

# Orangeville

## Art Walk of Tree Sculptures



**Orangeville**  
Historic Charm Dynamic Future

## Intro

Orangeville's Art Walk of Tree Sculptures boasts 54 pieces on public property, featuring the work of 18 artists and the Headwaters Carving Club.

Tree sculptures have become popular with our residents and visitors since the first tree was carved in 2003. The goal of the program is to sustain the life of trees that have reached the end of their life expectancy in a way that allows them to continue adding character to our community. The sculptures are about art, heart, and community. They have stories to tell.

"Mr. Lacrosse" is a special tribute to the late Terry Sanderson, a Canadian lacrosse icon, and to Orangeville's Northmen who have won many titles over the years, making Orangeville the home of lacrosse.

"Inclusive" makes a strong statement about accessibility, as it depicts five people with different levels of ability reaching up to a globe, striving to set and achieve their own goals and feel accepted in our world.

The "Physician and Patient" honoured the 100th anniversary of the Headwaters Health Care Centre in 2012. The sculpture depicts a turn-of-the-century doctor aiding a young injured girl. The sculpture is a period carving modelled after Dr. Abraham Groves, known as the Godfather of the hospital. After establishing the Fergus hospital, he helped the Lord Dufferin IODE set up a hospital in Orangeville.

"The Musicians" sculpture was created as a tribute to the Orangeville Blues and Jazz Festival (on its 10th anniversary in 2012). The sculpture is a carving of two musicians – one playing a harmonica (Blues) and the other playing a saxophone (Jazz).

Families have created special sculptures to honour loved ones and to pay tribute to the natural environment. Carvers from across Ontario have participated in the program and tourists and tour operators have put Orangeville on their must-visit schedules.

Orangeville, as the centre of a highly talented and diverse artistic region, has put art front and centre with its tree sculptures. We invite you to come and explore – see the sculptures for yourself – and see the many other attractions in the Orangeville area.



## Spirited Trees

When it comes to tree spirits, Colin Partridge of Thornton is a specialist... and the former RCMP officer knows where to find the faces in the wood.

In the 15th century, Europeans believed evil spirits lived in the dense forest where the males hunted. They believed that when men went out to hunt for food and never returned that the evil spirits of the woods had taken them. As legend would have it, they also believed that the trees maintained good and powerful spirits so before entering the forest they would knock on the trees to wake up the sleeping spirits to protect them. This is where the saying "knock on wood" or "touch wood" came from. Tree spirits are said to have a great sense of humour, gentle wisdom and will bring luck into your home. Mr. Partridge created several tree spirits in Orangeville and among them is his first female tree spirit. This sculpture is his interpretation of "Patience" – the lady-in-waiting and life-long friend of Catherine the Great who was illiterate. Patience read and wrote all Catherine's letters and read literature to her. When Catherine died, Patience was devastated and very depressed. She wandered off into the woods never to be seen again... until Mr. Partridge found her hidden in this Orangeville tree stump and released her for the world to see.



## Historical Figures

Historical figures were introduced to the Art Walk of Tree Sculptures in 2005.

**Thomas Jull** (1817-1896) was an entrepreneur in Orangeville, moving from his native England in 1848. He was married to Mary Lawrence – a daughter of Orange Lawrence, the Town's founder. Mr. Jull helped build the stone grist mill on Mill Street and he owned a saw mill on Wellington Street. He was active in municipal politics and a leading member of the Methodist Church.

**Alexander McKittrick** (1871-1949) sits outside the McKittrick Bed & Breakfast. He was the editor, publisher and owner of the Orangeville Banner. Mr. McKittrick was an active church member and a founding member of the Rotary Club of Orangeville. He also served on Town Council and as Mayor.

