

In the Q: MedQuarter's *Overalls All Over* Statue Arrives!



Phil Wasta
MedQuarter
Executive Director

As you drive along 4th Avenue SE, between 8th and 10th Streets, look to the south and you will see a couple of new residents to the MedQuarter standing in the 4th Avenue Pocket Park. A statue of a man and a woman, who may look familiar at first glance, but like nothing that you've seen before upon closer inspection.

The sculpture was created by local artist Todd Sabin, and is titled 'Bounty'. Why? "It fits the big picture of the MedQuarter," said Sabin. "Nature. Nurture. Beauty. Bounty. They're all here."

The complexity and variety of the materials that make up the sculpture are impressive. The stories behind the materials that Sabin used are truly amazing. Much like Grant Wood, Sabin prides himself in being a "packrat" that never throws away anything he feels can be re-used. As he has worked on projects over the decades, he has accumulated vast amounts of material treasures. The *Overalls All Over* statue provided Sabin a medium upon which he could apply materials from throughout Eastern Iowa, Cedar Rapids, and the MedQuarter that have special relevance:

1) The buttons on the man's shirt are made from limestone found at Stone City where Grant Wood hosted gatherings for artists.

- 2) The man's shirt is made from marble reclaimed from a room in the former Montrose Hotel where a Grant Wood mural was located.
- 3) The woman's skirt is made up of profiles from picture frames used by Grant Wood and Marvin Cone, applied to a red and white checker pattern cloth used often in Wood's paintings.
- 4) The back of the statue is covered with an applique representing four of Grant Wood's paintings titled *Wild Flowers*, *Tame Flowers*, *Fruits*, and *Vegetables* produced in 1938 & 1939.
- 5) The man's overalls are made up of wood that was reclaimed from several historic structures throughout Cedar Rapids including the Carnegie Library, Mytak Building, Suchy Building, Kurik House, Sokol Building and the Ideal Theatre.
- 6) The man's boots are made from Douglas fir reclaimed from 5 Turner Alley, now known as Grant Wood Studio.

Whether you have ten minutes or an hour, I encourage you to stop by the 4th Avenue Pocket Park. The 'Bounty' statue is a feast for the eyes and an adventure for the soul.

If you have even more time, venture out and visit all 25 of the *Overalls All Over* statues, another of which is located in the MedQuarter in front of the Grant Wood Studio (810 2nd Avenue SE). They will be on display through Labor Day weekend. For more information and a map go to www.croveralls.com. Enjoy!

