

SECOND THOUGHTS

Avoiding unpleasant jobs is actually easy work/2



SHOWDOWN

Springfield's top-ranked girls basketball team faces another tough test against Willamette/6

Springfield Extra

Expanded coverage of Springfield and east Lane County

A weekly section of **The Register-Guard** | THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2013

ART EXHIBIT

ARTIST MAKES IMPRESSION IN CLAY



CHRIS PIETSCH/The Register-Guard

Former Springfield High School art teacher Karen Perkins' ceramic sculptures are on display at the Emerald Art Center.

BY JANE LAKE
The Register-Guard

There's almost a living quality to Karen Perkin's ceramic sculptures, on display now at the Emerald Art Center downtown.

Bulbous and whimsical, many of the abstract pieces in her "Smoke, Soil and Stone" exhibit evoke elegant lines of a horse's body or orchid-like floral plants.

Her first exhibit since retirement in 2011 as a Springfield High School art teacher, Perkins says the more than 20 pieces reflect recent experiences traveling through Western states with her husband in their Volkswagen Eurovan.

"In the fall we were on

the Colorado River, and that started influencing me — the red rocks, wavy forms," she recalls. "What I loved was the red against the black. I was looking at burnt trees against this amazing red rock. The negative space was the dead branches. I started photographing them and bringing them home and decided to do sculptural forms around them."

A beloved teacher for 30 years, Perkins says she hopes to see many of her former students and colleagues at this, her first exhibit since retirement. An artists' reception in her and others' honor is slated for Friday evening at the museum.

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EMERALD ART CENTER EXHIBIT

What: "Smoke, Soil and Stone," sculptural ceramic pieces by former Springfield High art teacher Karen Perkins

Exhibit's run: Now through Feb. 22

Artist's reception: 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. Friday

Also featured: "Winter's Light" by Patti McNutt and work from other center members

Address: 500 Main St.

Hours: 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesdays through Saturdays

More information: 541-726-8595 or www.emeraldartcenter.org

EDUCATION



BRIAN DAVIES/The Register-Guard

Hamlin Middle School student Cris Jones, 13, learns computer programming with the help of University of Oregon computer science students Elva Zhang (left) and Felix Pan (right) during "Mad Duck Science Days" on campus.

INTO SCIENCE LAB WITH 'MAD DUCK'

Springfield students get hands-on experience in UO program

By LESLIE RUTBERG
For The Register-Guard

Many middle school students spend their no-school Fridays sleeping in and playing video games. But last Friday, 20 students from Hamlin Middle School got up early and came to the University of Oregon to build their own video games.

Graduate and undergraduate students from the Computer Science department helped them to develop simple games using an animation program called Scratch. Friday's event was part of "Mad Duck Science Days," a partnership between the Springfield School District

and the UO that brings middle school students to campus for extended hands-on science lessons.

UO chemistry professors Mike Pluth, Shannon Boettcher and George Nanzin initiated Mad Duck Science. They knew that budget cuts in many public schools meant less class time, less equipment and higher student-to-teacher ratios, which made hands-on science labs increasingly rare.

So they met with the district to identify ways to immerse students in the fun of exploratory science without encroaching on already scarce class time. They decided rather than bring science to the school, they would bring students to the science.

Mad Duck Science brings up to 25

students to the university for such laboratory activities as electron microscopy, exploring states of matter by freezing ice cream with liquid nitrogen, and building batteries out of everyday objects such as Gatorade and pickles.

The Mad Duck Science labs are much longer than regular classroom labs, which have to be completed in just 50 minutes, including set-up and clean-up time. They also have many more instructors available for help: At Hamlin, one teacher supervises 35 students, but at the UO labs there's one instructor or assistant for every two students. Those resources, and access to UO's equipment, allow students to com-

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IN CASE YOU MISSED IT

Tattoo artist gets 18 months probation

EDITOR'S NOTE: *In Case You Missed It* is a digest of recent Register-Guard articles of interest to Springfield readers.

An unlicensed tattoo artist who provided body art to underage girls in Springfield was spared a jail sentence last Thursday and instead will be on probation for 18 months.

Brett Allen Breeding pleaded guilty to three counts of tattooing without a license and one of advertising for tattoo services without a license. All four are misdemeanors.

But Breeding, 20, of Crow, also pleaded guilty to an unrelated charge of first-degree theft. He admitted having pawned jewelry stolen from a woman who had let him stay at her house last October.

