



"Yanni," a life-size caricature doll by Goodland artist Shirley Houston, sits at the piano at the Carnegie Arts Center. "Garden Shed" (above) is one of her paintings.

Photos by Sharon Corcoran/The Goodland Star-News

## Goodland artist's illusions on display at arts center

When did the Carnegie Arts Center have a fireplace installed by the front door? Is that really Yanni sitting at the piano?

Trompe l'oeil, the art of creating an illusion of reality, by Goodland artist Shirley Houston is on display at the center this month. The display includes two life-size dolls, paintings, the "fireplace" and a sample of her portrait work featuring a granddaughter. An album displays photos of several of her caricature dolls, including one of sports caster Mark Rosen along with a picture of him.

Houston, a self-taught artist in all mediums, says she has had a passion for art all her life. She helped teach art at two community centers in Minnesota, working with both children and adults.

A portrait artist for 32 years and a doll maker for 22, she also enjoys painting landscapes and wildlife subjects. Her favorite subjects are horses and people, and her preferred

medium is pastel.

She was recognized by *Minneapolis/St. Paul* magazine and has appeared on a Minneapolis talk show with her dolls.

The mother of seven, and step-mother of two, she has 18 grandchildren. Mrs. Houston moved to Goodland from Minnesota with her husband Gary and three grandchildren in 2004. Since then, she has been involved in the Artists' Roundtable and has been featured in *The Goodland Star-News* and *Hays Daily News*.

She painted a carousel horse for the Goodland Arts Council for the merry-go-round at the fair. Most recently, some of her work has been on display at the Goodland Grind and Gallery.

The center, 120 W. 12th St., is open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Friday and 1 to 4 p.m. Saturday, Sunday and Monday. Admission is free.



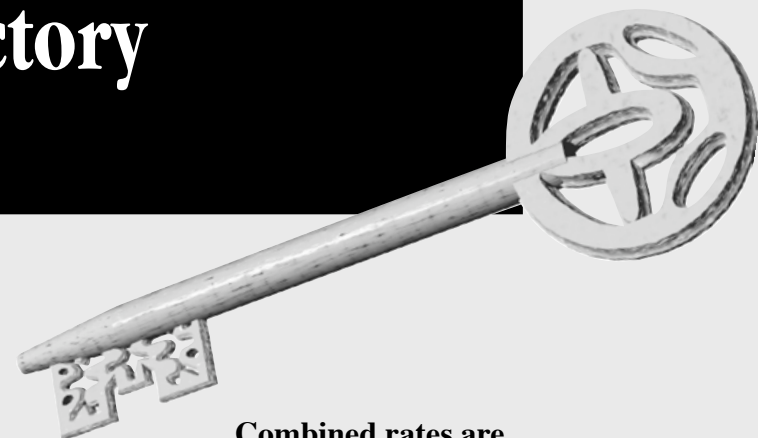
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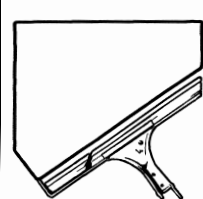


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