

# Thrift store worker gets surprise

By Kathryn Gurfinkel  
The Goodland Star-News

Pieces of people get scattered throughout the years. You lose your favorite old pair of jeans, a worn-out watch or old photographs, but sometimes, if you're lucky, a Goodland woman found, you can recover a precious gift sold years ago.

Yvonne Ornelas, a 38-year-old Denver native, found her treasure, a piece of a set of ceramic kitchen containers given to her by her two sisters, one day while working at the Goodland Churches Thrift Shop.

"I was just in total shock," she said. "I brought it up to Jo (Simmons, manager of the thrift store) and said 'You're not going to believe this.'"

She said she knew the container was hers because it had the inscription scrawled on the bottom in her sister Kathy's handwriting: To Yvonne, from your sisters Vangie and Kathy.

While living in Denver, she got the set as a gift from her two older sisters, who painted them roughly 20 years ago during a time when all three sisters were painting ceramics together.

Ornelas said she bought a few larger pieces from the set of ceramic containers that were in the shape of grocery bags at

Colorado Ceramics and painted them. She liked the unique set that had the forms of vegetables, sacks of flour and other grocery items on the lids so well that her sisters decided to paint the other pieces for her as a gift.

In all the set contains the recently recovered Kitchen Caddy, a container for kitchen utensils, a cookie jar, a scrubbie holder and a baking soda holder.

Ornelas said she parted with most of the set of ceramic kitchen containers after changing her kitchen decor and selling them at a garage sale in 1995 in Denver. Although she sold them willingly, she said later regretted letting go of the gift.

How she moved her family to Goodland is almost as unusual a story as finding the long lost canister.

Ornelas said she and her husband, Marco Ault, were on a trip from Salina back home to Denver one weekend in 2001 when their car broke down on the highway, stranding them in Goodland. She said it was the friendly people in town that made her want to live here.

"The people were just so nice," she said, "that we decided to live here."

Her 15-year-old son, Christopher Dulz, goes to Goodland High School and the fam-

ily has been living and working here for the past year. Recently, she convinced her mother and step-father, Mary and Art Cabral, to move to town.

"I love it here," she said.

At the thrift store, it is one of Ornelas' jobs to organize and sort items that are donated. She said she loves her job and often finds treasures to take home to her family.

"It's a lot of fun," she said, "because I get to see it all first."

When she showed the piece to Simmons, the manager told Ornelas that the item was meant to be hers.

"It obviously wants you back," she said.

Now Ornelas is looking for the person who donated the canister to the thrift store to see if they have any more of the pieces.

"I'm really curious as to who dropped it off," she said. "I just think it's neat that I just happened to find it."

Her old kitchen caddy utensil holder back where it belongs, Yvonne Ornelas is ready for almost anything in the kitchen. She said she hopes to find more pieces in the collection she sold at a garage sale almost 10 years ago.

Photo by Kathryn Gurfinkel  
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## Woman's grandson completes training

Frank Musalek, grandson of Frances Musalek of Goodland, completed diagnostic medical sonography training in Denver with honors.

Musalek was among 14 students selected from over 100 applicants to the sonography program at the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center. Completing the 12-

month program Aug. 26 made Musalek eligible to become board certified, which he plans to do later this year.

He had a perfect score on his final exam and received the academic achievement award which the center gives each year to the class valedictorian.

Musalek and his wife Kim have

accepted jobs at St. Francis Medical Center in Grand Island, Neb., where he will be a sonographer and she will provide magnetic resonance imaging and computerized axial tomography services.

Frank is graduate of Hays High School and Fort Hays State University. His parents are Frank and Jody Musalek of Hays.

## Sherman County youths to show livestock

Sherman County will be among 88 Kansas counties represented by youth competing in the 72nd annual Kansas Junior Livestock Show at the Kansas Coliseum in Wichita.

The event will be Friday-Monday, Sept. 24-27, and will feature 717 contestants exhibiting 1,485 head of livestock. Participants have entered 142 steers, 283 heifers, 422 market hogs, 335 lambs, 73 breeding ewes and 229 wether dams. Total exhibitors and livestock numbers are slightly larger than last year.

Four Sherman County youths will exhibit livestock. Jace Mosbarger of Goodland will show

his market steer. Clay Schilling of Edson will exhibit a market steer and a commercial breeding heifer. Garrett Taylor and Ryan Taylor, both of Goodland will each show two market barrows.

The top five animals from each market division (steers, hogs and lambs) will sell during the livestock show's Auction of Champions at 7 p.m. Monday. In many cases, exhibitors use the money to help pay for their college education and the buy next year's livestock project.

The livestock show will also present a minimum of \$12,00 in scholarships to show exhibitors

prior to the auction. Since the program's inception in 1993, \$145,550 in scholarships has been presented to 140 exhibitors who have excelled academically, in community service and in 4-H/Future Farmers of America.

The scholarship program is paid for primarily through private donations and income from the Beef-eater Barbecue prior to the auction. Tickets to the barbecue can be bought at the door.

The top showman in both the junior and senior divisions will receive a silver belt buckle. Prizes will also be awarded for second through fifth place in each division.

## matters of record

### Accidents

The following accidents were reported to the Goodland Police Department:

**September 8** — Ashley Wing was driving her 2002 Hyundai east on 12th Street when she collided with Nathan Linin who was backing a 1990 GM pickup out of a parking space.

**September 9** — Jared A. Robinson was backing from a parking space when the mirror on his 1993 Hyundai hit Geralyn S. Parker's 1998 Pontiac.

### Goodland Police

The following crimes have been reported to the Goodland Police Department:

**August 30** — Shay Ann Rubio reported domestic battery and disorderly conduct at 816 College.

**September 4** — Melva R.

Stephan reported broken windows damage estimated at \$50 at 310 W. 11th.

**September 7** — Travis D. Daniel was arrested and charged in municipal court for minor in possession at 1000 Harrison.

**September 8** — Rudy Pena was arrested and charged in municipal court with theft of a Dewalt 12 inch compound miter saw valued at \$499 at 1630 Sandy Rd.

**September 9** — Ron Thompson was arrested and charged in district court on driving while suspended at 100 W. 9th.

**September 10** — David V. Adams reported the theft of Craftsman drill batteries at 1312 Eustis.

**September 11** — Roman Chavez and Troy L. Davis were arrested and charged in municipal court for minor in possession at 13th and Harrison.

### District Traffic

The following fines were paid in the Sherman County District Court:

**July 28** — David P. Holm, 32, Lakewood, Colo. was fined \$144 for speeding.

Derick A. Stephens, 26, New Douglas, Ill. was fined \$150 for speeding.

Natasha K. Wall, 27, Littleton, Colo. was fined \$138 for speeding.

**July 29** — Mary Carreon, 40, Denver, was fined \$132 for speeding.

Erin B. Morgan, 27, Lawrence, was fined \$150 for speeding.

David C. Uhlig, 30, Denver, was fined \$144 for speeding.

Stephen R. Molyneux, 57, Catlett, Va. was fined \$138 for speeding.

Michael J. Lewis, 44, Denver, was fined \$150 for speeding.

Thomas N. Satterly, 35, Burlington, Colo. was fined \$435 for speeding.

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