

# The Chelsea Standard

## Inspirational places

### Chelsea grad creates mural for Silver Maples

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, Special Writer

Maureen Lynn, a 2008 Chelsea High School graduate, has created a travel mural for Silver Maples of Chelsea that was officially unveiled Jan. 21.

"Our exercise room was a smallish room with no windows. We really wanted to open it up visually yet have it interesting and in keeping with the rest of the community," said Shawn Personke, activities director.

"We were delighted to have Maureen create this mural. It was really a win-win situation. I was really impressed by the way Maureen handled the process, which was several months in the making."

Lynn met with the Art Committee, comprising of Silver Maples residents and staff. She brought in her portfolio, talked about her art background, and listened to what the committee wanted to do with the art room. She then spent six months working on the project.

"We gathered photos from the residents' journeys around the world and she used them for inspiration," Personke said. "Over the course of several months, Maureen would come in and work on the mural, talk to residents, take stock of the project, and make artistic adjustments."

Getting involved in the Silver Maples project was quite exciting, Lynn said.

"My mom, Mary, is very good friends with Shawn Personke and got me an interview," she said. "It was an honor that Shawn and the rest of the staff trusted me enough to pull this off."

"The mural means a lot to me because it was the first big project I've done outside of school and it was a wonderful experience."

When Lynn was a student at Chelsea High School, the only classroom where she felt completely at ease was the art room.

"I knew right then just how much art meant to me," she said. "That's why, when I was planning out my future, I knew that an art school would be the right place for me."

This fall, Lynn, who just finished art classes at The Ann Arbor Art Center, will attend Columbia College in Chicago, her hometown - she moved to Chelsea when she was five years old. She will major in fashion merchandising with a minor in fashion design and take a few fine arts classes as well.

CHS high school art teacher Kerry Kargel was her inspiration for four years, she said.

"He really knew how to push me to be the best that I can be and his ambition and drive is an inspiration," she said. "I was happy to accept the award from Mr. Kargel for Best Art Student on class night."

During her time at CHS, Lynn also was involved in basketball, field hockey and show choir.

"Show choir was the second thing closest to my heart besides art," she said. "It was a lot of fun and I met a lot of my good friends from it."

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