

## Local artist has dramatic display at Ingersoll Creative Arts Centre

By MYRA FIELD

The current floral watercolor display showing at the Ingersoll Creative Arts Centre is the work of Susan Hewitt Graham.

The local artist has created a delicate yet dramatic display of flower works that are larger-than-life images of natural beauty.

Captivating and enduring, the various color transparencies flow together to provide the full visual effect, more perfect than nature itself.

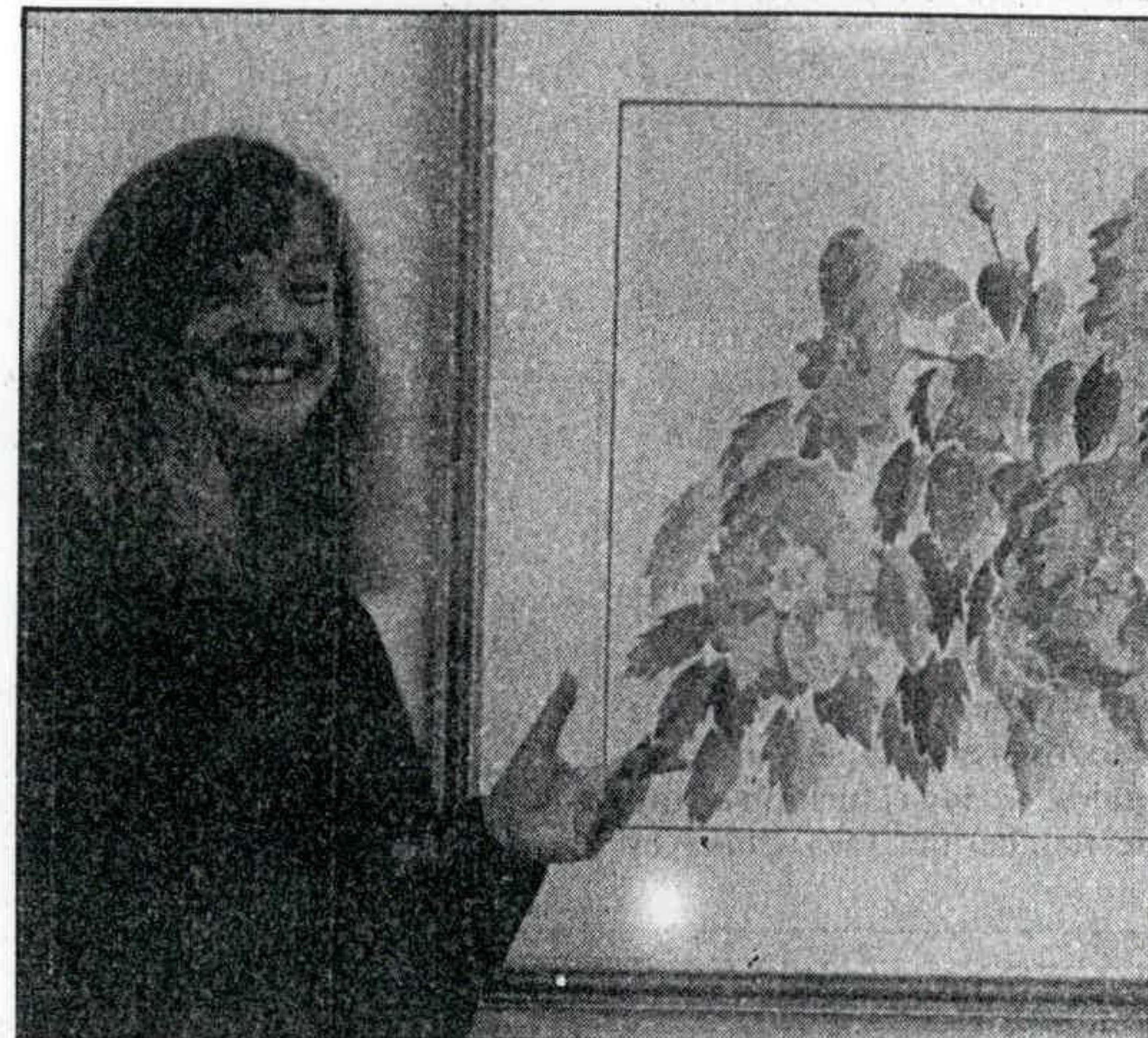
Hewitt Graham has been painting in various mediums, including watercolor, oil and acrylics, since high school.

"I have been painting for what seems like forever," she said. "I was asked to specialize for this show at the Creative Arts Centre so I chose watercolor flowers."

Juggling a teaching career at Westfield Public School in Ingersoll with her artistic talents appears to be no problem for this young artist. At present, she calls Dorchester home where she keeps a beautiful flower garden on hand to keep the creative juices flowing and new ideas growing.

After art school in Ottawa, she chose to continue her education at the University of Western Ontario in London with a Bachelor of Arts degree in fine arts.

This is the first show for Hewitt Graham at Ingersoll's arts centre. Her first showings took place as early as 1989 while she was still in Ottawa.



Susan Hewitt Graham stand with her floral watercolor display at the Ingersoll Creative Arts Centre. (Myra Field photo)

Her works have been on display with the Ottawa Art Association, Ottawa Little Theatre, and Alta Vista Library. Her solo shows at A Source of Art Gallery, Perth County Gallery in St. Marys, Dorchester United Church, Gibson Gallery Summer Series, and a special showing at the Oxford County Board of Education in 1991, complete a full palette for this busy woman.

"I have been known to take a year off here and there just to paint," she said.

Working out of her studio at home, her current show includes "Gladiolus Bouquet," "Potted Plants," "Briar Rose," and "Summer Bouquet."

Through a variety of tech-

niques, the paintings vary greatly in mood and spirit. The bolder watercolors outlined in dark ink create a three-dimensional character to the subtle beauty of the "Amaryllis" painting.

Strong, deep colors speak of softness and the drama of the moment. Soft, whimsical colors flow to create a gentle glow as if sunlight were constantly present.

In total, 18 works of watercolor flowers have been combined in the bouquet for the showing that runs through to Nov. 22.

The centre is open Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays, 2-4 p.m.



### YOUTH APPRECIATION WEEK

Ken Minler, lieutenant governor for Optimist Club Zone 4, leans over the shoulder of James Gibb, Mayor of the Township of Zorra, as he signs a declaration proclaiming Nov. 8-14 Optimist Youth Appreciation Week. Zorra Township has three Optimist Clubs: Embro-West Zorra, Thamesford and Kintore.

## Zorra holds line on budget

ZORRA TOWNSHIP

The event that stands out most in the mind of Jim Gibb, mayor of the Township of Zorra, for 1992 is the 100th anniversary celebration of the Embro Town Hall on Labour Day.



Gibb

The celebration followed extensive restoration work in which council was deeply involved. "It was quite an event," Gibb said.

Zorra Township Council also became involved in a matter beyond its usual scope of interest and became an active participant in a continuing round of discussions between a major local industry and provincial officials — to the benefit of all concerned.

Otherwise 1992 was a year marked by few highs and lows.

Council voted to rescind its English-only stand, seen by many as a positive step.

And Gibb would like to commend township staff on "holding the line on the budget."

Zorra started the year with over half the council new. In the past, a new councillor usually "sat back and observed" for a long time.

Gibb said this council has not had that luxury. "It's been interesting seeing them get into their new roles and duties. It certainly has been a challenge." 1992