**George Harold "Doc" Campbell**, (1878-1972), graduated from the Royal Dental College, and opened a practice in Orangeville in 1902. A keen sportsman, he was a renowned field lacrosse player, and won an Olympic gold medal as part

of the Canadian team at the 1908 Olympics in London, England. He was a founder of the Orangeville Curling Club, the Orangeville Golf Club, and helped organized the Orangeville Arena building project. He was active in professional activities and was made a life member of the Ontario Dental Association in 1952. He served as Councillor, Reeve, and Mayor (1914-1916) of Orangeville and as member of both the Board of Education and the Hydro Commission when electricity was installed in the Town. Plus he served as president of the Dufferin County Children's Aid Society. He was a keen gardener, and active member of the horticultural society. He was reputed to be Canada's oldest practising dentist at the time of his death in 1972.

**The Prince of Wales** overlooks First Street which was formerly called the Prince of Wales Road. The sculpture depicts Prince Albert who was the Prince of Wales when First Street was named the Prince of Wales Road.

## Sculpture Artists

### Peter Mogensen

The Mount Forest resident spends his time travelling around Canada, as well as parts of the U.S., carving pieces, as private commissions. A native of Denmark, Mr. Mogensen grew up in Alliston, and has spent most of his life selling and fixing outdoor power tools. A self-taught carver, he has made that his full-time livelihood for several years now – and is well-known in carving circles. He carved three historical figures for the Town of Orangeville but maintains that his specialty is wildlife, particularly bears.

### Richard Hevesi

Chainsaw carving is a regular weekend hobby for Richard Hevesi of the Haliburton Highlands. Carving gets him away from his computer on which he spends a lot of time as a web developer. Artistic by nature, he loves painting, drawing, gardening and forestry and received training from other wood carvers in return for designing their websites. The moose sculpture is one of his favourites and each piece takes six to seven hours to complete. He also creates bears, owls and fairy houses, with most of his carvings made of white or red pine – both of which hold up well to the elements.

### Bob DeVries

A carpenter/contractor by profession, Bob DeVries has been carving for 15 years as a "hobby" although it quickly turned into a part-time business. A resident of Dunnville, Mr. DeVries likes to create large caricatures out of tree stumps. He creates 15-20 sculptures per year. "I enjoy taking a dead stump and making a new life out of it. It's all about creating something."

### Walter van der Windt

Walter van der Windt brought his chainsaw to Orangeville – and he left some characters behind. He likes to carve pieces with animation and personality. From a troll to a hobbit house, he has left behind some unusual works of art. A native of Holland, Mr. van der Windt was a student of international business in Vancouver where he graduated to become a sales trainer. He turned his wood-carving pastime into a full-time career. Creating sculptures out of wood, he says, is very therapeutic but it is also a chance to elicit an emotional response from others. He can be found carving at his gallery in Haliburton County.

### Colin Partridge

Colin Partridge is known for his tree spirit carvings. He carved his first-ever female tree spirit at 295 Broadway. This tree spirit is Mr. Partridge's interpretation of "Patience" – the lady-in-waiting and life-long friend of Catherine the Great who was illiterate. So Patience read and wrote all Catherine's letters and read literature to her. When Catherine died, Patience was devastated and very depressed. She wandered off into the woods never to be seen again... At least until Mr. Partridge found her hidden in an Orangeville tree stump and released her for the world to see. Mr. Partridge joined the Canadian Forces after coming to Canada from his native England at the age of 16. He subsequently became an RCMP officer. One day while visiting his son on Vancouver Island he imagined seeing faces in the driftwood along the beach and his carving career was started. "Every tree has a spirit and it takes the artist to bring it out."

### Jeff Waters

Jeff Waters of Stayner has two carvings on Broadway: the native carving and a rope post – his specialty. A native of Niagara Falls, Mr. Waters lives in Stayner where he is employed as a baker and where his wood carving hobby has become a part-time business. He likes the challenge of wood carving and creating new and different pieces.

### John Taylor

John Taylor of Palgrave kicked off the carving of tree stumps in downtown Orangeville in 2003. Mr. Taylor studied wood carving at George Brown College for several years in the night program. During the day, he was chairman at George Brown in the English and Liberal Studies department.

