



Donna and Carla Maner, owners of The Nest on Bradley Street, are raffling off this life-size dress made entirely of paper. Proceeds are benefitting the expressive art therapy program at Willowbrooke at Tanner. The dress is now on display in the atrium at Tanner Medical Center/Carrollton. Tomorrow is the last day to purchase raffle tickets, which are \$5 at The Nest and Sweet Pea's Boutique.

Contributed photo

Store raffles paper dress

Proceeds benefit art therapy program

BY COLTON CAMPBELL
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Donna Maner, co-owner of The Nest, refers to the dress she made not as "it," but as "she."

"She's been in our store for about 10 months now," Maner said. "And I'm ready for someone else to take care of her."

The owners of The Nest are selling raffle tickets for the unique dress, which is made entirely out of brown craft paper, and will draw

a winner Wednesday at 6 p.m. in their store. Tickets are \$5 each, with all proceeds being donated to Tanner Medical Foundation.

Mary Busby, communications manager for the Foundation, said the funds raised will be given to the Willowbrooke at Tanner expressive art therapy program.

The dress is currently

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RAFFLE

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on display in the main atrium of Tanner Medical Center in Carrollton, where it will remain until Wednesday's drawing.

Maner attributes the idea and design of the dress entirely to her daughter and fellow co-owner, Carla Maner.

"It was all her idea," she said. "She just needed someone with dress-making experience, which I could provide."

Maner said the long strips of paper which make up the dress are held together with hot glue and staples. The dress is resting on a dress form that cost \$100, Maner said.

The dress is not meant to be worn, Maner said, but is meant to act as a conversation piece and work of art.

Willowbrooke will use the funds raised to purchase art supplies for its expressive art therapy program, Busby said.

"At Willowbrooke, we provide painting, drawing and even clay exercises for patients to express their emotions," Busby said.

The creative fundraiser will provide what Busby described as a "powerful pool" of services for Willowbrooke patients.

"This type of therapy is especially good for the young people we have who have difficulty verbalizing their traumatic experiences,"

she said. "It provides insightful therapy for our specialists to connect with patients and heal them."

Maner said that if whomever wins the raffle doesn't wish to keep the dress, Willowbrooke has set aside a space in their facility for its display.

Tanner Medical Foundation is a non-profit organization that supports the services of Tanner Health System through the philanthropic efforts of the community.

Raffle tickets can be purchased in The Nest's Bradley Street location across from the Amp.

"I just want people to come by and look at her and maybe want to own her," Maner said.