

NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

2101 CONSTITUTION AVENUE

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20418

INSTITUTE OF MEDICINE

Dear Mr Rosen

I thought that this environment might be worth publishing in your newsletter.

Oskar Gilcrease is a third generation "bones" doctor living in his environment outside the eastern town in S.C. of Nichols. His environment is a series of buildings and yard dealing with healing, spells, and various combinations of bones, herbs, feathers... to promote good things for people. Oskar's father and grand father were "bones doctors" in Jamaica and he came to NYC with his father. He moved to S.C. because of family property and set up as a bones doctor and in the ensuing decades created this environment. There are a series of buildings dedicated to various and sundry activities with a small one where he holds forth with those seeking his aid. Ont

Ms. 29581

back is a Swamp where he gathers various "medicines"  
The front yard is really a display with many circular  
objects (tins, wheels...) for "luck and good fortune"  
Part of the back yard has scare crows and other  
objects appropriate for the environment of a bonessman.  
Gilcrease has his Van decorated with bones and  
a magnificent set of moose antlers to symbolize  
his trade.

Also I would appreciate it if you would  
publish a notice of our folk art museum in  
the historic church. Roger Manly has written  
about it. Please come see the folk art exhibit with  
over 250 pieces of over 125 artists.

Best wishes  
Ernest James