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## UNIVERSITY

# Booth owner has select clientele

By Tammy Batey  
Emerald Associate Editor

Carol Berg's furniture booth at the ASUO Street Faire is a feast for the eyes. Berg covers the booth with large neon-colored signs that vocalize her political views such as: "Equal Rights Forever. Measure 9 Never." "I want to use my space to get voters educated about Measure 9," Berg said. "I've had people come up to me and say, 'So you don't sell furniture any more.'"

Berg's booth is one of 158 craft, food and political booths at the Street Faire that ends Friday, said Thomas Huckaba, Street Faire coordinator.

The biannual event, held in the fall and spring, will raise about \$4,000 for the ASUO to use on student programs, Huckaba said.

The Street Faire used to be held during new student orientation week, said Cris Bauman, Street Faire coordinator. The move to the first week of classes gives more students a chance to check out the booths.

"It's a great opportunity because there are so many students who live on campus and may not get to the Saturday Market," she said. "And it's a little better because it's on campus, right on the way to class."

If students are too busy on their way to classes to check out Berg's furniture, she also operates a booth at the Saturday Market, she said.



Photo by Michael Shindler

Carol Berg, who usually sells pine furniture, is using her booth at the ASUO Street Faire as a political statement.

Berg said she quit her 11-year job at an advertising agency in Coos Bay four years ago to begin making the pine furniture she sells in her booth. Berg took over her father's wood-working booth at Saturday Market after he died to help her mom make ends meet, she said.

"Having never lifted a saw in my life, I was a little overwhelmed," she said.

Saturday Market is a family tradition. Berg's sister and brother-in-law, Colleen and Dana Bauman, operate the Dana's Cheesecake booth at the market.

"It's become a real family lifestyle," she said.

Berg said selling her furniture at the Saturday Market and at events like the Street Faire

bring her greater satisfaction than her white-collar job at the advertising agency.

"There's something about making something people are going to use and have that means something to me," she said.

Berg said it takes about three days for her to create a piece of furniture. She makes all types of furniture, including futon frames and desks. The most popular item she sells, however, are her shelves.

Berg said her sister Candee Brennan, an artist, will paint designs on the shelves after she's finished building them if the customer requests it. People can have furniture items made

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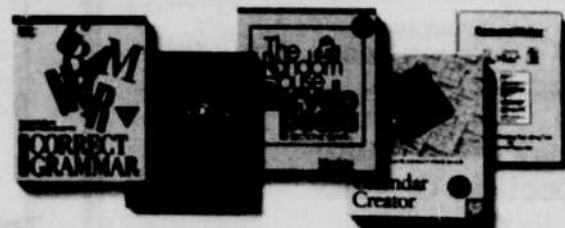


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