



*in your*

# Prime

Bucks & Montgomery Counties' 55+ Publication

**Acclaimed Artist  
Sandy Askey-Adams  
of Bucks County**

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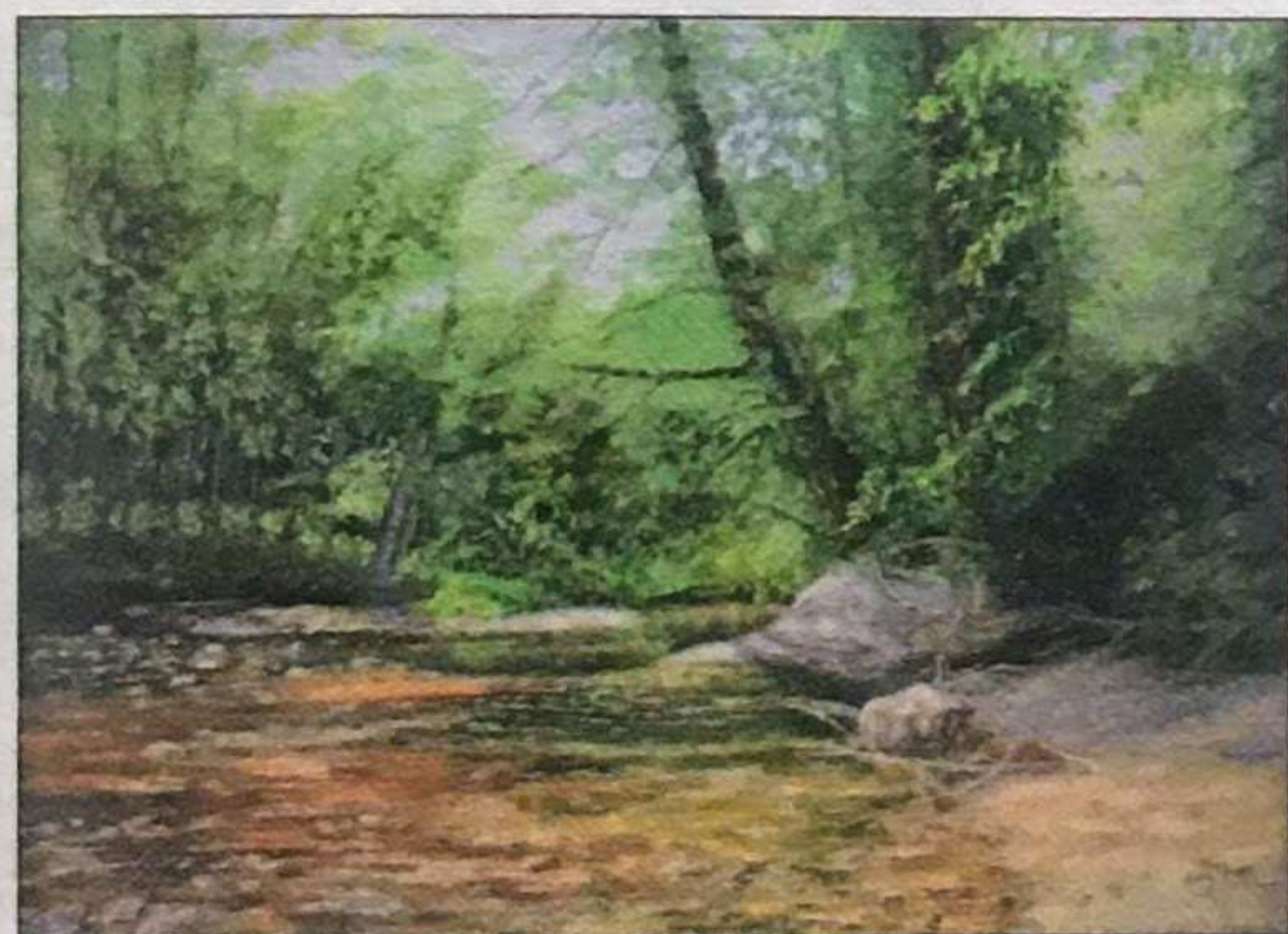
## Nationally Recognized Artist Sandy Askey-Adams

Looking back, Sandy Askey-Adams can't remember a day, even in her tender youth in rural Pennsylvania, when she wasn't drawing, painting, and embracing nature.

"I was told that I would get my baby books and scribble all over them. It's always been part of who I am. When I was four, my mother and I would sit on the couch and she would teach me. She'd show me how to draw a profile, for example; she'd show me how the lines and shades worked together. I remember being fascinated even then."

Primarily a self-taught artist, Sandy majored in Art in high school. "The nuns said it was a gift from God. I don't know if my math teacher would have agreed; he said it was a good thing I wasn't majoring in math. Instead of paying attention, I would sketch the other students and him. I was right in front of his desk and I can remember his sky blue eyes like it was yesterday," shared Sandy.

