Artists reflect on 9/11 tragedy

Works in steel, wood express feelings about terrorist attack

By A.J. O'CONNELL
Hour Staff Writer

NORWALK — Twenty-six local artists gathered at Norwalk Community College to express their feelings about the events of Sept. 11 at an exhibit entitled "Reflections: September 11."

Works made of steel, cardboard, wood, and even pieces of airplane fill the college's art gallery on East Campus, where the artists met for a reception on Friday beneath giant cardboard towers built by artist Jimmy Grashaw to represent the fragility of the World Trade Center.

NCC art gallery curator Susan Hardesty said that she had an entirely different exhibit in mind before the tragedy, but felt that the exhibit wasn't appropriate to what was going

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> **MINDY GREENE**
> NORWALK ARTIST WHOSE PIECE IS ENTITLED "4,583 KISSES GOOD-BYE."

on in the world.

"My heart really wasn't behind it," she said.

When Hardesty decided to change the theme, she sent out 50 invitations to artists she had worked with and more than half sent in work representing their feelings about the tragedy.

Norwalk artist Mindy Green submitted a piece entitled "4,583 Kisses Good-bye," a canvas she kissed while her lips were covered in black paint, and a work in progress because

only 170 kisses were able to fit on her first canvas.

"I just felt like everybody needed to be kissed good-bye," said Green, who lost a brother-in-law in the World Trade Center.

Robert Zott, also of Norwalk, submitted a piece called "Can You Read Me?' Music Box No. 2 Black Box Flight Recorder 1994," a music box made from the black box recorder of a 737 airplane.

The music box was created as part of a series of unusual music boxes in the early '90s and only plays one note: the tone passengers on an airplane hear when the pilot wants them to return to their seats.

Although Zott would not say how he came by the black box, he did say that he is asked to submit the piece to galleries