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Halton Hills Arts Council

Painter admits he's a spy

By SANDY CAMPBELL
Herald Staff

Beware of what you say at art exhibitions. Spies may be listening.

Chances are those spies are art lovers interested in another's criticism. But there is a chance the eavesdropping person is the artist whose work is being criticized.

That eavesdropping artist may be Georgetown's Frank Anthony. He admits he eavesdrops. Mr. Anthony is an amateur artist who relies on feedback he gets. "Fortunately, I have a thick skin and I can take it," he said.

Frank Anthony's name is really Francis, but because he is married to a Frances he calls himself Frank. His wife is called Fran. Mr. Anthony is an accountant and Mrs. Anthony is a homemaker and nurse.

Frank and Fran Anthony are also amateur painters who owe part of their commitment to art to those who have encouraged their work. They have been encouraged by professional artists and the public. The pair began painting in 1968 as something new to do. "We try anything, particularly if a skill or challenge is involved," Mr. Anthony said.

They answered an ad in the Herald in 1968 and took lessons from a local painter. After two years of painting they stopped. Seven years later they were reintroduced to painting by naturalist painter Shirley Deaville. Since then Ms. Deaville has been a constant influence on the couple's work. Their common interest in horses brought teacher and student together originally, and now friendship and art are the basis of the bond.

Frank and Fran Anthony, like their teacher Shirley Deaville, are naturalist artists. Mr. Anthony uses colored pencils in his realistic recreation of wildlife.

There is not much background in his work, which is completed from photos of animals. His wife's style is similar, he said. She too is a realist.



Fran and Frank Anthony have been painting of and on since 1968. The Georgetown couple owe part of their early interest in art to local professional and amateur artists who encouraged them. Now they are encouraging others. Frank Anthony is the president of the Georgetown Palette and Pencil Club. (Herald photo)

Mrs. Anthony fills in her backgrounds and uses oils instead of colored pencils. She once used colored pencils, but recently gave them up for oils. Mr. Anthony plans to do the same.

Their skill has matured to the point where they are influencing others with their art and interest in art. Both have won ribbons at the Chrysler Corporation Annual Search for Canadian Wildlife Artists. The competition is sponsored by the Ontario Outdoors magazine. Mr. Anthony is the president of

to have any great talent, but a hobby we enjoy," Mr. Anthony said. Painting has become a therapy for the Anthonys, a way to relax.

Despite this relaxed approach to their hobby they are sometimes forced to take a professional approach to their work. Mr. Anthony has commissions in the works. He must complete

For one of the paintings he has been asked to paint a family portrait from a photograph. Some of the people he's painting are still alive.

A commission always brings a bit of anxiety to Mr. Anthony. To count on that he paints the subject the way he wants. That is the way he gets the most out of his painting, he said.

Mr. Anthony does not envy the life of a professional painter. The stress accompanied by painting for a living is not the kind of pressure he wants as an artist.

But like any artist Mr. Anthony feels the pressure to improve. He is never fully satisfied with any finished work. "There is always something wrong with it," he said.

Georgetown's Palette and Pencil Club. Neither Fran or myself claim

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Danby fans at exhibit

The Ken Danby exhibition at the Library-Cultural Centre art gallery is now in its third week and has already attracted a large number of viewers to Georgetown from throughout the area, as well as visitors from abroad.

The collection of lithographs and serigraphs has been highly acclaimed by many, including sports enthusiasts, as the collection includes some of Danby's more familiar sports figures, including hockey and track-and-field events.

The exhibition opened on July 16th and will continue at the Church Street gallery until August 30th.

Considered one of the finest realist painters in the world, the Canadian artist lives in the Guelph area and was in attendance for the Opening

Night gala sponsored by the Friends of the Halton Hills Libraries.

Art Collectors have shown considerable interest in some of the pieces on display, and The Friends' board report that interested patrons may still place orders. As well, a number of relatively inexpensive color prints of some of the artist's earlier work may be ordered. Mr. Danby has agreed to personally date and autograph any lithographs and prints purchased during the exhibition, and orders will be filled before the closing on August 30th.

The Library-Cultural Centre gallery is open until 9 p.m. on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday evenings. The library closes at 5 p.m. Friday and Saturday. A portfolio of Danby color prints, including the famous goalie portrait "At the Crease" is on display in the library. Proceeds from sales go to The Friends of the Libraries in Georgetown and Acton.

Less cramped

There'll soon be a modular building sitting at 25 James St. for the recreation and parks department staff.

The \$40,480 building will give the department more room to operate. Staff is currently cramped in office space. It is a temporary solution until the town's municipal complex gets erected.

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Cook whatever rice you prefer, just until water is absorbed, then add other ingredients and stir over low heat until cheese melts

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