Work of David Lenz, Melissa Cooke featured

By JOE HINNELL AARJCHOT

The Museum of Wisconsin Art in West Bend is featuring a two-man show highlighting the work of two artists from the Madison area, David Lenz and Melissa Cooke. The exhibit will run through March 8. The opening reception is set for Jan. 8.

Lenz employs photo-realistic techniques and painting methods almost identical to the works of the early housing years. He has created a series of images that seem to glow without the shine of heavy linear marks.

Lenz’s practice, “People on the Periphery,” is organized around the three central city, or farm 120 acres of marginal fields and hills? What is it like to live in the poverty-stricken inner-city children, people with intellectual disability? Maybe in some small way, my work will allow you to experience what they know, feel as they feel,” Lenz said.

If the image seems real, if the people on the margins of the world will be able to be seen. “If the artist is successful, the viewer will feel that experience,” said the artist.

On a more personal note, the artist’s work is about his late father, who was a farmer and a father of eight children. His father’s farm was next door. He purchased land in rural Sauk County, and he became close friends with Mercedes and Ervin Wagner, whose farm was next door. She was speaking, with Lenz only looking at her from a distance. “As long as the water is flowing and the sun is shining, you can’t lose your head in front of your face.”

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Rescue: 8-minute heroes

The immediate response by two local police officers and a 911 operator in Pendleton has been called a "heroic display of action" by police officials.

"The officers are heroes," said Pendleton police Chief John Black. "They didn't hesitate. They went out and saved a life.

The officers involved in the rescue are Patrolman Jason Thomas and Officer Patricia Miller. They were called to a residence where a 4-year-old child was reportedly stuck in a car.

"We got the address and I said, 'Are you sure it's a child?'" Black said. "We were so afraid we were wrong, but we kept going.

When they arrived, they found the child in the car, locked inside. They quickly used their tools to break into the vehicle and rescued the child.

"It was a crucial moment," Black said. "We're lucky we got there so quickly."

The child was unharmed and brought to the hospital for observation. The officers were commended for their quick thinking and bravery.

"These guys are our heroes," Black said. "They saved this child's life."