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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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ART EXHIBITION HIGHLIGHTS ABANDONED TREASURES OF THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST AND BEYOND!

Lake Oswego, Oregon – The Arts Council of Lake Oswego is excited to present the exhibition, *Abandoned, Images of What Remains* at their ARTspace Gallery, located in the Lake Oswego City Hall building, 380 A Avenue, Suite A, Lake Oswego. The display will be on view from September 3 through October 29, 2021.

The west coast of America has a unique history – from Indigenous Peoples, early frontier days and the Oregon Trail, to the boom and bust industries of logging, mining, and agriculture. As a result, the landscape is dotted with abandoned sites and structures. Once thriving and burgeoning, these now discarded, neglected places bear the mark of past human presence.

“The call for art and theme for this exhibition was inspired by having lived in boom and bust towns of New Mexico and Colorado near abandoned mines and ghost towns. I enjoyed exploring and learning their history. **There’s something so hauntingly beautiful about an empty house that used to be someone’s home standing alone on the landscape. Many** other people share this fascination and create artistic images of what they see and how it makes them feel. There are several Facebook groups and Instagram tags dedicated to abandoned places around **the west. I think it’s great that people share their explorations and, in turn, share some forgotten history,”** Stephanie Johnson, Public Art and Program Manager stated.

This exhibition features 45 artists from around the Western region with about 90 works of art in various mediums including photography, paint, ink, collage, and 3-d works. The submissions received are diverse in their interpretation of the theme, and include images of abandoned roads, mills, ghost towns, derelict houses, and old cars. All work will be available for sale.

The public is invited to an opening reception on Friday, September 10, from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m. Participating artists will be on hand to talk about their process and what attracted them to these distinctive sites.

Visitors are welcome to visit the ARTspace Gallery Tuesday through Friday from 10 to 5 p.m. Visit www.artscouncillo.org for more information and COVID-related safety measures.

The Arts Council of Lake Oswego is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization, and its mission is to ensure that the arts are an integral part of Lake Oswego.

About the Arts Council of Lake Oswego: The Arts Council of Lake Oswego works to ensure that the arts are an integral part of life in our community, now and into the future. The Arts Council is located in the new City Hall, at 380 A Avenue, Suite A, Lake Oswego, OR 97034. For more information visit www.artscouncillo.org or call 503-675-3738.

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Artist Ted Rigoni
Last Man Standing, 2021
Chemung Mine, California
Photograph