

ART GALLERY – page 4

The unconventional setting has won raves from clients. Low overhead means Gorbman can be competitive with other galleries. She strives to offer art comparable to big-city galleries without the big-city prices.

“Actually, my second career is in accounting, so I thought it was awfully smart,” said Lyala Sventloff, who met Gorbman when she was curating a show in the lobby of her Kirkland condominium. Gorbman’s

prices, which range from a few hundred to thousands of dollars, compared favorably to Kirkland’s galleries, Sventloff said.

Leticia Lucero, a designer at Mulvaney G2 in Bellevue, met Gorbman at a Bellevue networking event. At first she thought Gorbman’s home-based gallery was a little odd, but she was won over by the quality of the work and Gorbman’s enthusiasm for it.

“Once you’re in there, you don’t realize you’re in a room

connected to a house,” Lucero said. “It’s just very personal.”

Gorbman’s chutzpah intrigued Kirkland art dealer and curator Donna Porter.

“I thought it was wild,” she said of the in-home gallery.

“She’s trying to find her niche in this market, and it’s a killer market,” Porter said.

Porter believes Gorbman can hold her own in the high-stakes art business.

“People might consider the fact that her gallery is connected to her home as the sign of an am-

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ateur, but once they talk to her, they would realize that they were dealing with a pro.”

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Vandals damage local art work

By DAVID A. GRANT
King County Journal

Vandals damaged two fiberglass bucks decorated by local artists and put on display along downtown Bellevue streets as part of a fund-raising effort to build a new performing arts center.

It’s the second case of public-art vandalism last month in the city.

“We just can’t believe someone can be so mean spirited to do this,” said Suzanne Hutchinson of Performing Arts Center Eastside, which is trying to raise \$100 million to build a 2,000-seat theater.

She said PACE might remove all of the 26 full-size bucks from the streets, where they had begun appearing two weeks ago. They were scheduled to remain there until Oct. 11, then be auctioned on Oct. 21 at PACE’s annual Candlelight Dinner.

According to a police report, the bucks were damaged sometime June 23 or 24.

Police put the loss at more than \$7,000, but that figure doesn’t even cover the cost of materials and the \$1,000 each artist was paid, said Hutchinson, director of guilds and guild events for PACE.

Altogether, Hutchinson said, PACE officials hope to raise \$500,000 from the bucks auction, with some of the large deer attracting as much as \$25,000 to \$30,000 each.

“Protector of Beauty,” by Renton artist Lisa Lamoreaux, was located at Main Street and 102nd Avenue Northeast. It had two legs and two antlers broken off and is beyond repair, Hutchinson said.

A second piece, called “Buck Stops Here” by L. Kelly Lyles, of Seattle, had its antlers broken off. It is repairable, but PACE officials are weighing whether to remove the artworks from the streets.

“It would be a shame to have to do this because the public is enjoying them so much,” she said. “We would hate to have to move them but we can’t afford to put up with this.”

The vandals may have been trying to steal the bucks, which weigh about 150 pounds but are bolted to a 400-pound base.

This story first appeared in the King County Journal.



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