

Stories behind 'Living Room' are part of art display

By Sharon Corcoran

The Goodland Star-News

Just looking at it, you know there has to be a story behind it.

As you stand before "The Living Room," the display at the Carnegie Arts Center this month, a chair with tree roots for legs, green satin upholstery and giant wings is on the right side, a couch with clocks on the ends of the arms is dead center, and a throne covered in purple satin and faux Dalmatian fur sits to the left.

Your eyes go a million directions at once, taking it all in, but still, there's more than meets the eye.

The exhibit, by Sunni Mercer, is made from discarded items and is symbolic of the organizations that helped with the works. Besides the furniture, the exhibit includes interactive projects, a scrapbook of how the pieces came to be and a video of the artist telling about the project and its meaning.

The "Velcro Chair" sits behind the living room group and has cards with words, leaves, pictures and pieces of fabric that can be arranged any way you wish.

Next to the chair is a table with materials to make collages, which visitors can take with them, and to decorate puppets. It's really fun for families to come in, said center Director Tina Goodwin.

The scrapbook tells the stories of the pieces, made by Mercer and people from several Wichita organizations at several sites in the city, and then displayed in the Wichita Art Museum.

On the video, Mercer says the project is about redemption; it's made from reclaimed materials.

Mercer said she likes to take things that are discarded, such as a bottle cap crushed on the road, and elevate them into a work of art.

"There's an ah-hah moment," she said, "when people say, 'That's a



The "Legacy of Memories Sofa" was made with help from Senior Services Inc. and members of the Wichita Art Museum and the Kansas African American Museum. It has pictures on the upholstery and stories on the arms from members of Senior Services and the African-American museum.

The inspiration and help for the "Affirmation Seat" came from Roots and Wings, an organization that helps youths, and was made at Botanica, the Wichita Gardens. Affirmations are written on the wings, and there is a harness that children who sit in the seat can pull over their heads, allowing them to sprout wings.

Rainbows United Inc. helped with the "Right Foot Stool." Adorned with rainbow colors and crystals that represent frozen tears, the stool was made at the Sedgwick County Zoo.

The "Illuminate Me Lamp" includes original drawings from children from the Childcare Association and was made at the South Branch YMCA. The "Reclamation Throne" was made at the Central Wichita Public Library with help from the Inter-Faith Inn.

The "Two-Squared Coffee Table" was made by Urban League and Wichita Art Museum members at Exploration Place. The Urban League trains students on computers and uses a networking approach, matching people with the services they need.

Mercer said she likes to use "gemstone" colors because "these organizations are gems."

After being in the Wichita Art Museum, the works traveled to Topeka, Salina and Emporia. They will be at the arts center through Saturday, Sept. 10. After that, Goodwin said, the pieces may be displayed by the organizations that helped make them.

The Reclamation Throne (left) combines junk with velvet in purple, the color of royalty, to symbolize reclaiming throw-aways and making them valuable. It was made by the Inter-Faith Inn, a 24-hour full service homeless shelter in Wichita. The Velcro Chair (above) is an interactive part of the display, "The Living Room," by Sunni Mercer. The collection will be displayed at the Carnegie Arts Center through Saturday, Sept. 10.

Photos by Sharon Corcoran
The Goodland Star-News

bottle cap, and it's in a museum." The Wichita Art Museum commissioned Mercer, Goodwin said, to celebrate its remodeling about two years ago. The museum has a

hands-on area, she said, with displays that are constantly changing. They had the idea of doing a living room for the display.

Mercer sought help from service

organizations, Goodwin said. The artist says on the video that she wanted to come up with furniture pieces that are symbolic of the missions of the organizations. The

scrapbook shows that she did sketches of each piece and has photographs, stories and drawings contributed by people from the organizations.

Do companies really need Social Security Numbers for records?

