

## FINE ARTS

## Hamilton library becomes showcase for wide

**Art at Hamilton Public Library****When:** 9 a.m.-8:30 p.m.

Mondays-Thursdays; 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays

**Where:** Hamilton Free Public Library, 1 Justice Samuel Alito Way, Hamilton**Contact:** (609) 581-4060**By Janet Purcell**  
FOR THE TIMES

**Y**esterday, the Hamilton Free Public Library unveiled its indoor and outdoor collection of art, further cementing the township's growing reputation of being an arts and cultural center.

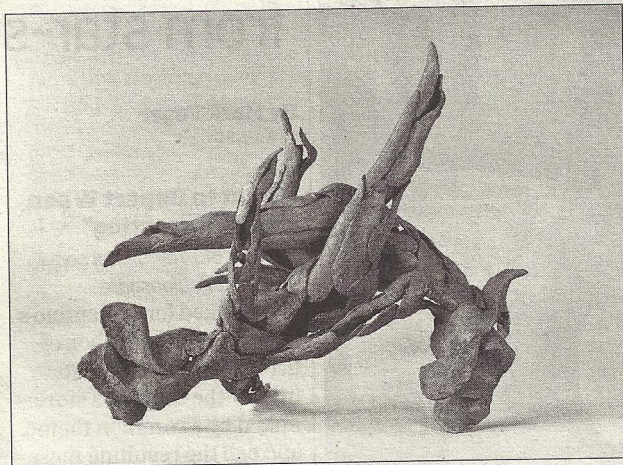
More than 50 works are on display at the library. The indoor collection includes paintings,

prints, photographs, and mixed media works, while outdoors a collection of abstract sculptures welcomes patrons and visitors.

A newly acquired work assistant director Susan Sternberg described as "a real treasure" is Gyuri Hollós's sawdust resin sculpture, "Amaryllis," displayed in one of its six possible positions, on the main floor of the library.

Those who are familiar with Hollós's multi-positional sculptures will not want to miss the opportunity to spend quiet time with this addition to his oeuvre that conveys a sense of movement and dance.

Bordering the edges of the parking lot and on the front



Gyuri Hollós's sawdust resin sculpture "Amaryllis," shown in one of its six possible positions, is on display on the main floor of the Hamilton Free Public Library.

lawn are sculptures ranging from one of Dana Stewart's enigmatic and endearing tall-tailed "beasts" to Glenn Murgacz's "Fountain" of driftwood, aluminum, and steel; from Bruce Lindsay's steel "Edifice Complex," a pair of ovals within an open sphere balanced on an openwork pedestal, to D.J. Haslett's found objects abstract, "Power of the Graces."

These and eight others have come to join J. Seward Johnson's bronze young couple who have been reading near the entrance to the library for quite a while now. Other exhibiting sculptors are Dawn Arena and Mike Gyampo. The gazebo sign was created as an Eagle Scout Project by Ben Mundt.

Indoors, you'll find art on every level of the building. On the large wall facing the reference area and above the circulation desk are Lea Novak's beach scenes, in which a man and child are seen shell searching at sunset and, in "Look What I Found," a girl is showing a woman a treasure plucked from the surf.

Prints and photography by Thomas Pizzuta are displayed on the ends of stacks in the mezzanine area. A "Pair of Ponies" is seen nibbling grass on the bank

of a quiet stream in one of Pizzuta's color photographs, and a "Wild Stallion" is seen leaping in one of his black and white prints. In his collection you'll also see a pair of geese in flight "On the Way to Cape May Lighthouse" and "Geese Crossing" at Cape May Lighthouse.

Also on the mezzanine and overlooking the ground floor are acrylic paintings by Carl Frankel. "Contemplation" offers a back view of a man sitting outdoors deep in thought, and in "Dream of Fields" a young woman is seen lying on a rug in a field of wildflowers gesturing to someone in the distance. Frankel is also exhibiting a portrait of "Prallsville Mill" and a peaceful scene in "Autumn on the Towpath," among others.

Also overlooking the ground floor is D.J. Haslett's "Gathering Guitars," a large latex and acrylic painting on canvas from his series of the same name, and on the lowest floor of the building you'll find more of his two-dimensional works, such as "Metallic Resurrection Opus 31," a found-object assemblage that he says reminds him of an orchestra playing a strong piece of symphonic music.

