

PENCIL

MEIN



Salem artist Tina S. Gagnon brings colored pencils to life

SALEM – For local artist Tina S. Gagnon, a talented pencil artist, the devil's in the details.

Recognized at many art shows, her process is to sketch in a sketch book first before beginning to create her intricate art.

"I then transfer that onto the work board that I'm using," she said. "And then, as my husband calls it, 'coloring it in.'"

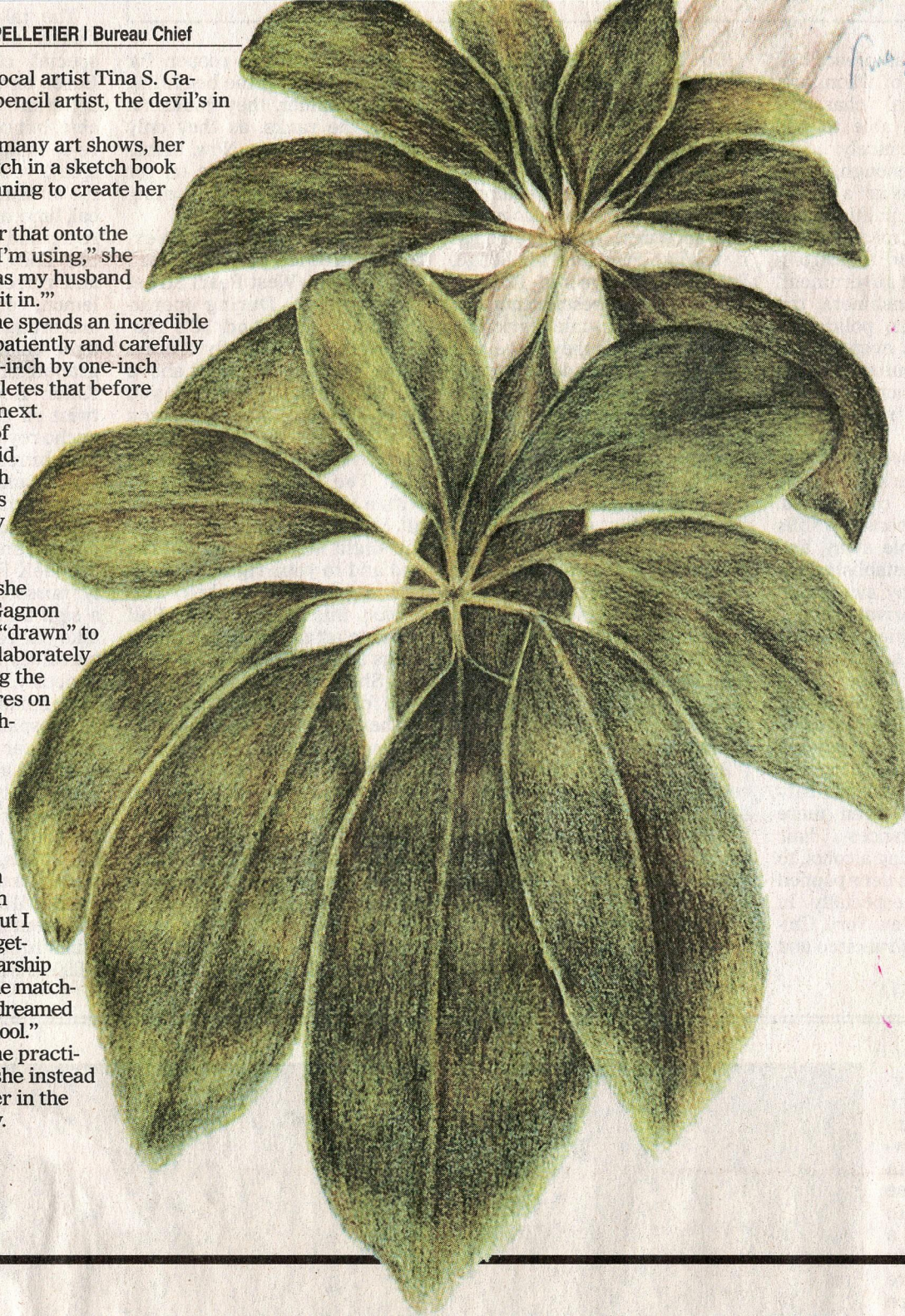
Gagnon said she spends an incredible amount of time, patiently and carefully working on a one-inch by one-inch square and completes that before moving onto the next.

"It takes a lot of patience," she said. "It's about an inch an hour and that's probably the only thing that I have patience for."