### Billy Watterson

Billy Watterson of Brampton transformed a dead tree on Blind Line into a totem pole. Employed by Hydro One in Brampton, Mr. Watterson is a native of Ireland who emigrated to Canada in 1987. He has been carving ever since he was 10 years of age. "I've never had a lesson in my life; I was always hacking away at wood and just progressed from there." He taught wood carving in Ireland for the Belfast Art Committee. A former taxidermist in Ireland, Mr. Watterson knows about detail when carving and likes the skill and challenge that's involved in a detailed piece.

### Robbin Wenzoski

Born in Golden, British Columbia, Mr. Wenzoski moved to Malta when he was seven years old. The experience of other cultures and the rich art history of Malta left a permanent impression on him. When he moved back to Canada and settled into uninspiring jobs he was compelled to try to accomplish something more meaningful and creative. In 2003 he created his first sculpture and has been hooked ever since. "I absolutely love creating meaningful and special pieces from memorials to abstracts. I strive to create art that moves and makes people think."

### Bobbi Switzer

Bobbi Switzer loved art from an early age and she has a studio and sign shop on the Main Street in Atwood, Ontario. She likes to create people or characters in the wood. People seek her out for her original sign design and artwork. A graduate of Conestoga College (in graphic design and advertising), Ms. Switzer also illustrates children's books for a few publishers in the U.S. She is also a photographer, illustrator, painter and mural artist.

### Murray Berger

Mr. Berger is the first Orangeville resident to take part in the Art Walk of Sculptures. Born in Victoria Harbour, Mr. Berger, a citizen of the Metis Nation of Ontario, started carving decoys when he was four years old, thanks to his grandfather. Mr. Berger likes to carve wolves, bears, mountain lions, and totem poles. A former resident of Toronto and a graduate of the Ontario Police College, Mr. Berger was a member of the Orangeville Police Service for 16 years.

### Nick Hall

A graduate of Westside Secondary School, Sir Sandford Fleming College (in fish and wildlife biology), and Trent University (Bachelor of Science degree in biology), Nick Hall's interest in art has evolved over the years, starting off with paintings and sketches and moving on to wood about 12 years ago, when he started making showshoes and paddles and getting into canoe building and repair. He has created some chainsaw carvings in the Algonquin area. He has participated in lumberjack shows across Canada and has guided canoe trips in Algonquin Park. He loves the outdoors and working with wood and likes to carve wildlife.

### Jim Menken

Jim Menken of Mono has been in demand since he created "The Farmer" on Broadway. Born in Thornhill, the Mono resident and former school teacher, has always been interested and involved in art. He is a graduate of York University, majoring in physical education and sociology. Carving tree sculptures fosters his love of the outdoors and his love of art.

### Paul Frenette

Originally from the Windsor area and currently a resident of Kitchener, Mr. Frenette graduated from St. Clair College with an electrical engineering technologist degree and is a computer networking systems consultant. Carving wood has become a hobby for him. Mr. Frenette says he doesn't draw or paint but he has a passion for creating sculptures out of wood. His specialty is medieval sculptures – gargoyles, dragons, and wizards.

### Don Miller

Don Miller of Melancthon Township put his artistic skills to work to create an unusual tree sculpture – a silhouette. A native of Brougham, Ontario, Mr. Miller has a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree from the Nova Scotia College of Art & Design. He operates his own carpentry company. He likes to show movement in his art. In his metal sculptures he likes to incorporate wind-operated segments. He usually does chisel work with his wooden sculptures (the Orangeville project is his first chainsaw carving), he's done snow sculptures, and he does a lot of painting and drawing.