Dear Attorney General Kline:
A company I am currently doing business with has now requested my Social Security Number for their records. I trust this company, but I'm leery about giving out my personal information because of the possibility of identity theft. What advice can you provide?



phill kline

• attorney general

don't carry your Social Security card with you and never have the number on your checks or on your driver's license.

There are several other simple things you can do to avoid becoming a victim of identity theft. Pay close attention to your bills and credit card statements, and order your credit report at least once a year from the three credit reporting agencies (Equifax, Experian, and Trans Union).

Do not mail your bills from your mailbox with the red flag up; instead, take them to the post office or a postal mail box. Also, pick up your mail from your mailbox as quickly as possible after delivery.

You should minimize the identifying information that you carry with you. Also, watch your trash and shred old bills, unwanted credit card solicitations, credit card receipts and insurance or other medical information that

you no longer need.

If you are the unfortunate victim of identity theft, you should do these four things immediately:

1. Contact the fraud departments of each of the three major credit bureaus and report that your identity has been stolen. Ask that a "fraud alert" be placed in your file, as well as a victim's statement asking that creditors call you before opening any new accounts or changing existing accounts.

2. For any accounts that have been fraudulently opened or accessed, contact the security departments of the appropriate creditors or financial institutions. Close those accounts and put passwords on any new accounts you open.

3. File a report with your local police or the police where the identity theft took place. Get a copy of the report in case the bank, credit card company or others need proof of the crime later on.

4. Contact my Consumer Protection Division and the Federal Trade Commission's Identity Theft Clear-

inghouse at 1-877-ID-THEFT.

You can minimize your risk of having your identity stolen by managing your personal information carefully.

Attorney General Phill Kline offers this public service to help you avoid becoming a victim of consumer fraud. Although some of the details have been changed, the

cases appearing in this column are based on actual complaints or questions.

For further information or to file a complaint, please write Attorney General Phill Kline, Consumer Protection Division, 120 SW 10th Ave., 2nd Floor, Topeka, Kansas 66612, or call the toll-free Consumer Hotline, 1-800-432-2310.

Dear Kansas Consumer:
Congratulations on being aware of the kind of information identity thieves thrive upon and making sure you properly protect it.

You should give your Social Security Number only when absolutely necessary. Most likely your employer and financial institutions will need it for wage and tax reporting purposes. Other private businesses may ask you for it to do a credit check, such as when you apply for a car loan. But there are times when they simply want your Social Security Number for general record keeping.

If someone asks for your Social Security Number, ask the following questions:

- Why do you need it?
- How will it be used?
- How do you protect it from being stolen?
- What will happen if I don't give it to you?

If you choose not to provide your Social Security Number, some businesses may not provide you with the service or benefit you want. Getting satisfactory answers to your questions will help you to decide whether you want to share your number with the business.

If you are reluctant to divulge your Social Security Number but would still like to maintain a business relationship with a particular company, ask to use other types of identifiers whenever possible. Also,

matters of record

Real Estate

The following real estate transactions were reported by the Sherman County Register of Deeds:

House Farms Inc. to Jonathan K. House an undivided one-fifth interest in the NE/4, Sec. 23, T9S, R39W.

House Farms Inc. to Linda L.

House an undivided four-fifths interest in the NE/4, Sec. 23, T9S, R39W.

The City of Goodland to the secretary of transportation of the state of Kansas a tract in the SW/4, Sec. 30, T8S, R39W, and all right of access to and from the public highway.

Hilltop Emporium

Hwy. 36 & Benton Str. ~ St. Francis, KS

OPEN Mon., Wed., Fri. & Sat.

