

## Artist of the Month—Janine Motto



The Villages became my permanent home in 2021. I live in the Village of Linden. I am from Western New York, near the Buffalo, Niagara Falls area. I was fortunate to grow up on a small hobby farm my parents had where I acquired a love for animals and nature.

I earned my degree in Visual Communications and landed in the offset printing industry in the early 80's, when they still used film negatives and dark rooms. Eventually evolving into the more modern print industry, I worked with web, screen, then digital printing. This was all very repetitive and boring and found that painting in my spare time was freeing. My paint time was very limited as I was

taking care of my family, and usually my kids would be coloring or painting right beside me.

I am currently working remotely as a part-time commercial graphic designer. I create unique, custom designs for a sign company in West Palm Beach, mainly commercial truck graphics for Southern Florida, store front windows in Miami, electrical cabinets in the Washington State & other signage. My last job I specialized in vehicle wraps for Emergency Service Agencies worldwide. It's cool to see your designs drive by on police cars, fire trucks, and ambulances.

I have been in various local art groups and became a signature member of The Niagara Frontier Watercolor Society. I enjoyed their informative demonstrations and workshops, where I learned new techniques and met many talented artists.

My paintings have been exhibited in galleries & shows around the Buffalo area and here in The Villages where they won awards. Watercolors and oils are my favorite medium. I would say I have an illustrative style. Sometimes my work is photorealistic, but I'm working on loosening up. I enjoy painting a multitude of subjects and landscapes that involve an animal or bird, but I find anything that has a unique pattern, color, design or shadow may be my muse.

