Big Braxton Bear on trek to TAG

BY DEBBIE HIGHTOWER

ARCHDALE — If you visited the Archdale Public Library during the past few weeks you probably noticed the giant bear created by artists at Braxton Craven Middle School.

Students at the only sixth-grade-only school in North Carolina incorporated information gleaned from classroom studies about bears and bees to create the giant bear that included two semesters of effort by Braxton Craven art students as well as a variety of art media.

“The base of the bear is trash bags with recycled newspaper,” said art teacher Kerry Loewen. “The outside was Papier-mâché. The students then cut hundreds of squares and layered the bear’s fur. The hat was made with an old pair of jeans a student outgrew. One student created the eyes and two other students created the claws.”

To go along with the bear, Loewen added that students made a giant beehive in the art room. “We had fun creating the bear and really both semesters of kids had a hand in making it,” she added.

Good news — the Big Braxton Bear, and the beehive, are on the road to Theater Art Galleries in High Point, where they are going on display until the first week in August. Look for them in the Kaleidoscope Gallery, along with artwork by students from area middle schools.

Thetre Art Galleries is located in downtown High Point at 230 E. Commerce Ave. Gallery hours are Tuesday through Friday from 12:55 p.m. An opening reception will take place from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, May 31. For more information contact the TAG office at 336-882-2137 or visit www.tagart.org.

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