



## ERNIE MORTUZANS ART EXHIBIT TO BE FEATURED AT ULSTER SAVINGS BANK IN SAUGERTIES

Ulster Savings Bank would like to invite the public to their 1 Twin Maples Plaza, Saugerties branch to an opening reception on Friday, May 6<sup>th</sup> from 4:00pm – 6:00pm to enjoy their latest art exhibit, a collection of artwork created by Ernie Mortuzans. The exhibit will be available for viewing at the branch through Wednesday, June 1<sup>st</sup>.

Mr. Mortuzans, a Saugerties resident and multi-talented artist, will be featuring a collection of photography titled “Ceremonial Masks of Mexico” for the first time ever at his exhibit. The masks in this show are primarily from Oaxaca in central Mexico and from Tuxla Gutierrez and San Cristobal de las Casas in the Mexico’s southeast region. According to Mr. Mortuzans, the use of masks in Mexico dates back to 3000 BC and were used by priests to summon the power of the deities and in the sacrifice ceremonies of pre-Hispanic Mexico. He also noted the religious and historical roles that mask usage played during Mexico’s history.

In addition to the “Masks” photo collection, Mr. Mortuzans will also display a second photo series, titled “Coal Hole Covers of Brooklyn”, at the branch. This series will feature images of mandala-like cast iron coal hole covers from parts of brownstone Brooklyn. The covers were built into sidewalks to close up shafts that permitted coal to be delivered to vaults beneath the sidewalk. In addition to their everyday function, these covers also were a means for Brooklyn and Manhattan-based cast-iron manufacturers to advertise their foundry capabilities.

For more information concerning Mr. Mortuzans’ exhibit, please contact Debra Bosch, Saugerties Branch Manager, at (866) 440-0391, ext. 4801.



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