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Lansing scenes shown on town banners

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Echoes of the past sound clearly in the photograph from the diorama at the Museum of Ashe County History depicting the Lansing Depot and the Virginia Creeper Steam Engine on the banners recently hung throughout the Business District in Lansing.

The diorama was photographed and the banner art produced by Scot Pope and Kelly Clampitt, local artists who worked with Don Long at the Museum of Ashe County until they came up with the exact image and angle to capture the best of Lansing for the 2-foot by 4-foot banner.

About the Artists

In 1992, Scot Pope "escaped" from Charlotte to live a simple, humble life in the Creston community of north-west Ashe County. Before leaving Charlotte, he studied basic camera and darkroom techniques at Central Piedmont Community College. As the owner of Vagabond Images, Pope has exhibited his nature photography at various galleries in Ashe County and currently exhibits in West Jefferson as a member of the Ashe County Farmers' Market.

Originally from Oklahoma, Clampitt moved to Ashe County to "live in the woods" in 2010, after a successful career as a photographer in Los Angeles. Her work has been exhibited at the Ashe Arts Center and more recently, her exhibit, Iridescent



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Featured on the banners hung in Lansing is the re-created Virginia Creeper traveling through the Lansing Depot. The miniature scene can be found at the Museum of Ashe County History.

Clouds, was on display at the Ashe County Public Library during February to March 2012.

As members of the Ashe Camera Club, Clampitt and Pope also have photography currently displayed at the New River State Park Visitors Center and, along with other local photographers, will participate in the upcoming exhibit titled "the Lansing Project," scheduled to open at the old Lansing School in June 2012.

Lansing is located on Highway 194 North, 10 miles north of West Jefferson, about 45 minutes from Boone and 14 miles south (a one-hour drive) of the convergence of North Carolina, Tennessee and Virginia.

Some of the best pizza in the High County can be found at the lone traffic light and the Lansing Creeper Trail Park is a great place for walking and wading and generally relaxing and letting go, according to a news release from Explore Lansing NC.

The Lansing Farmers Market is open from 1 p.m. to 6 p.m. on Thursdays and features organic eggs, pork products and baked goods.

For more information about events and attractions in Lansing, visit www.explorelansingnc.com.

The Museum of Ashe County History is located at 301 East Main Street in Jefferson. Hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Saturday.

For more information about the diorama and the museum, call (336) 846-1904 or visit the website at www.ashehistory.org.

Friends of Library present poetry awards

FROM STAFF REPORTS

In a highly competitive race for the 2012 Fifth-Grade Poetry Contest, Emerson Wells, Molly Lewis and Mabry Watson took first, second and third places, respectively.

The contest is sponsored by the Friends of the Library. Awards were announced at a ceremony at the library Saturday, April 28. The program included a discussion on poetry and writing technique by Sandy Lassen, local poet and historian.

"We are very proud of these talented young writers. We were blessed with many good entries this year. Overall the writing was clever and showed a high level of competence," said Alyce Nadeau, founder of the contest.

Emerson Wells is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Wells of West Jefferson. Her poem is titled "The New River." She is a student of Joanne Reavis of Westwood Elementary School.

Molly Lewis is the daughter of Steve and DeAnna Lewis of Todd and is a



SUBMITTED PHOTO

The Friends of the Library honor Alyce Nadeau, second from left, founder of the Fifth Grade Poetry Contest, with the contest being renamed as The Alyce Nadeau Poetry Contest. Nadeau is pictured with the winners, Mabry Watson, from left, Molly Lewis and Emerson Wells.

student of Cindy Powers-Moser at Westwood Elementary School. Her poem is titled "Just Fix It."

Mabry Watson's poem was also titled "The New River." She is the daughter of Basil and Theresa Watson of Fleetwood and is also a student of Powers-Moser.

The three themes for this year's

contest were "The New River" Just Fix It" and "If I Ruled the World."

After receiving their certificates and cash awards, each student read her winning entry. Guests, students' parents, friends members and visitors, listened as one by one, the girls read their poems, followed by readings of the poems by Nadeau.

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