He will serve 18 months of supervised probation on the theft conviction and at the same time will be on probation to the court for the tattoo convictions. He has to write a letter to the court every six months reporting on his employment or education status.

Breeding also must pay a \$200 fine and \$100 in restitution on the theft conviction and a total fine of \$400 on the tattoo convictions.

Breeding will have the theft charge, a felony, dismissed if he successfully completes his probation.

Police arrested Breeding in November after the mother of a Thurston High School student told an officer that Breeding had done tattoos on her underage daughter and another girl. Six other girls later were found to have received tattoos from Breeding, police said.

In Oregon it is illegal to perform tattooing on anyone under age 18, even if a parent consents. It also is illegal to perform tat-

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"Most of these students know a doctor, or a teacher, or a lawyer, but not many of them know a scientist."

— SHANNON BOETTCHER, UO CHEMISTRY PROFESSOR

To read the full stories online, visit registerguard.com and click on Springfield Extra

Science: Students get chance to see themselves as scientists

Continued from Page 1

plete more complicated and challenging projects.

Jason Hackley, a chemistry graduate student who assists with many of the labs, says students have been particularly enthusiastic about the Solar Car lab where they compete in teams to build the fastest model car powered by solar panels; the kits for building the cars are donated by the Eugene Water & Electric Board.

“They also really enjoy the snap circuits and things like electricity and magnetism,” says Hackley. “We learned how an electric motor worked, and light bulbs. They like the Vandegraph generator (the classic glass globes with what looks like lightning inside). It made their hair stand on end and one student screamed from surprise.”

The Hamlin students also had the opportunity to tour UO labs and meet with graduate students and researchers. Pluth said he hopes the program encourages students

to broaden their idea of what happens at the university.

“The kids tend to associate the UO with the sports teams, (so) it’s nice for them to see there’s so much more going on here,” he says.

Boettcher says one of the program goals is to help students see what science looks like in practice.

“Most of these students know a doctor, or a teacher, or a lawyer, but not many of them know a scientist,” he says. “It’s critical for them to see science, to know what a scientist does, if they are going to see themselves as scientists one day.”

The lunch break is Boettcher’s favorite time to engage students in more unstructured scientific exploration. “It’s a good time to chat,” he says. “We toss a Frisbee and talk about why it moves the way it does.”

Paul Griffith, coordinator of out-of-school programs for the Springfield district, can attest to that: “Shannon has ruined a number of Ultimate games with lectures about the physics

of how a Frisbee flies.”

Kidding aside, Griffith says the experience of working directly with UO scientists has been amazing for his students. His favorite moment from past years’ labs was seeing a crowd of 50 staff, faculty and graduate students gather in the Willamette Hall atrium to watch Hamlin students compete in an “egg drop” contest, where they designed cradles for raw eggs, then dropped them from the fourth-floor balcony to see which eggs would survive the fall.

“It was really encouraging for the kids to see adults looking at them as scientists,” says Griffith.

Many of the Mad Duck Science instructors can still recall their own early exposure to science as the spark that fueled a lifetime pursuit. Pluth’s father was a middle school science teacher and took him along on a field trip to see a laser facility, an image that inspired his curiosity and drove his pursuit of research science.

Hackley remembers his

father, a mechanical engineer, showing him the function of a bridge rectifier, a circuit that turns AC to DC. He recalls that the explanation opened up a whole new world: “That stuff always seems like magic until someone explains it to you,” he says.

Emily Schwartz, a computer science graduate student and the leader of Friday’s activity, remembers as a freshman in high school writing her first computer program, a simple text-based role-playing game, on a graphing calculator. On Friday, she shared that moment of discovery with the students from Hamlin.

In her lab, the students worked in pairs to piece together blocks of commands that sent animated creatures whizzing across the screen, sometimes in erratic and unpredictable ways. One pair’s soccer player sped several paces past the ball, rather than kicking it as intended. Schwartz encouraged them to move carefully through their game programs to identify commands that might be caus-

ing the malfunctions, then rewrite to make the animation cooperate.

Robert Rust, 14, is an eighth-grader who has attended every one of the labs since the program began. He says his favorite part of the program is meeting all the graduate students.

“You get to hear about what they do and learn about all kinds of science, like why wintergreen mints release a spark when they are broken,” says Robert, who plans to pursue theoretical physics.

