



PHYLLIS LJUDEN will show paintings next weekend at North Peace Art Gallery.

Ljuden to return to show her paintings

Phyllis Ljuden will show about 20 of her paintings at the North Peace Art Gallery from Saturday, July 5th to Saturday, July 19th.

The Show will follow the theme of Heritage week and consist of acrylic paintings on both moosehide and on paper in the watercolor method. The official opening is Saturday, July 5th, from 2 to 5 p.m. Refreshments will be served.

Ljuden is a Charter member of the North Peace Art Society and was a Fort St. John resident from 1958 to October of 1985 when she moved to Spirit River. Ljuden now makes her home between Spirit River and Grande Prairie, Alberta.

Ljuden has been painting on Moosehide for more than 15 years and her works have developed to maturity throughout that time. She is a self-taught artist who works in many mediums and has taught painting classes to both children and adults in Fort St. John and Dawson Creek. Plans are tentatively slated for classes in Grande Prairie, Hines Creek, Fairview and Dawson Creek as well.

Ljuden's first one-woman show was held in Fort St. John in 1983. In 1984 she had three paintings chosen to the B.C. Festival of the Arts in Penticton and she held her second one woman show in Dawson Creek later that

year. Her show — titled "Yesterday" — in Prairie Gallery, Grande Prairie this spring, was the successful kickoff to acceptance in the Grande Prairie and area art community. Within the month, her painting of stooks and early October snow under heavy skies went for \$925.00 in the Grande Prairie Art Auction. This was followed by a commission by the City of Grande Prairie for a similar painting which the City Fathers took to twinning ceremonies in Grande Prairie, Texas, as a presentation gift.

She was invited as feature artist to the Spirit River Spring Art Show and is an active member of the Federation of Canadian Artists in

Vancouver. She showed her work at the Creekhous Gallery on Grande Island and Gainesborough Gallery in downtown Calgary. She has a painting selected to the Provincial Juried Show in Robson Square, Vancouver in 1985, and besides painting she writes a weekly column for the Rycroft Signal and works part time as a copywriter for CFGP in Grande Prairie.

Ljuden's eldest daughter graduated this Spring from the University of Carr College of Art in Vancouver with honors and straight A's, as well as the Award of Merit, and has been accepted to the Massachusetts College of Art in Boston for a two year Master's Degree program.

Revised May 14/86 H H

Artvark gang will return in 1986!

The Artspace of Fort St. John is again preparing for eight weeks of fun-filled summer camps. And the Artvark gang will be led by four university students studying in fine arts and education.

This is the third summer of the Artvark program and kids can look forward to new and exciting crafts and activities involving various themes. Themes planned for this year include Rodeo-Heritage Week and Animal Fun.

The Artvark has already made two

appearances this month to help begin the new season, at the Trade Show and in the Expo parade. He'll be around again to paint faces on May 23 at Alwin Holland's Harambee.

The students being employed this year are Megan Bradbury, a second-year Fine Arts student, Carleen Cunningham, a second-year Education student, and Tennys Scott, also a second-year Education major.

The eight one-week camps are scheduled from June 30 to August 21

at the Artspace and will be from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. weekdays. Children aged three years to 10 will be able to enjoy them.

Fees are: for five-day camps, \$27.50 for non-members and \$22.50 for Artspace members. The four-day camp of August 5 to 8 will be \$22.50 for non-members and \$17.50 for Artspace members.

Registration begins May 20 at the Artspace. For more information call Heather Willms at 785-1986.



MUKLUK RENDEZVOUS '86 Chairman Ken Garrett, left, congratulates Doug Bonk of Dawson Creek who was the lucky winner of the Ski Fantasy Package through the Mukluk program contest. Doug was on hand at Charlie Lake as his name was announced following the sled dog races.

Mukluk Rendezvous '86 called a winning event

Winners come out on top and Mukluk Rendezvous 1986 was a winner.