"My painting is a gift. I say a prayer before I start painting and I give a lot of thanks. It's in God's hands, my



Award winner in the National Paint America Top 100 Art Show

work. They guide me and once in a while when I'm having trouble," Sandy said with a gentle laugh, "I ask Him to send down the saints or someone who can help! I need His help."

Ever since high school graduation, Sandy has made art her full-time career. "I laughed when a woman came up to me and said how wonderful it must be to paint as a hobby. It's not a hobby. I've been a professional painter for more than 40 years. It's how I make my living."

Although experienced in most mediums, Sandy's favorites are pastels, oils and watercolors. Particularly passionate about pastels, she loves the dramatic contrasts, the rich layers of colors and the vibrant visual luminescence that can be achieved with pastels, creating works of art in the impressionist realism style. She says that her greatest inspiration is nature and that she doesn't aim to copy a scene but rather, to draw inspiration from it.

Sandy shares: "If you are looking for paintings that speak of peace and serenity, paintings that calm the spirit and take you away to a quiet place of solitude, I can only hope that you feel a connection with nature and experience the tranquility that I wish to interpret...even to almost hear the sounds of nature."

Although painting is a job for Sandy, she isn't complaining about her career. On the contrary, she loves it and works on it like any true professional. "I get up in the morning, work out, have something to eat, and get myself into the studio to work. I have to paint everyday, or at least draw or work on an idea. I have to do it because I want to get better. I am a student in the art. You never stop

learning, never, in art and in life."

It seems as though Sandy's diligence has paid off, as her awards and accolades are many. Having visited her magnificent home gallery, you can see why. Most recently, Sandy earned the honor of having her work juried and five landscaped paintings selected for the prestigious National Paint America Top 100 Art Competition and Show. Presently, one painting, "Quietude on the Brandywine", is on the National Art Exhibit Tour throughout the United States visiting art museums and galleries through February 2009. The Howard Gallery of Fine Art in New Hope will be presenting this National Tour Exhibit from August 15 – October 15, 2008.

Sandy's other outstanding and varied achievements – too many to list them all – include the illustrations of the book *Nature Buffs Story* and the illustrations for the ghost tours of Lambertville, NJ, which are on permanent exhibit in the Lambertville House Hotel. As the exclusive, official artist for Hammersmith Farm in Newport, Rhode Island (which was owned by Jacqueline Kennedy's mother and was the Summer White House during the term of John F. Kennedy) Sandy painted numerous pieces of the property's landscape, flower gardens, and mansion. Sandy's paintings are included in private collections throughout the United States, Canada, Ireland, and England. Corporate collections include Keebler Corporation and The Johnson & Johnson Corporation. Many of Sandy's pastel paintings are in the permanent collection of Ronald McDonald House in Delaware.

Sandy has also earned the honor of being the Featured Artist at numerous juried art shows, as well as designing theatre sets, painting wall murals for Designer Homes and private homes, teaching art classes, organizing and managing art exhibits, and painting murals for Our Lady of Mount Carmel School in Doylestown. She has appeared as a guest on a television network show, where she discussed her technique and style of painting. Sandy is also the chairperson for the monthly Juried Art Exhibits held at the Northampton Cultural Center, in Churchville, the town where she lives.

With her success, Sandy continues to grow. "The last few years, I realized that I was getting older and it was the time to enter some national shows, which I had never done," Sandy shared. "I was so honored that four of my paintings were accepted in the first two national shows I entered."

