



**Leading a dynamic community
that celebrates the *Arts***

**Cottonwood trees and skies are home for two
Olds area artists in the Kiwanis Gallery!**

Red Deer Arts Council and Red Deer Public Library are pleased to present, *'cottonwoodSky'*: paintings by Theresa Potter and Lorene Runham, running from June 19 to August 19, 2017 in the Kiwanis Gallery.

From beautiful prairie skies to cottonwood trees in their own backyard, these two Olds area artists are showcasing their complementary artworks in this series of work that shows different styles and techniques. Painting their surroundings inspired them to experience more fully the place they call home and celebrate the joy they find in rural Alberta's changing seasons.

Theresa Potter and Lorene Runham are multi-media artists inspired by the love of home, their land: rural Alberta. This partnership of work includes landscape paintings using acrylic, soft pastel, watercolour, digital, and mixed-media.

First Friday Opening: July 7 from 6 to 8 pm. Join these two Olds area artists and see their home expressed through their paintings. Refreshments will be served.



Autumn's Charm
Acrylic
Lorene Runham



Edge of Dawn
Chalk Pastel
Theresa Potter

First Friday Red Deer is sponsored by the Red Deer Downtown Business Association



At the Red Deer and District Community Foundation Women's of Excellence Gala on June 7, Diana Anderson, Coordinator for the Red Deer Arts Council, won in the Arts, Culture and Heritage category. The award is sponsored by Air Canada.

At the Mayor's Recognition Awards on June 8, Mayor Tara Veer presented Rob Ironside and Kathie Chernetski with the award in the Community Building category. They proudly said they represented Country Pride Dance Club with whom they wished to share the award.



From left to right:
 Craig DeGraff, Diana Anderson,
 Beverly Williams and Michael Dawe
 at the Women of Excellence Gala,
 June 7, 2017. Photo Booth.

Below from left to right:
 Rob Ironside, Mayor Tara Veer,
 Kathie Chernetski
 Below Right: Rob and Kathie with
 Country Pride Dancers



From the Chairman of the Board:

Please join me in congratulating Diana for her nomination and win of the Woman of Excellence Award in Arts. As you know, Diana has been a proponent and lover of the arts for years and is well deserving of the award. In my opinion it is long past due. But that is not all. Please join me in congratulating Rob Ironside and Kathie Chernetski of the Country Pride Dancers for winning a Mayor's Recognition Award as community builders. For years, Rob and Kathie have been tirelessly developing their dance routines and working on collaborating with other dance groups, culminating in the Friday Family Dances and the Celebration of Dance for Alberta Culture Days 2016. Well deserved once again.

Craig Scott, Chair

Sheila Wright doesn't go by the book.

As a school library technician for 20 years, Sheila Wright had to play by the rules. But the Dewey Decimal System was put aside when her watercolour brushes came out.

"I think it was an outlet," she says of her art.

"When you're a librarian, things are by the book (no pun intended). Books are catalogued, they are shelved in order, everything is in order."

But with art, she could do anything she wanted.

"I just really enjoy it. It's relaxing. It's something you can pick up and do and break all the rules."

She retired from the Red Deer Catholic School Division in 2007 and has now been drawing and painting for 30 years and has had works in countless juried shows, first through the Red Deer and District Allied Arts Council and now the Red Deer Arts Council.

"Art has always been in my life," she says. "My mom painted and drew, and she and my grandmother were fibre artists as well."

Sheila got seriously involved in art in the late 1980s, when she started taking watercolour courses at Red Deer College, which led to many other courses. She also works in mixed media, pen and ink and pencil crayon.

"I entered a few shows and did fairly well in the first couple. I just really liked it."

She still recalls her first show in Red Deer's Old Courthouse around 1990.

"I remember being very excited. Somebody offered to buy the painting and I said no," she recalls with a laugh.

"I learned later that if people really want it let them have it."

She still focuses on watercolours, but works will morph into mixed media if inspiration strikes.

"I like metal," she says. Whether rusty and weather-worn, or the kind of pristine chrome found on a classic car, both have inspired different pieces.

She is drawn to taking a small piece of the whole and focusing her artist's eye on a fender here, a barn door hinge there. Sheila says she will always love art.

"It takes you away from everyday things."

I am the Arts



Sheila Wright in her garden, 2017.

I am a wife, mother and grandmother.

I love the opportunity Red Deer offers creative people.

I am a watercolour artist.

I am Sheila Wright.

Look around for your own inspiration.

I am proud to call Red Deer home.

Join me in discovering the best our city has to offer.

Upcoming Exhibit in the Kiwanis Gallery:

August 21 to October 15

2017 ACACA Alberta Spirit Show

The Alberta Community Art Clubs Association is a province-wide organization that supports artists in all stages of their development. The Alberta Spirit Show is the best of the best! First Friday Red Deer Opening: September 1 from 6 to 8 pm.

Meat Draw Fridays!

Starting on Friday, July 7 and through to September 15 from 5 to 7 pm, the Red Deer Arts Council is again at East 40th Pub, 3811 40 Ave, Red Deer - Phone:(403) 340-1844 with a Meat Draw Raffle. This includes six draws, plus one bonus draw where you could also win one \$25.00 gift certificate (each ticket costs \$1.00). Each round you could win your choice of meat or a free drink! Friday nights only! Come and help the Arts Council raise funds plus enjoy a night on the town!

July 7, 14, 21 and 28 - see you there!

Red Deer Arts Council

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Thanks to the City of Red Deer for all its support through Culture Services!