The Mukluk Society reported the financial picture "in the black" at the last meeting. Chairman Ken Garrett of the '86 Mukluk Rendezvous said, "Not only did the crowd come out to the events, particularly the sled dog races, but the committee managed to raise the entire \$5,000 required for the race prizes".

The winner of the Ski Fantasy package was Doug Bonk of Dawson Creek who said he really wanted to ski and was delighted with the prizes. He can choose a ski package at D.J.'s Sports, take a trip to Powder King compliments of Snowbusters and enjoy a Sony walkman donated by Dancemasters. The lucky winner merely purchased a Mukluk program and deposited the ticket from inside into the draw box. His name was announced at the end of the sled dog races at Charlie Lake.

Next year's Mukluk Rendezvous '87 Committee will have a list of recommendations and complete files to plan early. Planning will begin at the Annual General Meeting scheduled for May 14, at the Artspace at 7:30 p.m. Every organization involved in Mukluk Rendezvous is urged to have a representative at the meeting in May.

Many thanks to all the people involved in the success of Mukluk '86 comes from the Mukluk Rendezvous

'86 Executive who will be stepping aside to allow new people and fresh ideas for a bigger and better Winter Carnival in 1987.

Displays being changed at the Museum

The Fort St. John North Peace Museum hasn't been hibernating this winter.

Open Monday to Saturday 11-4 p.m., volunteers have been busy changing exhibits, providing tours and accepting donations of historical value. As an added feature this year, the Museum has three videos available for viewing:

Construction of the Alaska Highway, Land Beyond the Peace and The D.A. Thomas and Other Ferries on the Peace. The Museum is looking forward to a challenging and rewarding year based on the amount of functions it will be involved in.

Of special interest, a "Pioneer Family" exhibit

is being planned to include photos of pioneer families in the Peace. The Museum

is accepting donations of 3x5 or 5x7 copies of pioneer family photos. Although all the photos may not be displayed, the Museum will gratefully include the remainder in their photograph files. A "Medical" display is now

in the planning stages and will focus on the Outpost Hospital and its nurses. The existing "Alaska Highway" exhibit will be expanded to offer new photos and information to the public.

1986 Memberships are now available and can be purchased at the Museum or through members. For a \$5.00 membership, you get

unlimited free admittance to the Museum, occasional newsletters and voting privileges to the North Peace Historical Society.

The Museum Gift Shop is open and offers unique and local gift items. Go down and visit the Museum or give them a call at 787-0434. They are always happy to see or hear from you.

Member of literary community dies

A.H. Nelson 4/86

The Creative Writing class of Northern Lights College and the writing community of the Peace Country will be so much the poorer because of the passing of one of its finest and most talented members, Milton Halliday. Milton died suddenly of a heart attack on Thursday morning, January 30.

Even before Milton joined the writing workshops, he had won first prize in national and regional poetry competitions. At the college, he contributed to both the introductory and advanced university level classes. During these last college years, Milton continued writing traditional verse about his farming life. He also expressed his concerns about futuristic and space age themes, in a variety of experimental versatility were apparent, whether he wrote short lyrical poems about spring break-up or whether he explored the implications of Velikovsky's Theories on the cataclysmic events within our solar system thousands of years ago. He was interested in the mythological and actual dimensions of man's experience.

It is, however, as a member of our creative writing class that some

individual students want especially to pay tribute to Milton Halliday.

Art Runacres, a fellow old-timer, recalls that when Milton was born on January 30, 1915, the great war had been raging for a few months and the world was still driven by horse power.

Wind-up gramophones scratched a type of music in privileged homes. The growing boy would have been influenced primarily by the sounds of parents and teachers, later by an hour of radio each evening as the family gathered round. Books moulded the intellect and the experiences of living tempered it. Milton's active mind analyzed and recorded in his poetry the many changes that occurred as the world passed from horses and silence to neutron bombs and T.V.