Paola Lopez, 13, said one of her favorite activities was the tour of campus and the underground Lokey labs. “We got to see a tree that had gone to the moon, and we saw a lot of scientists doing research on computers. It was pretty cool.”

Before turning back to the screen and continuing to make her game, Paola noted that she didn’t mind getting up early to take part in the UO lab. “At school, we take notes and watch videos, but here we get to touch stuff, and play,” she says. “It’s hands-on.”

SPRINGFIELD POLICE LOG JAN. 25-FEB.2

Information comes from Springfield Police call logs. Locations are approximate. People arrested or suspected in crimes are considered innocent until proven otherwise.

Incidents

FRIDAY, JAN. 25

Theft: 9:37 p.m., 600 block Main Street. A back window was smashed out of a car that was parked on the street. A backpack containing a laptop and school books was stolen.

Burglary: 5:05 p.m., 1400 block M Street. A resident came to the police department to report a home burglary. Jewelry and a laptop were stolen. The resident said someone entered through either an unlocked door or a pet door.

Theft: 2:43 p.m., 1300 block M Street. A laptop, a briefcase and samples of toiletries were reported stolen from a car.

Criminal mischief: 1:23 p.m., 1900 block Second Street. A caller said the windows of several cars at an apartment complex had been broken out.

Burglary: 9:16 a.m., 1900 block G Street. A resident said he was lying in bed when a man kicked in a door to the house. The man ran out when he saw that people were inside.

Theft: 8:47 a.m., 12th and Modoc streets. An iPod and cash were stolen from a car after a window was broken out.

Hit and run: 8:30 a.m., 400 block South 42nd Place. A student said she was hit by a car near a bus stop. The girl did not need medical attention, but police took a report for hit and run.

Criminal mischief: 7:26 a.m., 1900 block Second Street. A caller said a window was broken out of a car at an apartment complex, but nothing appeared to have been stolen.

Theft: 6:54 a.m., 800 block L Street. A window was broken out of a car, and a backpack and shoes were stolen. The caller reported hearing a noise outside about 3:30 a.m., then found the damage later in the morning.

SATURDAY, JAN. 26

Drunken driver: 7:48 p.m., Marcola Road and 28th Street. Police made an arrest after responding to a call about a truck that was “mudding” in a field.

Dispute: 3:41 p.m., 100 block 12th Street. Police responded to a dispute over a dog that had been sold via an online ad. The caller said the people who gave up the dog now wanted it back.

Graffiti: 2:10 p.m., 100 block Fifth Street. A church entryway was found spray-painted with graffiti. Police took a report.

Animal complaint: 9:56 a.m., 700 block 28th Street. A caller reported finding a dog tied to his gate with an extension cord. The caller said the dog ran off before police could arrive.

Theft: 9:23 a.m., 700 block Hamilton Street. A bike, valued at \$1,800, was reported stolen from a car. A back window of the vehicle was broken out.

Theft: 9:17 a.m., 800 block West Centennial Boulevard. A business owner said letters were taken off a signboard and power was shut off. The owner suspected a neighboring business, saying there was an “ongoing feud” between the two.

Theft: 8:37 a.m., 4000 block Main Street. Police made an arrest after a deli employee said a woman was trying to cash one of two

lottery tickets that had been stolen the previous night.

Theft: 7:27 a.m., 1100 block C Street. A 22.-caliber revolver was reported stolen from a car.

Suspicious subject: 5:40 a.m., South 41st and Forsyth Street. A caller said a person with a scarf around the face was going up into driveways and looking into vehicles — and bushes — with a flashlight. The woman told police she was looking for a lost ring, and police took an informational report.

Forgery: 3:45 a.m., 1900 Olympic Street. Police were called to check a \$20 bill that had been received by a grocery clerk. Officers determined that the money was in bad condition but not fake.

Suspicious conditions: 1:22 a.m., 4000 block Main Street. A caller said people with lights and video cameras were gathering in the back parking lot of a pizza parlor. Police spoke to the manager, who said a group was shooting a YouTube video.

SUNDAY, JAN. 27

Theft: 6 p.m., 700 block Fairview Drive. A caller said his nephew let a hitchhiker into their home to wait for a ride. When he left, stereo equipment was missing.

