

Fresh faces for First Friday

WOMAN PAINTS ROCKS, CREATES GREETING CARDS

By TARA HAGAN
The Observer

Becky Beach always loved to doodle.

So it's no surprise that the local artist has started her own company — Becky Ink.

"I want to make a living doing something I enjoy, and here I am," said the 37-year-old.

After spending time in Toronto, Beach found her way back to Sarnia, where she'll be publicly showing her work for the first time, as a First Friday featured artist.

Becky Ink boasts greeting cards, painted rocks and drift-

wood, all bearing Beach's special touch.

"I'm always working on something new," she said. "It's been a great way for me to show my artistic gift, explore my creativity and make a living."

Beach said she loves working with kids, where her art workshops promote literacy, and encourage youngsters to express their creative spirits through story and art.

Her work will be featured at the Stardust Book Lounge at 208 Front St. beginning Friday, Dec. 5.

The First Friday walkabout showcases art shows and

live entertainment at spots throughout the downtown core, on the first Friday of every month. The December lineup, for Friday Dec. 5, also includes:

Bear Creek Studios:
Works by local artist, Monica Romero.

Gallery Lambton:
• A selection of recent paintings by local artist and teacher Ariel Lyons

• "Corporate Wasteland" by artist David Lewis, in the Sadie Knowles Gallery

• "faux hero" by local artist Tyler Manzon, in the Upfront Gallery

• "Simplicity" by local artist Laura Martel, at the Temple Bar Gallery

• Video Screening Series — videos by Peter von Tiesen-

hausen, local artist Tyler Manzon, and work by students from St. Patrick's High School, at the Trinity Lounge

Cheeky Monkey:
Singer/songwriter Jeff Redinger

Grace Brothers Gallery:
"Layers 2008" — an exhibition and sale of recent paintings by Judy Brady and Peg Kivi

The Lawrence House Centre for the Arts:
Musical guests, Steeves and Rozema Choir, and The Dominant Seven Jazz Band

Ups N' Downs:
Music by Funk'eh!
Blackwater Coffee & Tea Co.:

"Perspectives" by Nancy Pequegnat, with live entertainment.

Becky Ink Cards

Becky Beach is a local author and artist for hire who loves to doodle, write, and paint and encourages others—especially kids—to express themselves through story and art. Her company, 'Becky Ink', offers a unique collection of greeting cards featuring her youthful spirit and simple, animated style. Most are blank inside to encourage senders to 'think in ink' and write their own heartfelt words to create lasting paper keepsakes. For a list of retailers that carry 'Becky Ink' cards, to see her card gallery, or to contact Becky, please visit her website at www.beckyink.com.

