

The Phelps Community Historical Society presents  
*the Country Lawyer  
Gallery of the Arts*

*“Committed to the  
Community”*

Thank you  
First Responders

*the Country Lawyer  
Gallery of the Arts*

*7 Church Street  
Phelps NY 14532  
585.789.0017*



*countrylawyergallery@gmail.com*

*Find us on Facebook and Instagram*

*Welcome to*  
***the Country Lawyer  
Gallery of the Arts***

Thank you for visiting us and taking in our Committed to the Community -A Thank You to Our First Responders Exhibit. It is our pleasure to offer you this show and we thank you for your support for the First Responders in our communities. You will find this exhibit on the hallway gallery north wall. Take your time, let it soak in and listen to the stories they tell.

Our mission at the Country Lawyer Gallery of the Arts is to both hear the stories of our past - our history - and to tell our own stories in our interpretations of the art we find here. Our artists tell a story through each piece of art they make, and we find our own in them as well. This is why art is our most human response and why it is so important.

In this gallery, you will always find top tier regional artist who have spent years developing their craft. But, in addition, you will always find artists who are just beginning their artistic journey and are very special to us. No matter at what point in this journey, artists are welcomed and will be represented together in the Country Lawyer Gallery of the Arts.

Michael Nash - Gallery Director

# **Committed to the Community**

## **A special thank you to our First Responders**

All of our communities' First Responders - Fire, Police, Ambulance, Mental Health Workers, Dispatchers - are committed to keeping us safe - our businesses, no matter how big or small, and, of course, we, as individuals and families. There have been times in all of our lives when First Responders have been called to help us through a crisis.

Finding meaningful ways to thank them for the services they bring to us is sometimes hard. So we have to do for them what we can do best, which is serve our communities in productive ways and to do all the little things that we can to show our appreciation. In addition, we can all make our own lives safer by staying healthy and being sure our homes are safe places.

The Country Lawyer Gallery of the Arts is proud to offer this exhibit - a very small thank you with very big meaning. We asked our artist to respond to this question: What in your life makes First Responders important to you? And through their art, they answered and you can see their responses.

Thank you to our artists for their thoughtful creations and to all the First Responders who make our gallery and our lives safer.

# Janet Walpole - Photography

*Firefighters Sculpture - Photography - \$45.00*

*New York State Fallen Firefighters Memorial -  
Photography - \$45.00*

*The Albany Egg - \$70.00*

## **Artist's Statement:**

Janet has been photographing diverse and interesting subjects for quite some time. Recently, she has taken an interest in exhibiting her work and has shown it at the Country Lawyer Gallery of the Arts in three shows. Janet is interested in showing in more galleries and venues so we will be looking for this soon.

Janet has kept her process simple in that she uses her iPhone camera for capturing images. It is a way to make a photo quickly, which is important to her style and subject matter. We thank Janet for allowing us to display her work and look forward to more.



# Jim O'Kelly - Photography

*“Ready to roll” - Photography - \$75*

*“At the ready”- Photography - \$75*

*“Stepping into the new role, April 2021” - Photography - \$75*

*“Guardians of Greece” - Photography - \$75*

*“FDNY Marine 1, Oct 2021” - Photography - \$75*

*“The Lost World, Upper West Side, Oct 2021” - Photography - \$75*

## **Artist's Statement:**

Jim O'Kelly has been involved with the emergency services since joining the Honeoye Falls Fire Department Explorer Post in 1993 at the age of 14. After becoming a firefighter at age 18 with Honeoye Falls Fire Department, Jim attended Monroe Community College in Rochester NY. He received his Emergency Medical Technician certification in 1998 and a degree in Fire Protection Technology in 1999.

While attending MCC, Jim worked as a paid intern for the Eastman Kodak Company Fire Department in Rochester. At the conclusion of both the internship and school, Jim worked as an EMT for Monroe Ambulance in Rochester.

In 2002, Jim became a dispatcher for the Ridge Road Fire District in Greece NY, and was promoted to firefighter in 2004 and Lieutenant in 2021. As a requirement of being promoted, Jim attended the FDNY's First Line Supervisor Training Program in New York City in September 2021.

Jim currently lives in Greece NY with his three children.

# Sherry Ann Todd - Photography

*Sunflowers - Photography on Metal - \$200.00*

## **Artist's Statement:**

Sherry A. Todd first became interested in photography as a small child. As my father was strapping me into my car seat one day, I took a picture of myself by touching the camera portrait function. Since that day I have always loved photography and the arts. I enjoy helping myself and others preserve their memories and ideas through the arts. Although I have taken courses and degrees outside of the Art realm, I still have always enjoyed photography. I have taken photography courses in college and throughout the community. Feel free to take a business card and contact me.

We would not have nature and beautiful scenery without fireman and ladies as well as first responders. They save the community as well as nature..



# Kimberly Ferguson - Photography

*Hook and Ladder No. 25 - Photography - \$45.00*

*Engine No. 74 - Photography - \$45.00*

*Truck no. 23 - \$70.00*

## Artist's Statement:

I grew up in the country near Niagara Falls. I have lived in NYC and in Wyoming. My work in the Committed to the Community Exhibit is from a trip back to the neighborhood in NYC. My father was an amateur photographer and a teacher when I was young so my love for photography, history and the arts comes naturally. I also love animals and have been known to rescue a few of them. I belong to various local arts councils and exhibit my photography regularly.

I am a photographer who enjoys photographing abandoned buildings, along with rust and decay. I tend to miss "the bigger picture", seeing things in "macro mode." In the winter I love photographing ice. I can see tiny galaxies in frozen puddles and all kinds of images in broken glass or rust. I also love



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