### Nick Onac

Nick Onac is well-known as an artist and wood carver in Peterborough – and other parts of the world. A native of Transylvania, Romania, Mr. Onac is a graduate of the University of Babes-Bolyai in Transylvania, where he majored in history, philosophy, and visual arts. He taught economics and history at a high school in Transylvania for six years and carved wood sculptures on a commission basis, primarily for churches. He says his sculptures are inspired by his homeland and European culture. He particularly likes to carve human subjects.

### Rob McFaul

Originally from Peterborough, Mr. McFaul lives in Toronto where he does much of his carving on-site for private commissions. Mr. McFaul attended Bishop's University in Quebec where he studied drama and English, and he operates a networking business. As soon as he tried chainsaw carving he was hooked. "I absolutely loved it, and I love the challenge it brings me of constantly creating something."

### Cam Menken

Cam is learning the tricks of the trade from his father Jim who has created more of the sculptures in Orangeville than any other artist. He joined Jim in creating "Inclusive" – a new sculpture depicting people of different levels of ability reaching for higher goals. Cam worked on this piece in 2016 as part of a Grade 12 co-operative work placement. He attends school in Fergus at Emmanuel Christian School and plans to continue carving artistic pieces and has been selling some of his carvings already.

## We hope you have enjoyed your tour of Orangeville's tree sculptures and we invite you to stay and experience other attractions in Orangeville.

Pick up a copy of the Orangeville Tourism Guide and discover the 'Heart of the Hills'. Uncover the beauty of the Hills of Headwaters aboard the Credit Valley Explorer, take in some first-class theatre performed by Theatre Orangeville, attend one of our many popular year-round events, stroll in and out of the charming boutiques in Orangeville's historic downtown or indulge in the culinary delights of one of our many restaurants, pubs, bistros or cafes.

Get your copy of the Orangeville Tourism Guide on the Town's website [www.orangeville.ca](http://www.orangeville.ca), at Town Hall or at the Visitor Information Centre.

For more information on tours or to donate to Orangeville's Art Walk of Tree Sculptures, please call 519-941-0440 Ext. 2253 or email [info@orangeville.ca](mailto:info@orangeville.ca)

Check [www.orangeville.ca](http://www.orangeville.ca) for the digital tour. <http://data.orangeville.ca/StoryMaps/MapTour/TreeSculptures>



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## Stories to Tell

In the downtown core, outside the library, is "The Storyteller" by Jim Menken. This piece was commissioned by friends of Marilyn Doekes, a former teacher, librarian and storyteller, and it was created prior to her death in 2007, thanks to donations from about 100 people in the community.

"The Torchbearer" sculpture was carved by Howard Greenaway and serves as a reminder that Orangeville was chosen as a celebration community in the Olympic Torch Relay leading up to the opening of the 2010 Vancouver Olympics.

"The Dentist" is based on a local personality. The sculpture has a tooth brush in hand, a mirror in the pocket, a watch on his arm, and is wearing a dental uniform. He sits on the boulevard outside the home of Dr. John Russell and his wife Alice. Dr. Russell practiced dentistry in Orangeville for 46 years, retiring in 1997.

The Dudgeon family of Orangeville sponsored a sculpture by Jim Menken, depicting the bust of two horses and a full-size German Shepherd. "The Horses and German Shepherd" sculpture was created in memory of Dr. Murray Dudgeon, a long-time veterinarian in the Orangeville area.

"The Nurse" was commissioned by the IODE to mark their 100th anniversary. It sits in front of the first hospital that was made possible through the efforts of the IODE, hence an appropriate location for this sculpture.

A singer/songwriter who lives in Orangeville loved "The Dancer" sculpture so much her husband had a replica created by the artist (Bobbi Switzer of Atwood) and surprised her with it as a special birthday present.

"The Letter Carrier", carved by Jim Menken, represents a relatively modern mail carrier, with a mail bag, a 1970s style uniform and hat, as well as some letters in his hand.

"The Graduate", carved by Robbin Wenzoski, wears a cap and gown and, with certificate in hand, is ready to embark on a future path. Orangeville District Secondary School students initiated a fundraising campaign and sponsored the sculpture along with Orangeville's Arts & Culture Committee.