Theft: 1:36 p.m., 300 block G Street. A raincoat was reported stolen from a car that was parked on the street. A window was damaged.

Suspicious person: 1:15 p.m., 1100 block Mohawk Boulevard. A woman called police after being approached by a man outside an ice cream store. The woman said the man, who had red and blue paint on his face, was walking around and talking to himself, saying, “They are going to shoot us, so we are going to have to shoot them.”

Theft: 11:53 a.m., 1500 block Seventh Street. A window was damaged on a vehicle. The caller said it was unknown whether anything was stolen.

Criminal mischief: 11:45 a.m., 1200 block Eighth Street. Police took a report after someone used a tool to punch out the window of a car.

Criminal mischief: 11:21 a.m., 300 block C Street. Two car batteries were reported stolen from a vehicle.

Criminal mischief: 9:50 a.m., 1100 block Custom Way. A window was found broken out of a car. The owner was checking to see if any property was missing.

Criminal mischief: 9:02 a.m., 1700 block Fifth Street. Someone broke out the windows of two cars parked near the office at an apartment complex. Police also took a report for a theft from a vehicle.

Shots fired: 6:24 a.m., 23rd and G streets. Police went to a neighborhood after gunshots were heard.

A caller said she heard four “pops” and the sounds of two male voices.

MONDAY, JAN. 28

Theft: 9:50 p.m., 1900 block Main Street. Two windows were broken out of a Jeep that was parked at a fraternal club. A snowboard and gear, electronic tablet and charging cables were stolen.

Burglary: 7:58 p.m., 600 block Quarry Road. A resident said someone entered the house through an unlocked door and smashed several glass bowls on the floor. Knives also were thrown on the floor. Police took a report.

Traffic hazard: 3 p.m., Main and 19th streets. A motorist reported swerving to avoid a man in a wheelchair, who was riding back and forth across the street. The motorist said the man appeared to be intentionally stopping in front of vehicles, and that a Lane Transit District bus braked to avoid hitting him.

Criminal mischief: 10 a.m., 1900 block Main Street. A witness said a woman punched the window of a store while walking past. Police arrested her on an outstanding warrant and for criminal mischief.

Burglary: 8:02 a.m., 900 block Main Street. Someone broke in through the ceiling of a bowling alley. A cash register was damaged, and a door was kicked in. Lottery tickets were stolen.

Suspicious person: 3:08 a.m., 5000 block Main Street. A witness said a man was standing in the parking lot of a tavern and yelling. The witness said the man claimed to have a handgun in his pocket.

Dispute: 12:13 a.m., 1700 block Main Street. Police went to a bar after receiving calls about a dispute. One caller said he heard a man threatening to pull out a gun.

TUESDAY, JAN. 29

Drunken driver: 8:01 p.m., 900 block Hayden Bridge Road. Police made an arrest after responding to a dispute between two drivers that began after a near-accident.

Theft: 12:08 p.m., 400 block Harlow Road. Police took reports for two car break-ins in a parking lot. A cell phone was taken from one of the cars, and other property was found nearby.

Theft: 9:29 a.m., 400 block 42nd Street. A briefcase and a laptop were stolen from a car parked at a tavern. A rear window was broken out.

Criminal mischief: 9:23 a.m., 500 block Harlow Road. Someone broke out the window of a car. Nothing was taken from the vehicle, which was parked at an apartment complex.

Theft: 8:36 a.m., 400 block Lindale Drive. A window was smashed out of a car at an apartment complex, and a book of compact discs was stolen.

Suspicious person: 8:30 a.m., 1300 Hayden Bridge

Road. Officers responded after a caller reported that a man who appeared agitated was standing on the sidewalk in front of an elementary school. A report was taken, and property was seized.

Dispute: 5:14 a.m., Daisy Street and South 49th Place. Police responded to calls about people yelling at each other on a bike path. A caller said a gunshot possibly was heard.

Criminal trespass: 2:56 a.m., 1900 block Henderson Avenue. Police made an arrest after the crew of a passing train reported seeing a car that was similar to the description of one involved in recent copper wire thefts.

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 30

Theft: 11:23 p.m., 18th Street and Centennial Boulevard. A cell phone, camera and several keys were stolen from a car after a driver’s-side window was broken out.

Shot fired: 6:13 p.m., 900 block 22nd Street. Police made an arrest after a caller said a woman shot a neighbor’s dog, then drove away in a pickup.

