

A Unique Vision of Everyday

# The Keen Observer

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## Ardent Life Market is underway

The weekend of May 5th and 6th I will be hosting the first Ardent Life Market. This market is a place for me, and hopefully a few other talented artists, to sell my art to the community. The market is yard sale style, so the tables, blankets or booths will be set up in my driveway and on my front lawn. I will have my inventory reduction sale going on. Selected prints will be on sale at an intense discount. Some of these photographs are limited editions and some will never be printed again. Print discounts include 11x14 prints for \$10, 8x10 prints for \$5, 5x7 prints for \$2 and 4x6 prints for just \$1 each. Looking for framed home décor? I will offer tours of my in house gallery for anyone interested. I will also have out the jewelry and lots of new pieces. New rings, new wire work designs, and new jewelry displays. Come by and check it all out. 11am –3pm both days.



## Portrait Season

Though portraits can happen any time of the year, rain or shine, indoor or out of doors, spring and summer are the busy season for photographers. It is a time to take advantage of beautiful natural light and botanical surroundings. As the photography season kicks off, don't let those moments pass you by. Lots of couples have their wedding photos and that is it, neglecting to have those portraits that showcase their love not in formal attire. Family portraits happen maybe once every four or five years as the kids grow and change dramatically. Pregnancies pass, newborns become toddlers and seniors go off to college. Show off the progression of your life with photographs capturing the true character of you and yours.

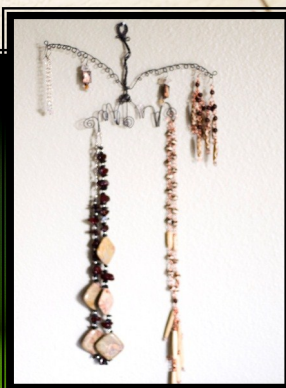
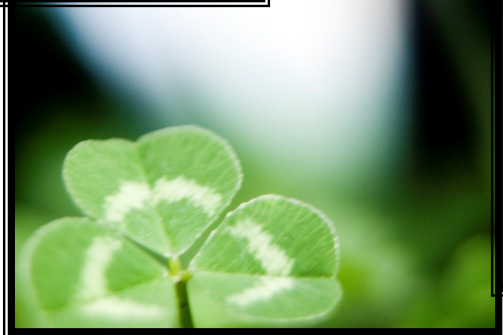
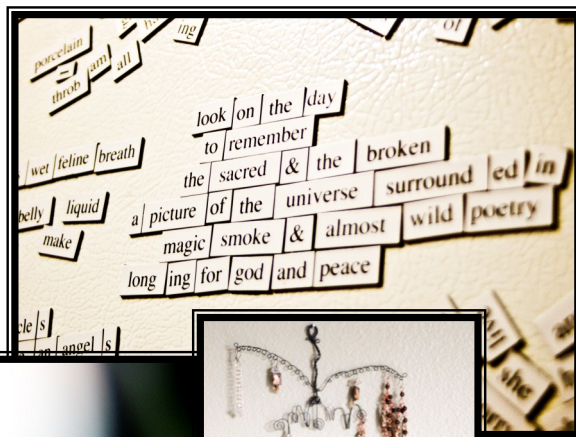
## Snippets

- Find Ardent images on Coffee Cups, T-shirts and more on [Zazzle.com](http://Zazzle.com).
- Like one of the photographs you see? Don't forget you can order online anytime through [e-mail](mailto:email) or my [Etsy.com](http://Etsy.com) shop.
- [Ardent Life Designs](http://ArdentLifeDesigns) is the jewelry side of my business. From handmade chain necklaces to beaded wrap bracelets and dangly earrings, you can find beautiful artisan jewelry for the discerning woman in your life.
- Check out the new Ardent Life website as it develops. <http://www.ardentphotography/ardentlife/index.htm>

*"Spring shows what God can do with a drab and dirty world."*

*~Virgil A. Kraft*

## New Art



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Serve with a simple  
diced salad of  
cucumbers, jicama,  
tomatoes and bell  
pepper tossed with  
chopped mint, lemon  
juice and a bit of red  
wine vinegar.

## Black Eyed Pea Cakes

- 1/3 cup sour cream
- 5-6 dashes chipotle Tabasco Sauce (you would use 1 teaspoon adobo if it is handy)
- 1 1/2 cup dried black eyed peas
- 1/4 cup dry breadcrumbs
- 1/4 cup minced onion
- 3 large garlic cloves, minced
- 3/4 teaspoon cumin
- 1 teaspoon smoked paprika
- 1 teaspoon granulated garlic
- 1/2 teaspoon sea salt
- 1/4 teaspoon black pepper
- 1 egg, lightly beaten
- olive oil
- 1/4 cup shredded cheese

Cook beans in a large pot of boiling water for 45 minutes to 1 hour or until tender. Drain the beans and move to a clean bowl, mash with a fork and then stir in the bread crumbs and the rest of the ingredients through the egg. Mix thoroughly. Heat oil in your favorite skillet and form bean mixture into patties. Cook patties for about 2 minutes on each side or until golden brown and thoroughly heated. Top each cake with shredded cheese of your choice.

## An Ardent Evening

**Package A: Playing with Wire**—Want to learn how to make wire jewelry? Why not make it a party? Enjoy an evening in with friends, laughter and a little instruction from me on how to make a simple wire worked necklace and dangle earrings.

**\$85 per person**

*I will provide each guest with a set of mini jewelry tools, the wire and beads along with 1 hour of instruction*

**Package B: Glamour Girls**—Spend an evening with friends, shopping in your living room with Ardent Life Jewelry and have a glamour girl photo shoot. You will receive an 8x10 of your favorite pose (*chosen from the web gallery that will be available less than 1 week from the date of your party*).

**\$60 per person**

**Package C: The Traditional**—I will come with my jewelry, displays and photography for you to peruse at your leisure. You provide the location and the friends. You will receive a great host/hostess gift while also receiving 10% off any purchases you make. E-Mail me to book your party today  
sarah@ardentphotography.com.

### Portrait Price Break

Free 8x10  
print with all  
sessions in  
May!



### *Portrait Sessions*

\$75 per half hour for Family, Baby, High School Senior, Individual, Business Head Shot, etc. in a location of your choosing 20 miles from University Place, WA (there is an additional fee for location over 20 miles from my office.) The session fee includes my time and eye during your photo session as well as my ability in post processing. Prints are available separately.

Within two weeks your photographs will be available in a private online gallery for viewing and ordering. For more information please visit

<http://www.ardentphotography.com/portrait.htm>

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*Book a Session* [sarah@ardentphotography.com](mailto:sarah@ardentphotography.com)

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**Ardent**  
PHOTOGRAPHY





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[WWW.ARDENTPHOTOGRAPHY.COM](http://WWW.ARDENTPHOTOGRAPHY.COM)

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Making the everyday unique.

## Photograph of the Month



### *A Request...*

There has been a lot on the internet and other media about the local and handmade movements, but how much of it bleeds into our everyday lives. I know I shop at a big grocery chain for my weekly groceries instead of a vegetable stand, it is convenient and everything is in one place so I don't have to drag the munchkins all around town. We are all slaves to convenience and cost on occasion, and I don't care what "they" say, it isn't the end of the world. My request this month is to think about those local and handmade businesses that you love and spread the word. Tell a friend, tell your Facebook community, patronize them (not the mean way) and bring a friend. Small businesses rely on word of mouth. If you are not talking, no one knows.



Thank you,

*Sarah McTernan*