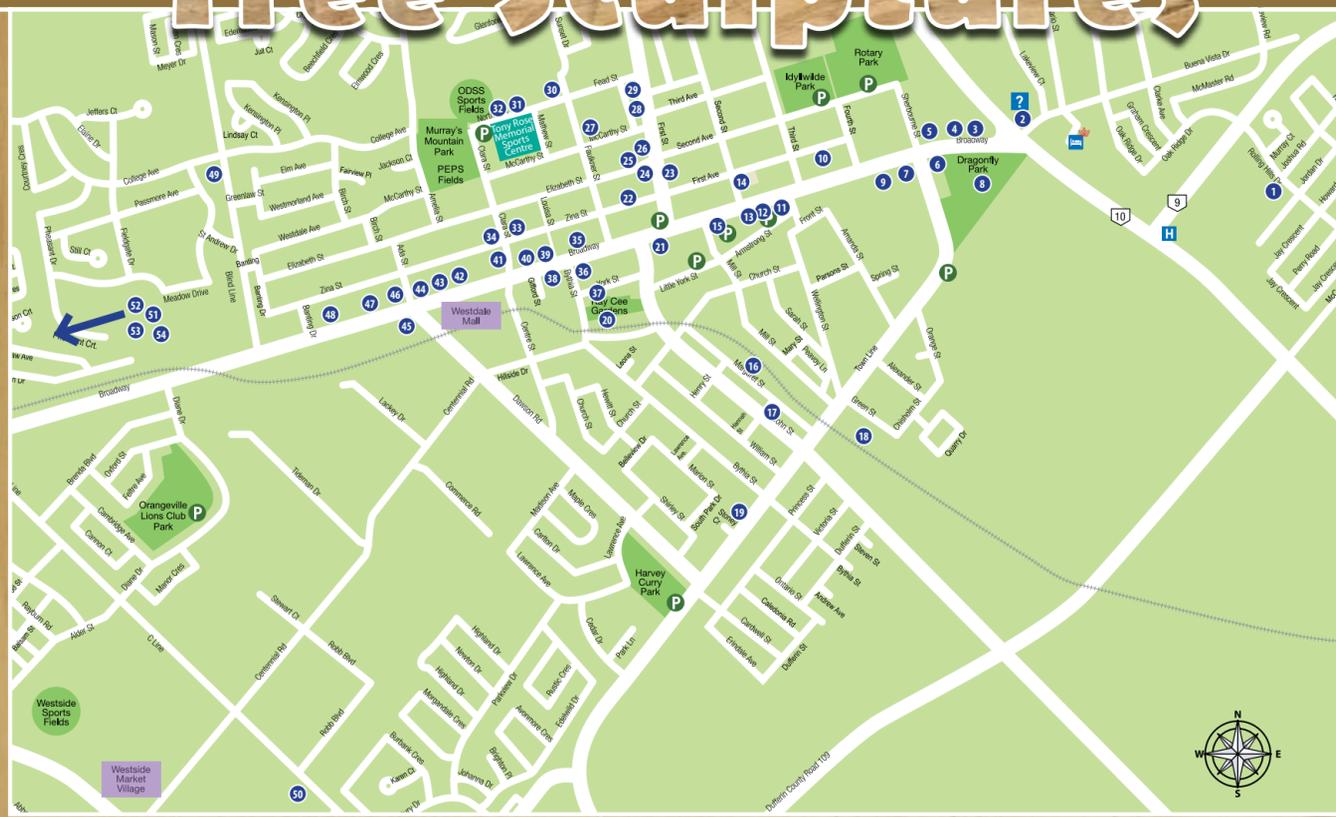
A photo of "The Hobbit House" on Margaret Street won the Ontario Parks Association's "Art In The Park" photo contest in 2009, featuring creative pieces of public art.