Mike Gyampo's dramatic

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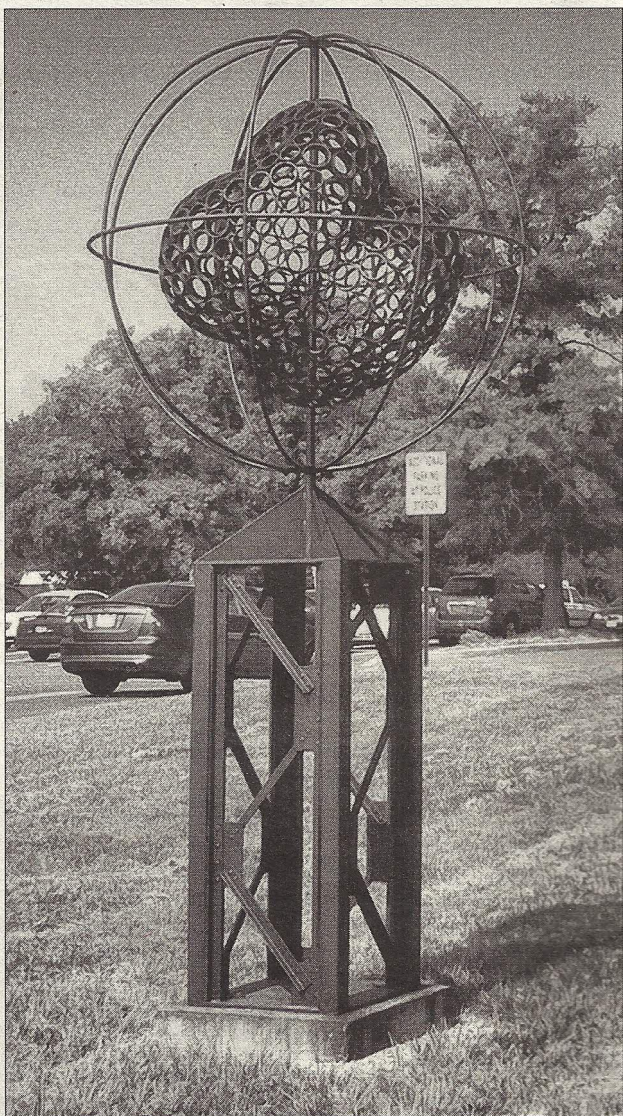
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# de range of works



**Bruce Lindsay's sculpture "Edifice Complex" is mounted on the library's grounds.**

acrylic paintings are displayed in the wide stairway leading down to that lowest level. Here you'll see "Getting Down," which captures its title in brilliant colors and swirls of abstraction. His "Our Kings and Queens" replicate many of the same gestural strokes, but in more subdued tones.

These will lead you to photographer Gary Saretzky's 39 photographic portraits of "Blues Musicians 2006-2012." Saretzky has taught photography and the history of photography at Mercer County Community College since 1977, but his love of blues began long before that, when he became a fan in the 1960s.

In the exhibit's printed material he says, "In my blues musician photographs, I try to show how much emotional intensity these musicians bring to their work. As compared to musicians in most other genres, blues musicians are more likely to express their feelings in their facial expressions and body language." Saretzky takes his camera along when visiting blues events and, as you will see in these photographs, he has a knack for capturing the moments when the musicians are lost in the emotion of their music.

According to Sternberg, last year 27,000 people,

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# Library

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going to and from meeting rooms on that level, passed through the hallways where Saretzky's exhibit is on display.

Hamilton Library is a spacious edifice, and it is Sternberg's endeavor to offer art along with education to all who visit there.

"This project was D.J. (Haslett's) brainchild, but I took the idea and ran with it," she says.

Haslett says, "I contacted several of my friends who are sculptors and told them what Susan and I had been talking about, and they were glad to have their work there."

"The township has been very supportive," Sternberg says. "They're making signs



**Lea Novak's beach scenes, such as "Look What I Found," ornament the large wall facing the reference area and above the circulation desk at the Hamilton Free Public Library.**

(for the outdoor pieces), and Public Works came and made all the pads for the sculptures and took two

huge trucks to Grounds For Sculpture and picked some up.

"The art is for sale. We

can't broker sales, but we put up the artists' e-mail addresses and people can contact them directly," she adds. "Any artist interested in exhibiting can contact me at the library. They do not need to be township residents."

"This gets people exposed to things they might not have seen otherwise. It gets them talking," she says, adding that the library will be offering passes to 15 museums in New Jersey, New York, and Pennsylvania.

"The library has always been a place that welcomes art and showcases public art — from first graders to professionals," she says.

"It is what a library can and should be," she says. "It goes hand in hand with our making art accessible to everyone."