

Art as Tribute

Linda French has been putting her artistic abilities to use in recognition of the Loveland K-9 unit.

In September Linda was called by Sergeant Steve Colburn, head of the K-9 unit. He had seen her work and wanted her to paint their recently retired K-9 dogs.

Linda was honored to be asked. "I'm such a dog person," she said. Linda trained guide dogs for the blind and brought the program to the Loveland area in the 1990's. She also took dogs to area schools to be with special needs kids and saw the connections they made.



"I feel so honored to be chosen as a commissioned artist for the police department," Linda remarked. She receives photos of the dog to be painted before she begins working. Once the painting is completed the handler comes to her home studio to see the painting and okay it for display.

Linda recently delivered three pastel paintings of K-9 dogs to the Loveland police department where she and the dogs' handlers were able to hang the paintings amid the other K-9 portraits.

Linda is an exhibiting member of the Thompson Valley Art League at Lincoln Gallery. She also teaches pastel classes at the gallery and is active in volunteer work for TVAL.