"The Boxer" is a tribute to local boxing champions. The concept inspired friends and family of Bryon Mackie's Big Tym Fitness Centre to initiate a fundraising campaign, and thus a new tree sculpture was born. It represents a boxer in a typical stance, with arms raised and feet ready to move.



Enjoy the scenery, admire the arts

# Orangeville Art Walk of Tree Sculptures



**1. Physician & Patient**  
100 Rolling Hills Drive  
**Artist:** Jim Menken



**2. The Moose**  
200 Lakeview Court  
(Inside Visitor Info Centre)  
**Artist:** Richard Hevesi



**3. The Farmer**  
23 Broadway  
**Artist:** Jim Menken



**4. Canoe & Jack Pine**  
25 Broadway  
**Artist:** Nick Hall  
*Sponsored by Linda Stokes-Barth, in memory of Jack Barth*



**5. Inclusive**  
25 Broadway  
**Artists:** Jim Menken & Cam Menken  
*Sponsored by Access Orangeville*



**6. The Wizard & Dragon**  
38 Broadway  
**Artist:** Paul Frenette



**7. The Dancer**  
40 Broadway  
**Artist:** Bobbi Switzer



**8. Nature Pole**  
Dragonfly Park  
**Artist:** Headwaters Carving Club  
**Background:** This piece depicts the flora, fauna & wildlife of the area & was carved several years prior to the initiation of Orangeville's tree sculpture program.



**9. Owl In Tree**  
46 Broadway  
**Artist:** Rob McFaul



**10. Bear With Jackhammer**  
62 First Avenue  
**Artist:** Jim Menken  
*Sponsored by Universal Rental*



**11. The Boxer**  
64 Broadway  
**Artist:** Bobbi Switzer  
*Sponsored by friends & family of Bryon Mackie's Big Tyme Fitness Centre to honour local boxing champions*



**12. Sesquicentennial**  
82 Broadway  
**Artist:** Jim Menken  
**Background:** Sculpture depicts local landmarks in honour of Town's 150th birthday in 2013.



**13. The Lions**  
82 Broadway  
**Artist:** Jim Menken  
*Sponsored by the Amaranth Lions Club*



**14. The Musicians**  
11 Second Street, Alexandra Park  
**Artist:** Jim Menken  
**Background:** The sculpture was created for the 10th anniversary of the Blues & Jazz Festival. It depicts two musicians, playing harmonica (Blues) & saxophone (Jazz).



**15. The Storyteller**  
144 Broadway  
**Artist:** Jim Menken  
**Background:** Commissioned by friends of Marilyn Doeke - a former teacher, librarian & storyteller.  
*Sponsored by approximately 100 donors*



**16. The Hobbit House**  
30 Margaret Street  
**Artist:** Walter vanderWindt  
*Private sponsor*



**17. Howling Wolf**  
67 John Street  
**Artist:** Bob DeVries



**18. The Conductor**  
49 Town Line (Train Station)  
**Artist:** Jim Menken



**19. The Troll**  
72 Town Line  
**Artist:** Walter van der Windt



**20. Kris Kringle**  
29 Bythia Street (KayCee Gardens)  
**Artist:** Peter Mogensen  
*Sponsored by Orangeville Optimist Club*



**21. The Letter Carrier**  
216 Broadway  
**Artist:** Jim Menken  
*Sponsored by Canada Post mail carriers of the Dufferin & Caledon area*



**22. Victorian Lady**  
7 Zina Street  
**Artist:** Robbin Wenzoski  
*Sponsored by Denise & Keith Edwards*



**23. Waving Bear**  
11 First Street  
**Artist:** Walter van der Windt



**24. The Prince of Wales**  
26 First Street  
**Artist:** Jim Menken



**25. Helping Hands & Caring Hearts**  
32 First Street  
**Artist:** Jim Menken  
*Sponsored by the family of Erna Banuilis in celebration of her 90th birthday*