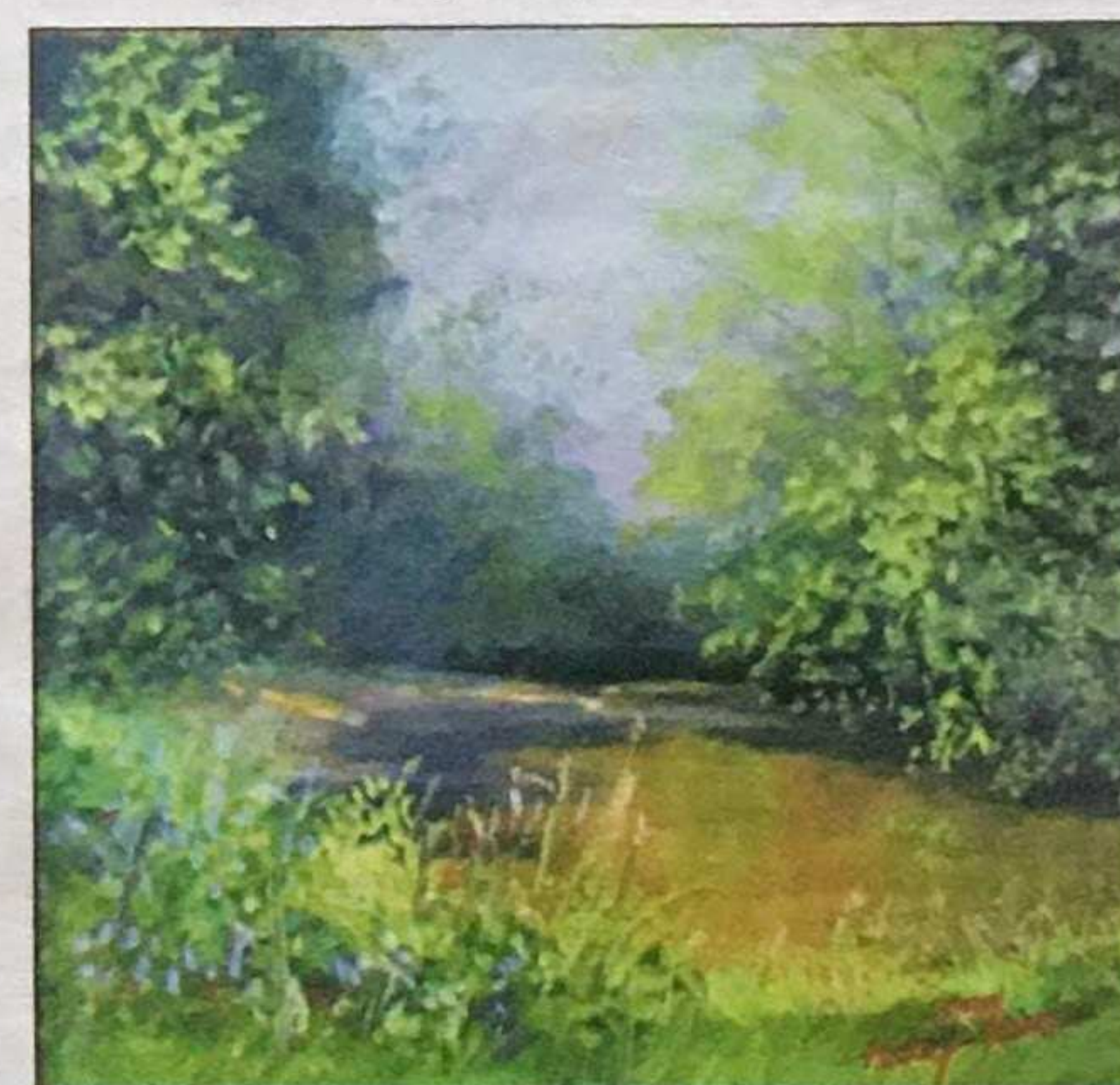
Sandy is particularly proud of her acceptance into the Pastel Society of America last year. "It is the most prestigious pastel society in the U.S. and probably the world. My next step and goal, the second jurying, is working toward being able to use 'PSA' after my name."

Aside from competing, showing her work in her home gallery by appointment and at juried art shows and galleries, all for sale, is the lifeblood of Sandy's business. She and Rick, her husband of 42 years, travel to shows nearly every weekend from early spring through October, from Bucks County to New England. (See the inset for schedule.)

In her free time, Sandy enjoys playing the piano (which she does at art shows periodically), hiking with her husband, and above all, spending time with her husband, two married daughters and five grandchildren, all who reside locally.

"I'm here at this stage in my life and I want my children and grandchildren to look back and see what I've done," Sandy said. "Not so much the actual paintings, but the fact that they've seen that if you continue to work hard and are dedicated, and with God's help, you can accomplish so much. I want to be an inspiration to them."

To find out more about Sandy, her art exhibits, and to view some of her paintings for sale, go to her website at [www.sandyaskeyadams.com](http://www.sandyaskeyadams.com).



Recently accepted into the National Open Juried Pastel Show in Colorado.

### Sandy's Local Summer Art Shows

#### 2nd Annual Art in the Wilds

Evergreen Park, Kane, PA

June 28 – 29 • 10:00am – 5:00pm

Info: (814) 837-7167 or [www.artinthewilds.org](http://www.artinthewilds.org)

Located in the Allegheny National Forest Area, the beauty of this area is an incredible experience!

#### 42nd Annual Lititz Outdoor Art Show

Lititz Springs Park, Lititz, PA

July 26 • 9:00am – 5:00pm

Space #58 and #59

Info: [www.lititzart.com](http://www.lititzart.com)

#### Mt. Gretna Outdoor Art Show

Mt Gretna, PA

(20 miles north of Lancaster, PA)

August 16 - 17 • 9:00am – 6:00pm

Info: (717) 964-3270 or [www.Mt.gretnaarts.com](http://www.Mt.gretnaarts.com)

#### Lansdale Festival of the Arts

Memorial Park, Main Street, Lansdale, PA

August 23 • 10:00am – 4:00pm

Info: (215) 361-8353