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'Woof' Exhibit at Lafayette Library Celebrates Playful Pups



"Ring of Tam" by Ellen Reintjes Photos provided

The Homework Center at the Lafayette Library and Learning Center has gone to the dogs - in a good way. Longtime resident, 35 years and counting, artist and dog lover Ellen Reintjes created all the very personal pieces for the latest art exhibit aptly named "Woof!" The imaginative artwork will be on display through December.

"For the past 32 years, my husband Don and I have shared our home with seven wonderful dogs. I have found each of their personalities fascinating - what they like to do and how they relate to each other, to their neighbors, and to us," said Reintjes, whose husband, Don Tatzin, is currently on the Lafayette City Council and served multiple times as mayor. Reintjes is a member of the Bay Area Studio Artists, a local group that paints together and presents their artwork at various locations. "When I reconnected with painting a few years ago, my dogs became natural models as I wanted to capture their look, their joy, and their interactions," she said. The collection for the exhibit includes six dog paintings and eight iPad dog cartoons, along

with the "back stories" that go with them.

Reintjes also coordinates the Wonders of the World monthly lecture series at the library, bringing docents from Bay Area museums and other attractions to talk about their organizations and current exhibits. The first lecture of the season that runs through May is about the Napa Valley Museum, located on the grounds of the California State Veterans Home in Yountville. The museum celebrates the valley's history, people, environment and vineyards, along with local artists. The public is invited to this free event from 2 to 3 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 16 at the Community Hall of the Lafayette Library. C.Tyson

Reach the reporter at: info@lamorindaweekly.com

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