Yet, as Mary Bomford recollects, Milton in his seventies still noticed the things that children see. Milton's observations and questions provoked her to leap and race after him through the stars and galaxies, places she hadn't wandered into since she was eight or nine.

Milton's own poetry reveals, as Vonnie Dixon says, his intelligent, powerful mind and his tender, sen-

sitive spirit. His generosity was apparent in the many ways he helped his classmates improve their work, as Patricia Denis and many other students remember.

In her eulogy on Milton, Sandra Lamothe speaks of his poetic imagery which, like "passionately persistent blossoms, luminescent starts" glow "wisdom:"

My soft black dirt
Yearns for petals
To drop down
And yield their potent
Heady liquor
Illuminating my darkness
Briefly — composing my mind
Enriching my pliant thoughts
So someday I too may be surprised
By luminescent petals

Milton's gentle and helpful manner in class is described by Ann Best:

Quietly he sits.
Around him we chatter,
Argue, suggest, disagree;
We fight to get our voices heard,
Sometimes three to four of us at once.
Then a brief silence.
A quiet "Excuse me, but think..." is heard
Winding with "Sorry to interrupt..."

We listen, intently, to his valuable comment
With complete respect.

It is impossible to pay adequate tribute this exceptional man who influenced and was lovingly regarded by so many creative minds in the Peace Country.

What we have left of him is his own poetry which will be published in time for the Heritage Festival '86 this coming July. Milton did see the final, revised version of his manuscript which he proofread. He also saw the arrangement of old-time photographs selected from his many albums, in addition to recent photographs taken of him last summer, by photographic editor C.J. Sweet. His richly illustrated book of poems will be a pleasure for people of all ages.

Subscription order forms for Milton Halliday's EDENHILL; A POETIC ALBUM, to be published by Treeline Press, can be obtained from the Artspace and Room 108, NL College (the reduced price applies to advance orders only).

There will be a "Milton night" as soon as the book is released. All current and former members of the Creative Writing class are invited too.

Expo talent auditions Feb. 15

Talent from Fort St. John and area will audition on February 15, for a chance to perform at Expo '86 during the B.C. Pavilion Regional week August 17-23.

The auditions are open to the public on Saturday, February 15, at North Peace Secondary School. Thirteen performances are scheduled from 2 p.m. to 9 p.m. on Saturday.

The afternoon schedule begins with individual dancers, Shawna Strate, Deneen Babcock and Shari Campbell at 2 p.m., 2:15 p.m. and 2:30 p.m. The Friendship Centre is scheduled for 3

p.m., Dennis Szalai at 3:30, Northern Dance Society at 4 p.m. and at 4:30 p.m.

The evening will begin with Tom Cole at 6:30 p.m., Can-Cannettes at 7 p.m., Ian Mackenzie at 7:30 p.m., Metro Semeniuk at 8 p.m., Karree and Shawna Phillips at 8:15 p.m. and Canadian Express at 9 p.m.

The admission for all day is \$3 adults and \$1 for children and senior citizens. The public is invited to support local talent since all the proceeds from the door will assist the

successful participants to travel to Expo in August.

The B.C. Pavilion will provide \$100 travel assistance, accommodation subsidy at BCIT, free access to Expo '86 during the week and a three day pass to performers for up to 200 people from each region.

The two adjudicators, Pam Quick and Ray Thompson from outside the region will be looking for quality, delivery, technical skill, costuming and appropriateness to the regional theme of "Frontiers of Peace".

The other two auditions will be held

in Fort St. John, February 15 and Fort Nelson, March 8. All successful applicants will be notified by March 22 and showcased first in this region at the Heritage Festival '86 in Fort St. John between July 9-13 before going to Expo '86.

Regional producer, Sue Popesku in Fort St. John would be pleased to answer any questions about the B.C. Pavilion Regional Week at 785-1986. Her office is located in the Artspace at 10003-100 Street, Fort St. John, B.C. V1J 3Y5.