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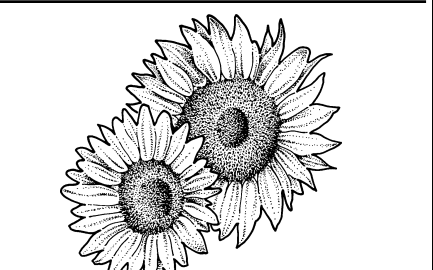
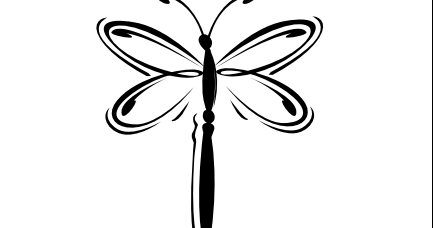
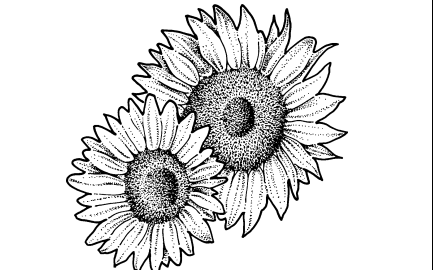
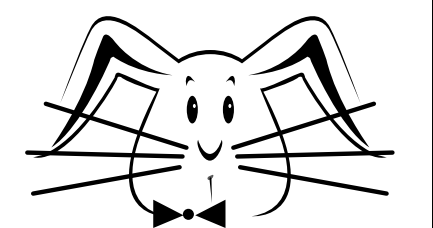
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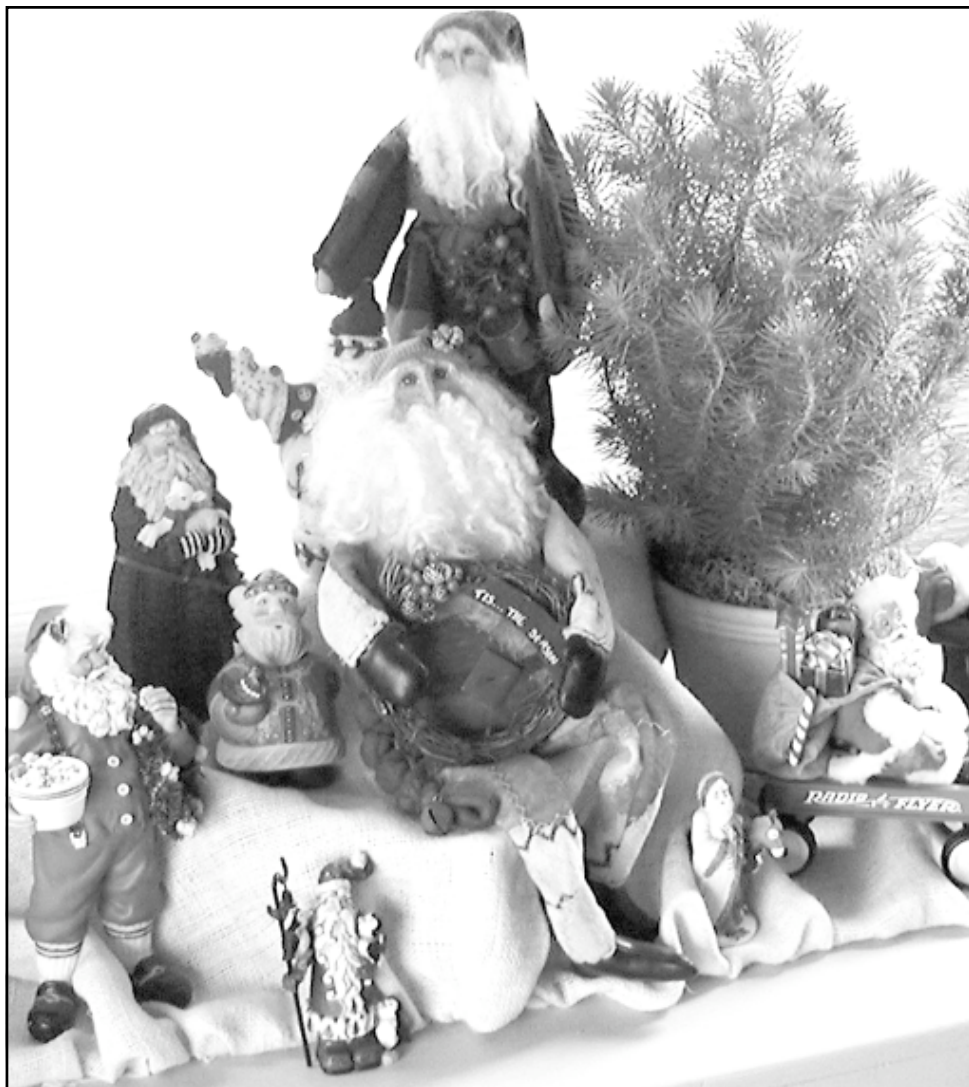
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Michael and Loretta Borgman's daughter Devinee (top) checked out their decorated Christmas tree during the Carnegie Arts Center's annual Holiday Home Tour last year. Santa (above) sat in a rocking chair at the Borgmans' house. A collection of Santa Clauses (left) covered a shelf by the windows at Dale and Jacque Schields' home.
Photos by Pat Schiefen
The Goodland Star-News

