the state. In fact, one of my fondest memories and a great illustration of that is when he and a fellow church member drove two vans of boy scouts from Arizona to Washington, D.C., to witness history being made at President Barack Obama's first inauguration.

This was no small task and in part came at Mr. Wade's own personal expense. Many of those young boys, now young men, would never have experienced such an extraordinary day. But because of his generosity and caring heart those boy scouts were able to be a part of history as it was being made with their own eyes. It will surely be one of the most memorable events they will have experienced in their lifetime. It goes without saying that Henry was instrumental in allowing the boys and others he encountered along the journey the opportunity to learn character skills and gain a greater sense of community responsibility, which they can carry with them as they become outstanding adults.

And finally, the quality I love most about Henry is he is very dependable; a man of his word. I strongly believe that his good judgment and positive outlook ensures that he will take a logical and practical approach as he undertakes the responsibility of being a good steward over city affairs. Once elected, I'm confident in Henry Wade's ability to lead through diverse and challenging situations. I am asking that you stand with me and many others on Tuesday, Nov. 4 in support of Henry Wade by casting your vote to elect him as your councilman.

Marquisha Griffin
Ex-councilmember
Maricopa

Steve Smith not good for LD11

Dear Editor,

Steve Smith, as a candidate for the Arizona Senate, you are too "staunch" a conservative for me. I totally object to your stance on a woman's right to choose. Family planning is a right and responsibility of families, not government. It should not be a governmental issue. Why don't you get it, Mr. Smith? If you are such a gung-ho conservative, don't you remember when President Reagan said that the government should get off people's backs?

All Americans - including women - have basic rights. Women are full-fledged adult human beings who deserve the right to make the best possible decisions for our families and our country without intrusive legislation blocking our lives.

I plan to vote for Jo Holt for AZ Senator because I know that she will honor women's rights. I don't see how anyone of the female gender can vote for Smith and I don't understand

how men who trust and honor the women in their lives can vote for him either.

Kathleen Pastryk
Oro Valley

'With friends like these..'

Dear Editor,

We have three Conservatives running for the state Legislature in our district. All three proudly claim the endorsements of sheriffs Joe and Paul. Sheriff Joe has cost Maricopa County almost \$1 million in fines and attorney costs with his racial techniques of law enforcement.

Sheriff Paul is famous for orchestrating an attack on YMCA camp goes in Oracle, a junior "Fast & Furious" problem, being unable to find military equipment that the Feds gave him and filing a missing person report on his illegal alien playmate.

My parents always told me to be careful because you will be judged by the company that you keep. I don't want to vote

for anyone who has friends like these.

Kurt Ohlrich
Oro Valley

Holt able to see whole picture

Dear Editor,

One reason I am voting for Jo Holt for Senate in LD 11 is Steve

Smith's attitude regarding our neighbors to the south. He sees Mexicans as only as undesirable and Mexico only as the cause of problems in Arizona. He seems not to be aware of the richness of our cultural and economic interrelationships. His pronouncements are all playing on fears about the border and ignore the importance of Mexico to the economy of Arizona.

Jo Holt on the other hand, while recognizing border problems which need to be dealt

with at the federal level, sees the importance of imports from Mexico and the millions of dollars that visitors from Sonora spend in Nogales, Tucson, and other Arizona cities. The importance of trade with Mexico will only increase in the future with the expansion of the port at Guaymas, and it should be encouraged so that it is not funneled to other states.

Dorothy Montgomery
Oro Valley

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