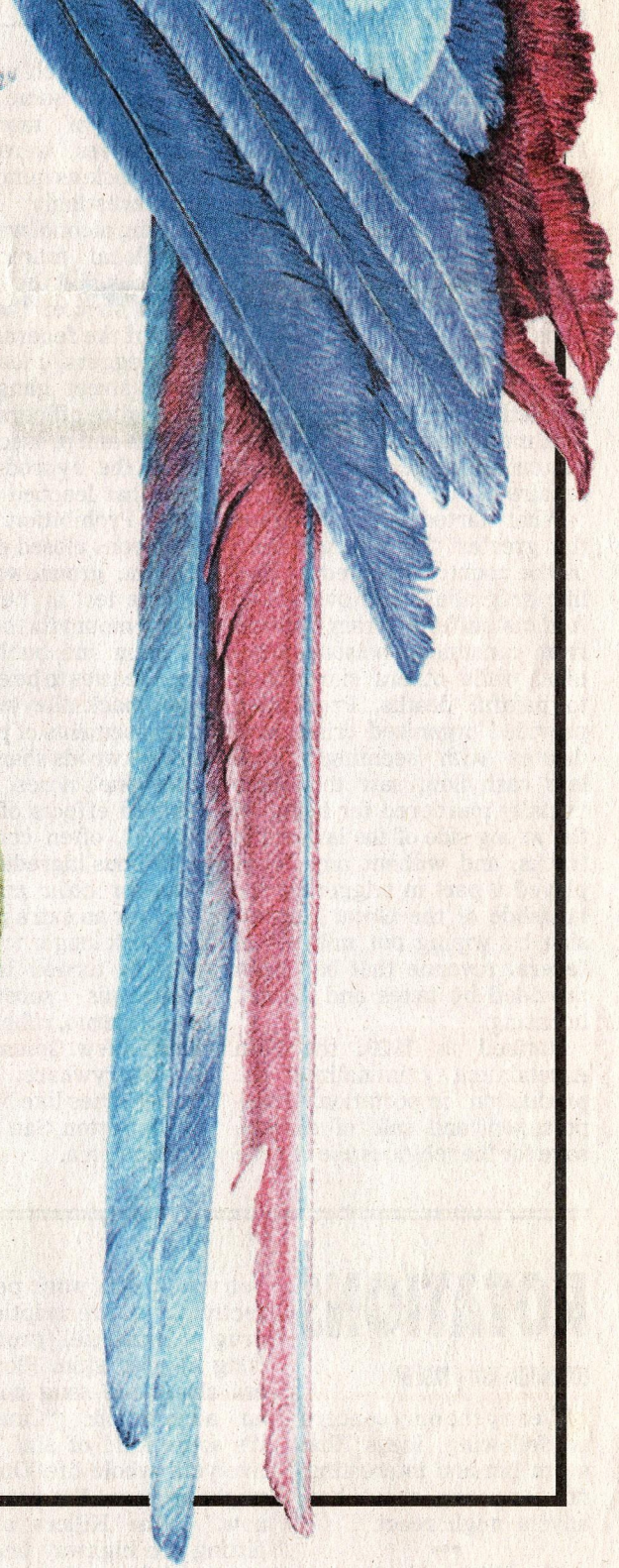
For as long as she can remember, Gagnon has always been "drawn" to art. She recalls elaborately doodling, creating the cartoon-like figures on the back of matchbook covers.

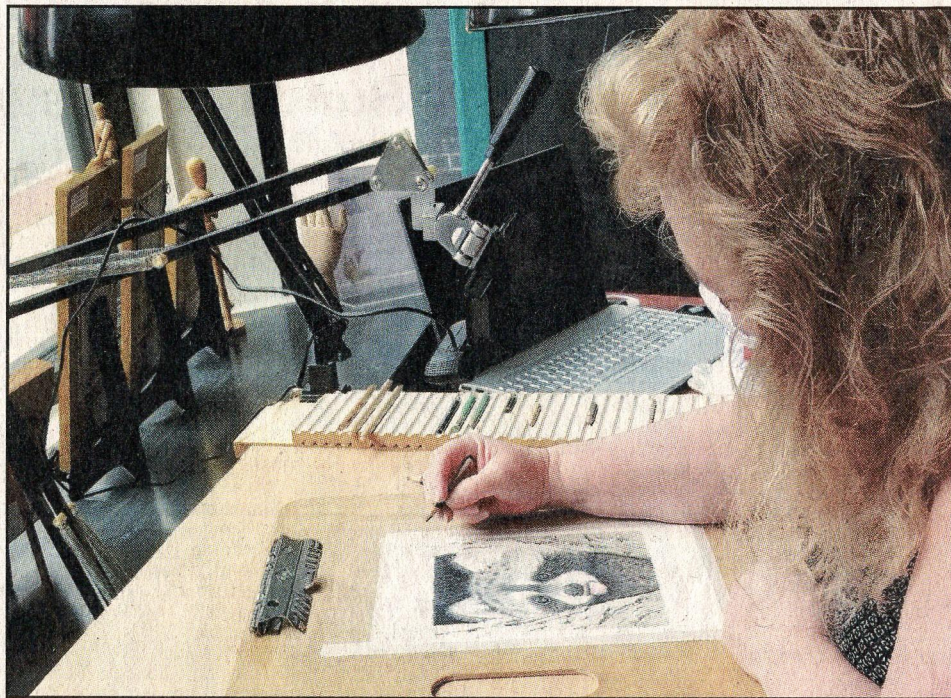
"You're probably too young to remember 'Tippy the Turtle,'" she said. "I did it so often, I think I can still draw him with my eyes closed. But I used to dream of getting that art scholarship that the back of the matchbook promised. I dreamed of going to art school."

Gagnon said the practical side won, as she instead went into a career in the printing industry.



Tina 20





For Salem artist Tina Gagnon, the devil is in the details when it comes to her incredibly intricate pencil sketches.

Courtesy photos