

Trail Rangers keep things rolling along

Local group of ATVer's keep Central Oregon off-road riders riding right, Page C8.



Seventh-grader make

12-year-old ski jumper Rachel Pack will train with

MONDAY
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35¢

The Bulletin

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PEOPLE THAT MAKE RIVERFEST HAPPEN!

Events are Free Unless Noted

RIVERFEST EVENTS 2004

May 1 - 8, 2004

Bend artist teaches fish-printing class

By Lily Raff
The Bulletin

Annie O'mohondro was shocked to learn that in the early 1800s Japanese fishermen used to record their finest catches by smearing them with ink and pressing them into rice paper.

"I thought I discovered it," said O'mohondro, a self-taught artist who lives in Bend.

Not one to accept that a Japanese man had beaten her to the punch 200 years earlier, O'mohondro adapted the Japanese art of "gyotaku" and made it her own.

She uses handmade papers, bright acrylic paints and rubber molds instead of real fish. The molds are cleaner and easier to position on paper or cloth.

Sunday afternoon, 11 adults and one seven-year-old boy stood on a patchwork of drop cloths in the Sunriver Library to learn from O'mohondro her "gyotaku impressionist" style of fish printing.

The class was part of the Deschutes Library System's county-wide reading project — A Novel Idea ... Read Together.

See Fish / B8



Ryan Roberts, 7, lowers a piece of satin onto his painted fish with some help from his mom, Jennifer Sumner, left. Both are from Redmond. Artist Annie O'mohondro (hand visible at right) also helps during a free art lesson Sunday at the Sunriver Public Library.

Fish
Artist made rubber fish from molds of fish she caught in ocean

Continued from B1

In its inaugural year, the program involves a series of events and lectures that are all somehow related to David James Duncan's novel about fly fishing, "The River Why."

O'mohondro, 47, said that years into perfecting her own technique, she took a class on the traditional one.

"It wasn't nearly as fun," she said. "I like using the full spectrum of colors and having more freedom."

Participants in Sunday's art class first selected a piece of satin to use as the canvas for their painting. O'mohondro had already decorated the fabric with long, broad strokes of diluted

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—Marsha Holland, of Bend

paint. Then they picked out a rubber fish that O'mohondro had made from plaster molds of fish she caught from the Pacific Ocean and local rivers and lakes.

Next, they alighted and blended different colors of paint across the fish. Certain areas, like the outlines of gills, were scraped away.

Very carefully, they laid the

fabric across the fish and brushed the top side of the fabric to ensure a complete print.

Next, the artists worked to perfect the details of the print — smoothing jagged outlines, detailing the eyes and adding the texture of scales.

Many of the aspiring artists were surprised by the technique's subtle difficulty.

"You look at what you've done, and then you look up at what (O'mohondro) has done and it's like, oh my God!" said Marsha Holland, of Bend, as she lifted the satin off the fish and viewed her first print. "But it's all a learning process. And she said she's been doing this for like 15 years."

The free art class was part of the library system's reading project, which kicked off April 18 and ends this Thursday.

For information on additional events, visit www.dpls.us.

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Light box manufacturing for 80 sq. ft. of fabric, private home, installed over a fireplace mantel



5' x 6' silk fabric with local rainbow, brown and brook trout, steelhead and salmon finished on both sides to rotate from high ceiling

[TOP: Tumalo Elem. School 440 kids make fish banners
MID: Annie's Gallery displaying students Gyotaku banners
LOWER: Cascade Middle School Science Project