

Bras support dual cause Union–News (Springfield, MA)

By PAT CAHILL Staff Writer

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The 2002 "Show Us Your Bra!" calendar is out.

The color calendar is based on the recent multi–media sculpture exhibition and contest sponsored by Gazebo, which drew 171 entries from artists throughout Western Massachusetts and beyond.

All proceeds from the show and calendar go to The Breast Form Fund, which helps uninsured and under–insured mastectomy survivors to get proper–fitting prostheses and bras. The Breast Form Fund is managed by the non–profit Cancer Connection.

The 2002 "Show Us Your Bra!" calendar, which sells for \$20, is printed on stiff, glossy square cards that fit into a clear CD–sized container.

It features the bras that won first, second and third prize as well as 10 others from the show, all professionally photographed.

On the cover is the "Field of Dreams Sports Bra," stitched in leather from two catchers' mitts by B.Z. Reilly of Shutesbury. It won first prize.

January features the "Johann Sebastian BRACH," sculpted from sheet music. The April selection, titled "Bra Burner," was made from two stove burners and photographed against a fiery background. The May bra has a maternal theme with two birds' nests held up by delicate ivy vines.

The bra with the best pun in its title is probably "34–Bs," a sculpture consisting of two stylized horizontal beehives with 34 fabric bees swarming over them. Another pun is offered by the October bra, titled "Betty Boobs." It features two side–by–side doll heads bearing the face of the cartoon flapper.

Delicate pink and iridescent shells adorn the August bra, titled "A Mermaid's Dream," while twigs, vines and pine cones form the bra by second–place winner Janice Shields of Stockbridge.

The December bra, titled "Moral Support," was sculpted by Silverscape Designs in Northampton. It features two angels facing each other in

profile, with silver wings forming the cups of the bra. The angels are joined in the center by a large pearl they are holding.

The days of the month are printed in the top corner of each card. A line of information about breast cancer ("Clinical breast exams are necessary every three years between the ages of 20 and 39") appears at the bottom of each card.

The calendar is available at Edwards Books in downtown Springfield, at Gazebo at 14 Center St. Northampton, and online at www.showusyourbra.org.

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