**26. The Nurse**  
32 First Street  
**Artist:** Jim Menken  
**Background:** The Nurse marked the IODE's 100th anniversary in 2007 & sits in front of the former hospital.  
*Sponsored by the IODE*



**27. The Dentist**  
19 McCarthy Street  
**Artist:** Jim Menken  
*Sponsored by the Russell family*



**28. The Hunter**  
48 First Street  
**Artist:** Don Miller



**29. Canadian Fighting Spirits**  
48 First Street  
**Artist:** Murray Berger



**30. The Graduate**  
22 Faulkner Street  
**Artist:** Robbin Wenzoski  
*Sponsored by ODSS students & the Town of Orangeville*



**31. The Torchbearer**  
6 Northmen Way  
**Artist:** Howard Greenaway  
*Sponsored by the Orangeville Torch Relay Task Force*



**32. Mr. Lacrosse**  
6 Northmen Way  
**Artist:** Robbin Wenzoski  
**Background:** A tribute to Canadian lacrosse icon Terry Sanderson  
*Sponsored by the Orangeville Recreation Committee*



**33. Tribute To Dogs**  
65 Zina Street  
**Artist:** Jim Menken  
*Sponsored by the Staley family*



**34. Canadian Nature**  
67 Zina Street  
**Artist:** Jim Menken  
*Sponsored by Theo & Sean Byrne*



**35. Alexander Dunlop McKittrick**  
255 Broadway  
**Artist:** Peter Mogensen



**36. Native Spirits**  
259 Broadway  
**Artist:** Jeff Waters



**37. Dr. A.G. Campbell**  
21 York Street  
**Artist:** Peter Mogensen



**38. The Fiddler**  
288 Broadway  
**Artist:** Nick Onac  
*Sponsored by Alison, Drew, Ian & Christopher Brown*



**39. Tree Spirit**  
267 Broadway  
**Artist:** Colin Partridge



**40. Homage To The Tree That Was**  
269 Broadway  
**Artist:** John Taylor



**41. The Lady**  
4 Clara Street  
**Artist:** Paul Frenette



**42. Eagle & Salmon**  
293 Broadway  
**Artist:** Jim Menken  
*Private Sponsor*



**43. Female Tree Spirit**  
295 Broadway  
**Artist:** Colin Partridge



**44. Braided Rope Post**  
297 Broadway  
**Artist:** Jeff Waters  
**Background:** This rope post features a man's face on the south side and a woman's smiling face on the west side. The man's beard and the woman's hair form the braid around the rest of the tree trunk.



**45. Ice Cream Cone**  
288 Broadway  
**Artist:** Jim Menken  
*Sponsored by Casa Del Gelato*



**46. The Eagle**  
299 Broadway  
**Artist:** Jim Menken  
*Sponsored by Coldwell Banker Cornerstone Realty*



**47. Thomas Jull**  
305 Broadway  
**Artist:** Peter Mogensen



**48. The Mouse**  
315 Broadway  
**Artist:** Jim Menken



**49. Totem Pole**  
139 Blind Line  
**Artist:** Billy Watterson



**50. First Police Chief**  
390 C Line  
**Artist:** Anonymous



**51. The Robin**  
Greenwood Cemetery, 553002 County Rd. 16  
**Artist:** Jim Menken  
*Sponsored by Brenda Chabot & family*



**52. Woodland Creatures**  
Greenwood Cemetery, 553002 County Rd. 16  
**Artist:** Jim Menken  
*Sponsored by the Thompson family, in memory of Eileen & Norman Thompson*



**53. Scottish Bagpiper**  
Greenwood Cemetery, 553002 County Rd. 16  
**Artist:** Robbin Wenzoski  
*Sponsored by Ivy & Ed Amos*



**54. Horses & German Shepherd**  
Greenwood Cemetery, 553002 County Rd. 16  
**Artist:** Jim Menken  
*Sponsored by the Dudgeon family, in memory of Dr. Murray Dudgeon*