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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Local Artist, Barbara Elsenheimer, Displays Paintings at St. James Mercy Hospital**

**April 24, 2013...Hornell, NY...** Local artist, Barbara Elsenheimer of Arkport, New York, has loaned a collection of paintings to St. James Mercy Hospital for display in the renovated lobby and emergency room hallway areas.

An art teacher at Arkport Central School for the last 15 years, Elsenheimer has displayed her artwork in a number of regional venues including banks, businesses and galleries in Rochester, Buffalo, Ellicottville, Hornell and Corning. "We are delighted to showcase and share these beautiful original paintings with our patients and visitors," said Sylvia Bryant, VP Mission Integration and Community Outreach.

Elsenheimer specializes in mixed media collage and painting, with a concentration in both acrylic and oils. "I work mostly in abstraction but often add representational images in my work," she said. The paintings at the hospital are samplings of various series from the last few years. All are for sale, and the artist has generously offered to donate a portion of the proceeds to the St. James Mercy Foundation.

Elsenheimer's interest in art started when she was very young. "I was greatly influenced by my father and in particular my aunt, who, as an artist, worked with Walt Disney and was a master in watercolor painting," she said. Elsenheimer went on to attain a Bachelor of Fine Arts in the visual arts at Syracuse University, Masters of Science in Art Education at Alfred University, and Master of Fine Arts at Rochester Institute of Technology. She taught for 20 years at Alfred University in the Education Department and is currently teaching at Arkport Central School.

The paintings at the hospital will be on display through the summer.

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Paintings of Arkport artist Barbara Elsenheimer are now on display at St. James Mercy Hospital.