

Artist and calligrapher, Sabrina Verkamp, shares her expertise

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scenes onto slate plaques, creating elegant wall hangings from raw material.

To shoppers' delight, Verkamp also brings her hand-painted and engraved glassware to the markt. Much of Verkamp's work is inspired by nature, and on her glassware, it shows. "I love trees," says the artist, "so a lot of times I engrave a tree, wrapping it around the glass." Wine-lovers will adore her exquisite, intricately engraved stemware, which make

gorgeous table decorations for holidays, anniversaries, weddings and other special occasions.

"My daughters participate in Christkindlmarkt with me," enthuses the artist. While Sabrina paints on-site orders, daughter Audrey hand-paints ornaments and serves as cashier. Daughter Ashley packs orders, helps to cashier and will also be selling her own artwork — original

animal illustrations in graphite, pen and ink. (It should be noted that Ashley designed for Snail's Pace, a greeting card collection once produced by Abbey Press. She will be bringing artwork from that beautiful collection to markt.)

Sabrina is proud to be celebrating her 21st year as a vendor at Christkindlmarkt. The veteran market-er has

her process 'down pat'. "With on-site personalization," she advises customers, "it's always a good idea to visit our booth first, pick your ornament, put in your order, shop and come back. Saturday is especially busy. We are more than happy to hold orders for later pick-up. That helps with flow and our ability to handle the volume that we do."

Local market-ers will be interested to know

that Verkamp will serve as featured artist for Traditional Arts Today, 314 W. 9th Street, on December 8, where she will also be personalizing items.

At Christkindlmarkt, the SV Calligraphy & Art booth rests along the back wall, to the left of the main entrance of the Ferdinand Community Center. Look for gorgeous lighting against a classic backdrop of black and tan. "We have spotlights on the glassware," tells Verkamp. "I love lighting, and there are lots of highlights on the ornaments and products."

For more information visit svcalligraphy.com. Find Sabrina on Etsy at www.etsy.com/shop/ArtfullySV.



Next year's dates

Be sure to mark your calendars for the 22nd annual Christkindlmarkt festivities in 2019.

Christkindlmarkt Eve, including opening ceremonies on the hillside at Monastery Immaculate Conception when the Christkindl Angel appears, will be held on Friday, November 15. The festivities are followed by a special dinner (reservations required) in the monastery.

Christkindlmarkt will be held Saturday and Sunday, November 16-17, with six Markt locations throughout Ferdinand and much to see and do. For more information call 800.968.4578 or visit www.ferdinandchristkindlmarkt.com.



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