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NEW ART SHOW AT CITY HALL FEATURES DEANE LOCKE WATERCOLORS

During the months of January and February, an exhibit of watercolors by artist Deane Locke is on display at Twentynine Palms City Hall. The exhibit is part of the Art in Public Places program sponsored by the Public Arts Advisory Committee (PAAC) to promote awareness of art and culture in the city.

A public reception for the art show will be held at City Hall on Tuesday, January 13, from 5 to 6 p.m., prior to the City Council meeting. Light refreshments will be served, and the community is invited to attend and meet the artist.

Locke's series of 25 paintings hanging in the hall gallery and Council Chambers at City Hall range from florals and cactus blooms to old weathered barns, including a historical barn in Pioneertown that was consumed by the 2006 Sawtooth Complex fire.

Locke is a member of Watercolor West and has studied with noted watercolor artists Elsie Grace, Audrey Gillick, and David Musser. She has previously shown her work at Twentynine Palms Art Gallery, A Roadside Attraction, Morongo Valley Art Colony, Chaparral Artists, and Desert Art Center in Palm Springs, and has participated in the annual Morongo Basin Open Studio Art Tours.

Born in Oklahoma, the artist moved west with her family to California in 1958. In 1984, she and her husband, David, settled in Yucca Valley. "It has only been the last five years that I have had time to spend hours painting," says Locke. "As with most folks, life events come first before the passions in our lives. I am delighted that my 'life events' have receded, and I can devote more time to my passion for painting."

The PAAC show featuring Deane Locke is on display through February. City Hall is open Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., at 6136 Adobe Road, Twentynine Palms.

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