

City of Newburgh

Press Release

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Calligraphy and Paintings in Visitors Center

The Downing Park Planning Committee is pleased to announce that the June exhibit in the Visitors Center will feature the work of Sister Sylvia Bielen. Sister Sylvia, a Dominican sister, is Professor of Art at Mount St. Mary College, where she teaches Drawing, Painting, Color and Design, and Calligraphy. Over the years, she has worked with students of all ages from early elementary school to adult education.

She says of teaching, “I believe that creativity begins early and should be encouraged by providing a variety of materials with which children can freely experiment and create.”

Sister Sylvia Bielen graduated with a BS in Education from Seton Hall University and went on to get an MA in Art at Notre Dame, and an MFA in Design at George Washington University. Her life is a comfortable balance between teaching and creating art. Sister Sylvia’s work reflects her



interest in a variety of media and materials. This versatile artist moves confidently between calligraphy, watercolor, pastel and oils. She also enjoys quilting, making greeting cards, and using found objects and odds and ends to produce something unique. Recently, she utilized assemblage when she participated in the Bookend Art Project in the Newburgh Free Library. Her work has been exhibited widely in the Hudson Valley and in galleries in Washington, DC and Connecticut

The exhibit includes calligraphy, watercolors, oils, and pastels. It will be on view from June 1-30 in the Visitors Center Gallery, located in the Shelter House in Downing Park, Carpenter Avenue and Third Street, Newburgh. Gallery hours are 11 a.m. - 5 p.m. Tuesday through Sunday. An Opening Reception will be held on Saturday, June 9 from 2-4 p.m. at the Shelter House. The public is invited to come and meet the artist that day. For information call 845-565-5559.