



## Alum opens unique gallery

The place is inviting, accented with plush furniture, open curtains and clay-red floor. It smells like sweet spices in a cup of warm tea. Track lighting illuminates steel and bronze sculptures, while an ornate chandelier adorns the ceiling. Irene Deely (BFA, art, '99), owner of what may be the most unique gallery in Idaho, sits at the wine bar she welded herself, immersed in conversation with a fellow artist.

"I set out to create an atmosphere different from any other art gallery," Deely (above) says. "I wanted a space that blended wine and unique fashion with art."

Deely's vision led to the birth of the Woman of Steel Art Gallery, 3604 Chinden Blvd. in Garden City. In addition to the wine bar, the gallery includes a small clothing boutique, welded sculptures and other art objects on display, and a cozy seating area. Sitting at the wine bar, patrons can watch sparks fly as the artist welds a new creation from behind a glass partition. The environment here is conducive to unwinding after work or relaxing on the weekend while enjoying art, such as Deely's whimsical "Liberty: Let's Roll." The large sculpture of a kickboxing Statue of Liberty reflects Deely's reaction to the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks.

Prior to opening her gallery last June, Deely had started a community art program, studied art in Bristol, England, taught art and graduated from Boise State. At the university, she studied with now-retired professor Al Kober, who not only introduced Deely to metal sculpture, but also recommended her for the job of providing the growing Eagle community with a public sculpture. In 1999, Deely completed "Commitment," two eagles near their nest, now displayed in the Eagle Albertson's shopping center.

Deely notes that her favorite part of owning a gallery is providing people with the chance to enjoy art in a comfortable setting. Greeting people as they enter and walking them to the door as they leave, she is the sociable host in this chamber of comfort and creativity.

— Angela Jones

**OUR POLICY IS TO PRINT AS MUCH "IN TOUCH" INFORMATION AS POSSIBLE. SEND YOUR LETTERS TO THE BOISE STATE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION, 1910 UNIVERSITY DRIVE, BOISE, ID 83725, OR SEND E-MAIL TO BSUALUM@BOISESTATE.ED** UIN ADDITION, IF YOU KNOW SOMEONE WHO WOULD MAKE A GOOD FEATURE STORY IN OUR "ALUMNOTES" SECTION, CONTACT THE OFFICE OF NEWS SERVICES AT THE SAME ADDRESS.

## 50s

**GAYE L. HOOPES**, AA, general arts and sciences, '57, was the guest artist for the Nampa Art Guild in September. Hoopes received his art training from the College of Idaho and Boise State. He is a former associate professor of art at Boise State, where he taught for more than 20 years. Hoopes has also won numerous awards in local, regional and national watercolor shows.

## 60s

**H. DAVID CROFT**, BA, pre-med studies, '67, received one of the first ever Alumni Service Awards, presented by the Boise State Alumni Association. This award was created to honor alumni who have consistently provided exemplary service to the university community. For more than a decade, Croft, a Caldwell dentist, has helped provide custom mouth guards for the players on Boise State's football, wrestling and women's basketball teams.

**MICHAEL F. MCGEE**, BA, social science, '71, is the assistant property manager at Providence Point in Issaquah, Wash.

**JERRY F. ALDAPE**, BBA, accounting, '73, was elected by the Idaho Bankers Association to lead Idaho's community bankers. Aldape is the president of Syringa Bank. Previously, he served as president and CEO of Pioneer Bank in Baker City, Ore. Aldape also serves on the American Bankers

Association Community Bankers Council and the board of directors for St. Alphonsus Regional Medical Center.

**JENELL L. (HOWARD) MCGEE**, BFA, art, '73, is the activities coordinator and leadership teacher for Highline High School in Burien, Wash.

**ANNE M. MILLBROOKE**, BA, history, '73, received the 2003 Gardner-Lasser Aerospace History Literature Award from the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics. The award recognizes Millbrooke's book *Aviation History* as the best original contribution to the field of aeronautical or astronautical historical non-fiction literature published in the last five years.

**DEBORAH ROUNDY (LARSON)**, BA, elementary education, '74, was the recipient of the Mini-Cassia Health Coalitions Asset Builder Award for her outstanding contribution and support of area youth through her work with special education students and as the local program coordinator for the Minico Spuds Special Olympics Idaho team. Larson works as a self-contained special education teacher at East Minico Middle School in Rupert.

**JOHN "RIC" R. GALE**, BBA, marketing, '75, MBA, '81, is the vice president of regulatory affairs for Idaho Power Co. and was recently recognized as one of Boise State's College of Business and Economics Outstanding alumni. Gale also received the CEO's Extra Mile Award for IDA-CORP in 2001. He is a retired chief warrant officer for the Idaho Army National Guard, an adviser for Boise State's College of Business and Economics, and a CYSA youth soccer coach.

**SCOTT W. PATRICK**, BBA, aviation management, '76, is the owner of SP Aircraft and Boise Pilot Shop and was recently recognized as one of Boise State's College of Business and Economics outstand-