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PASTEL ARTIST TO SPEAK AT SAMA-LIGONIER VALLEY LUNCH PROGRAM

Ligonier – The Southern Alleghenies Museum of Art at Ligonier Valley welcomes pastel artist Stan Sperlak to present during a Lunch a l’Art program at noon on May 23. The Museum will feature an exhibit with approximately sixty-five of his works. The cost for this program, including his presentation “The View from My Easel: Pastel Landscapes of the East Coast” and lunch, is \$15 per person or \$12 for SAMA members. Reservations are required and can be made by contacting the Museum at 724-238-6015 or ligonier@sama-art.org.

Sperlak currently resides in New Jersey and paints an array of works inspired by surrounding areas such as South Jersey, Delaware, and Maryland. He is featured in many galleries found throughout these areas, including an appearance in the permanent collection of Noyes Museum in Oceanville, NJ. Sperlak is a descendant of a Slovakian immigrant coal miner who settled in Connellsville in 1887. This was Sperlak’s great grandfather, Andrej F Szperlak, (then Americanized to Andrew F Sperlak). His other great grandparents, from Galway, Ireland, sent their daughter Ellen Mary McDonough to Pitcairn in 1907. McDonough had 13 children.

With a passion for natural sensory experience, Sperlak has chosen pastel as his medium to capture the stunning realities of earthly sights. Sperlak has been invited to teach across the country but has made his home studio at the Crow Creek Farm, where he continues the legacy of teachings instilled in him by The Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts and Patricia Witt. Sperlak stresses the importance of an artist finding their inner truth and letting that come alive in their works, such as various atmospheres comes alive in his paintings.

Before the lunch program, the Museum will host a SAMA Auxiliary meeting beginning at 11 a.m. For anyone interested in joining the Auxiliary, you are welcome to attend the meeting, contact the Museum, or visit the SAMA Ligonier Auxiliary Facebook page.

Lunch a l’Art programs are hosted to bring together members of the community and allow individuals to glean insight into the many forms and techniques artists utilize for their expression. These programs showcase the exhibitions of the Museum and allow opportunity to gauge a greater understanding and appreciation for the beauty of artistic craftsmanship.

The Southern Alleghenies Museum of Art at Ligonier Valley is situated on One Boucher Lane and Route 711 South in Ligonier. Business hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesdays through Friday and 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. on weekends. The Museum is handicap-accessible. For more information, contact the Museum at 724-238-6015 or visit www.sama-art.org.