

Yarn Garage: Best Kept Secret

"The Stitch Mechanics" brother and sister team own and operate The Best Kept Secret called The Yarn Garage located at 2980 W. 145th St. in downtown Rosemount.

Siblings Steven Berg and Monika Oeltien were trained well in the needlework crafts by their mother and today run the full service yarn, knitting and needlework station that opened in 2003 as a roving, gypsy yarn and fiber art studio.

"Stitch Mechanics" fits the two needle art enthusiasts who love to help knitters who make glitches in their stitches. The stitch team can even help unknot those who get tangled up and consider themselves needlework challenged.

Learning to love the crafts of knitting, crocheting, embroidery, macramé, The Yarn Garage owners sell novelty yarns and teach hot trendy techniques such as "Chunky Funky."

The owners' credits include creating knits for Hollywood celebrities such as Jennifer Aniston, the Macy's annual holiday show, and accessories for the local singing group in the Lori Line Christmas concert.

Monika and Steven can teach or assist any age students and The Yarn Garage encourages knitters to work at any pace with any chosen project. Parent and child teams are a favorite sewing combination. Private knit nights have become popular and created a buzz of interest.

Runner-up: Ebenezer Ridges Campus, 13820 Community Drive, Burnsville

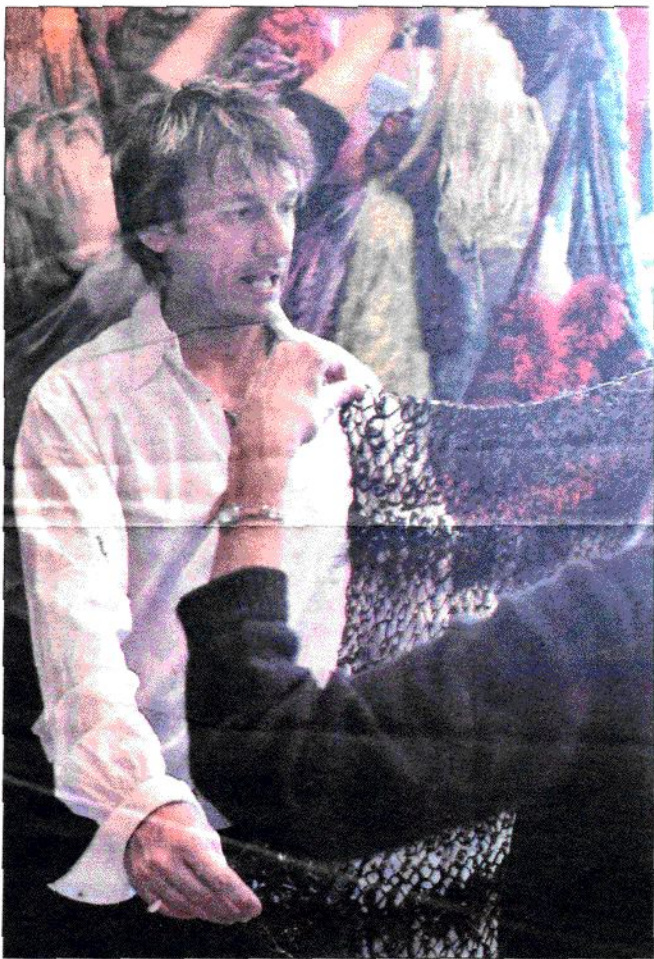
Third place: Ritter Farm Park, 19300 Ritter Trail, Lakeville

Other Best Kept Secrets

There were so many other fine Best Kept Secret nominees we'd like to list them here:

Apple Valley — Minnesota Zoo, Apple Valley Aquatic Center, Blimpie's, Delany Park, Equa-Mexico, Goodwill, Grizzly's, Jan's Paper Bag, Joey's Seafood, Kindercare, Senior Day at Cub Foods, IMax Theater

Burnsville — El Loro, Chateau La-



Steven Berg helps a customer at the Yarn Garage located at the corner of 145th Street and Highway 3 in Rosemount.

mothe, Metro Connections, Roasted Pear, Alimagnet Park, the city of Burnsville, Chan's, Furniture 4 Less, Grande Market Square, Jensen's Cafe, Pet Chef Express, Rockler Hardware, Unique, Victoria's Secret, Sister Rosalind Massage, Worldwide Missions Thrift Store

Eagan — Brianno's, Hoban, Granite City Lunch, Ho Ting, Junior's Cafe, living in the city of Eagan, Sambol Restaurant, Thomas Lake Elementary School, Viva Italia, Valley Lounge, Roly Poly, Eagan DMV, Eagan Community Center

Farmington — Bugaloo's Ice Cream, Farmington Bakery

Northfield — Northfield Arts Guild, the city of Northfield

Lakeville — Copper Bleu, Carbone's, Dairy Delite, Free Movie Tuesdays, Harry's

Prior Lake — Prior Lake Farmers Market

Rosemount area — Schaar's Bluff Park, Musical Bingo at City Limits

Savage area — Rosie Posie, Murphy Hanrehan Park in Winter

Unspecified location — My backyard, me, Jo Jo the Balloon Guy, my age, I can't tell you