Arts center encouraging holiday spirit

Whether it's the smell of baked treats, the icing snow on a gingerbread house or tinsel, Santa Claus and reindeer that makes your Christmas, the Carnegie Arts Center will try to get you in the holiday spirit starting Sunday.

The center's upcoming events include a gingerbread house contest, a bake sale, a craft morning for kids, and a chance to "see how the other half lives" during the annual Holiday Home Tour.

Area artists will display their work at the center in December, with the show opening with a reception from 1 to 5 p.m. Sunday.

Also at the gallery will be a display of the gingerbread house entries, a Christmas bake sale and the Christmas gift gallery, with a 20 percent discount offered to Holiday Home Tour ticket holders.

The tour will be from 1 to 4 p.m., featuring the homes of Paul and Linda Chaffin, 504 E. 10th; Jerry and Annette Fairbanks, 517 Main; and Darol and Carrie Peter, 105 Circle Dr.

Visitors can start at any of the homes. Tickets will be available that day at the center.

The home tour is in its sixth year. In past years, the tour has included Wheat Ridge Acres Retirement Center, the Four Sisters Bed and Breakfast, the Ennis-Handy House and several area homes.

Tours have included a peek at luxurious homes, decorated Christmas trees, Santa Claus collections, tables set for a holiday feast, poinsettias, holly, evergreen garland and a gingerbread village on a front lawn.

Entries for the gingerbread house contest can be delivered to the center from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday. Most visible parts of the houses must be made of edible products, said Director Tina Goodwin, though the structure can be made of anything as long as it's covered. All entries must be mounted on a rigid base so they are easy to move. Judging categories will be adult and youth, age 12 and under. Individuals or groups can enter.

This unique "home tour" will help raise

money for the council. Visitors can vote for their favorite gingerbread house by making donations in a container beside each entry, and there will be prizes for the most popular houses. The display will be up for two weeks.

A similar contest in Fremont, Neb., inspired the idea. Goodwin said she was visiting her hometown and saw the contest there. She said she thought the miniature edible houses would go well with the home tour.

There were log cabins, she said, and Victorian houses, even a Victorian similar to Goodland's Ennis-Handy House.

The center will have Make and Take Craft Morning for kids from 10 a.m. to noon Saturday, Dec. 16. Materials will be provided, and there is no charge, but donations are encouraged.

Kids can come any time between 10 a.m. and noon, Goodwin said, and then go when they are finished. They will make a holiday windsock, she said, and it is an easy project that won't take long.

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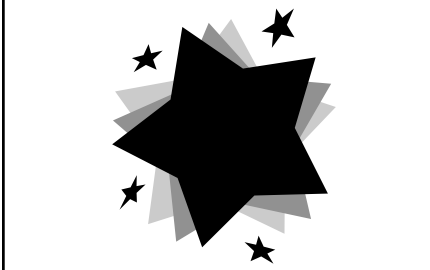
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