9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

Linens * Comic Books * Jewelry
Furniture * Glassware
Lots of Useable Items

785-332-5174 or 785-332-2265



AFP - AMERICANS FOR PROSPERITY KANSAS

Organizational Meeting for Goodland and Colby Chapters of AFP-Kansas



GOODLAND: Monday, August 22, 2005 @ 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. (MT)
Howard Johnson Inn @ 2218 Commerce Rd. Dinner will be available.
RSVP: Roberta Bretz at 785-890-3736 or bretzr@st-tel.net

COLBY: Tuesday, August 23, 2005 @ 6:00 - 7:30 p.m.
Quality Inn @ 1950 S Range Rd @ Dinner will be available.
RSVP: Bill Adams at (785) 460-6801 or wwacpa@st-tel.net

38BZ-S eSeYeBeebeachS [l Sfla' i ZUZSe WIZWYZ
[= S eSeYS] d WWAJ' lMSH' YeS'WfSj WJ' la' Ws' Ws' V
bbWkTSj WZSfZzASAWIZWVWk' Xig' VSlfa' aXgdTgd' WAAE
I ad' Yi [fZ= S' eSeUf] Wei W WWA' d'cg' WIS' W' WWSY' Y
a' VdXZVScMWTsj [l dSAAf' fZV] d'ack aXgdSfWSe' KASZ
5a' Wd' kagclXWWS' V' WIZTachS' V- Vagf' Zai' kag' lS' ZVb
_ SJ W' S' eSe_ ad' MichblWgeedSfW' lS' Za' W'

8ad_ adW' X' l' a' tSU BZl' (eSf') * f% &Z&S% adbeWUZVW2 SX6] eZachZ

TO LEARN MORE VISIT: WWW.AFPKS.ORG



411 College - Now Newly Painted Interior!

If you've been waiting for a lovely home with everything on the main floor plus desirable location, then this is the home for you. It is a brick ranch with 1,778 square feet of living area. It has a partial basement for added storage. The living room has a vaulted ceiling, the master bedroom has a bath and dressing area and all appliances are included. There is an attached double garage, a detached workshop, brick fenced yard as well as underground sprinklers. You must see this wonderful home.

Call Rose at 785-899-3060, 866-899-3060 or 899-7464.



Price Reduced to \$65,000 - 1301 Texas

Must See this 3 bedroom, 1 1/2 bath home to appreciate its size and quality. The Seller's have made many improvements to update the interior, such as newer carpet and brand new kitchen and entry flooring. Newly painted inside and out, so this home is fresh, clean and ready to move into. The floor plan is inviting and convenient. The yard has a neat fence for you and your pets. With central heat and air and RECD compliant, this home has lots to offer.

Contact Rose at 785-899-3060, 866-899-3060 or 899-7464 to see this home!



New Listing - 516 Sherman

This large ranch home offers all the amenities you need on the ground floor. There is abundant storage in all the rooms, lots of built-ins, plus an efficient office for all your business needs. It offers three bedrooms, 2 baths, formal living room, family room and a sun room leading out to the beautiful backyard. A detached double garage, front heated driveway and features too numerous to mention, so check out all this home has to offer today.

Contact Rose at 785-899-3060, 866-899-3060 or 899-7464 to see this home!

GOODLAND
Tom Harrison, Owner
Broker/Auctioneer
785-443-0136
114 West 12th • Goodland, KS
785-899-3060
Fax: 785-899-3100
Rose Koggie Assoc. Broker
785-899-7464

Check out our new web page at
www.goodlandnet.com/homeland



HomeLand
REAL ESTATE
of Goodland LLC

Make an appointment to see any of our fine
Homeland listings!
WHEN ONLY THE BEST WILL
DO...CALL!!

GEO CLASSIC

Collins Arena

Open Roping & #9 Run concurrently

Sunday, August 21st, 2005

Entries open at 2:30--start roping at 3 p.m.

SADDLE ROPING

HIGH MONEY WINNER FOR THE DAY GETS SADDLE

5 Header--progressive at end of 3rd go.

***** Each team allowed 3 loops*****

1st - horned; 2nd - horned; 3rd - ??????; 4th - horned; 5th - horned

We will pay fast time in the first three rounds.
3rd round pays \$100.



COME ON OVER AND ENJOY THE FUN!!

Collins Arena is 1/2 mile south of Page City, KS on County Road 280.

Questions call George or Judy Collins @ 785-846-7725