Disorderly subject: 4:54 p.m., Sixth and C streets. A caller said two people were standing on the steps of a church and shouting profanities at passing motorists and pedestrians.

Suspicious conditions: 3:32 p.m., Fifth and D streets. Callers said cars were having to drive around a man who was pushing a shopping cart back and forth across the street. Police spoke to the man, who agreed to stay on the sidewalk.

Stolen vehicle: 9:21 a.m., 2100 block 31st Street. A van that had been stolen earlier from school district property was found. Stolen property also was recovered.

Burglary: 5:17 a.m., 1800 block 42nd Street. Security responded to an alarm at a school district maintenance building and found that an old van had been stolen. A door was found propped open; bus keys and chain saws also were taken.

Fight: 2:39 a.m., 21st and J streets. A caller said 10 to 15 people were fighting in an intersection.

Suspicious person: 12:46 a.m., 1100 block L Street. A group of young

men were looking into cars. The caller said the youths were wearing hoodies and coats.

Suspicious conditions: 12:02 a.m., 1400 block 21st Street. Police searched the garden center of a farm supply store after a passing motorist saw two people jumping a fence into the property. An alarm was activated, but no one was found.

THURSDAY, JAN. 31

Burglary: 11:08 p.m., 4400 block Daisy Street. A resident arrived home to find that the house had been burglarized and a car stolen. An iPad, laptop and keys also were taken.

Drunken driver: 7:19 p.m., 1300 block Hayden Bridge Road. Police made an arrest after a motorist drove through an intersection and hit a fire hydrant near an elementary school. The vehicle came to rest in a grassy area in the schoolyard.

Pursuit: 3:52 p.m., South 52nd and Main streets. A motorist drove away from police during a pursuit that reached speeds of up to 75 mph. The driver left the car and ran across some railroad tracks before being taken into custody.

Theft: 1:06 p.m., 6300 block Main Street. An iPod and global positioning unit were stolen from a car. A window was damaged.

Found syringes: 9:03 a.m., 3100 block Gateway Loop. An employee at a furniture store said syringes were found inside a sofa that had been picked up from a customer. Three empty syringes were destroyed.

Theft: 8:32 a.m., Centennial Boulevard and 11th Street. A caller said he saw someone walking down the street wearing his stolen jacket. Police arrested a man on first-degree theft and burglary charges.

Arrests

FRIDAY, JAN. 25

Faulkner, Porsche C.: 30, on charges of possession of methamphetamine, identity theft and providing false information to police.

Scott, Timothy R.: 34, on a warrant for identity theft and two counts of first-degree failure to appear.

SATURDAY, JAN. 26

Swegle, Alex L.: 23, on a

warrant for a parole violation on an original charge of second-degree assault.

Moreno, Corina R.: 46, on charges of possession of methamphetamine, delivery of methamphetamine, possession of less than an ounce of marijuana, and possession of oxycodone.

SUNDAY, JAN. 27

Recinos, Alexander A.: 20, on charges of possession of a forged instrument and possession of methamphetamine.

MONDAY, JAN. 28

Briggs, Jeffrey E.: 33, on a Eugene warrant for a parole violation on original charges of attempted unlawful possession of a controlled substance, possession of a stolen vehicle and first-degree failure to appear; additional charge of providing false information to police.

Wilson, Caroline A.: 41, on charges of driving under the influence of intoxicants, possession of methamphetamine and possession of heroin.

TUESDAY, JAN. 29

Heakin, Alicia K.: 29, on a warrant for resisting arrest and unauthorized use of a motor vehicle.

Barrett, John D.: 49, on a warrant for a parole violation on an original charge of theft.

Garabedian, Karine: 29, on charges of unlawful possession of a controlled substance.

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 30

Hughes, Tonya R.: 44, on a Eugene warrant for a parole violation on two counts of possession of heroin.

Muhs, Jonathan J.: 34, on a Sherman County warrant for a probation violation on an original charge of possession of methamphetamine.

Thompson, Danny L.: 28, on a Lane County warrant for a parole violation on original charges of three counts of possession of methamphetamine.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 31

Hollister, Rodney H.: 52, on a Lane County warrant for contempt of court; additional charges of reckless driving, driving while suspended, eluding by vehicle, eluding by foot and possession of methamphetamine.

Springfield Extra

Service Specialists

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