



Mike and Kathy Woods' children each stand next to their life-size standup.



A trooper with a radar gun can slow down traffic in a city neighborhood.

How About A Life-Size Cutout Of You!

"Realistic" and "life-like," describe the full-color, weatherproof "standup" signs that Mike and Kathy Wood make. Producing "cutouts" of children, adults, pets and even objects is a booming business for this West Salem, Ohio, couple.

"Most people just have fun with them and they make great gifts. But one serious use for them is to help control speeding in urban neighborhoods by putting up a deputy with a radar gun, or cutouts of children," Kathy says. "These life-like signs really get attention and the choices are limitless on who or what you can represent."

The weatherproof signs are made with full color outdoor ink on durable vinyl and plastic.

"Our standups can be used inside or outside and retain their rich, vivid colors for years," she says. "Sizes can range from 12 in. tall to actual life-size."

When ordering a custom standup, the best quality results are obtained by supplying a high resolution digital photo rather than a snapshot. Custom orders can take from one to three weeks to complete and will be shipped to you.

A 20-in. high replica sells for \$39 plus shipping, or a 73 to 84-in. replica for \$139 plus shipping.

"Stock" models are available for customers who are trying to slow speeders in their neighborhood. They consist of life-size cutouts of Mike and Kathy Woods' own children. The "Small Kid Standup" is 36 in. tall and costs \$42.75 (including shipping). The "Large Kid Standup" is 48 in. tall and is priced at \$48.75 (including shipping). The "Deputy Standup," is of Woods' son, the sheriff deputy, who is 6 ft. tall. This one costs \$89.40 (including shipping).

Double sided standups are also available. "We've also been making many life size cutouts of soldiers on deployment for use at family functions where they can't be present in person," Kathy points out.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Mike and Kathy Wood, 160 N. Main, West Salem, Ohio 44287 (ph 419 853-7002 between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Mon.-Fri. Eastern; questions@csOhio.com; www.25kids.com/).



Some families have had standups made of family members in the service. This bride's brother couldn't make it to her wedding in person.

Champion Longhorn Is Trained To Ride

Sancho the Longhorn isn't just any steer. The 12-year-old steer sports a set of horns that measures 68 3/4 in. tip to tip with a full length of 122 15/16 in. The reigning Grand Trophy Steer Champion is also broken to ride. While the horns are due to genetics and good nutrition, the riding and photo work just happened, says his owner, horse trainer Martha Morehart.

"When I turned 40, I bought Sancho as a year old calf," she recalls. "We do pony rides for children at fairs and special events, and I thought they would enjoy seeing a Longhorn. I started taking him along, and he got used to the noise and lights."

As he got bigger, Morehart started him under saddle and booking him at the fairs and festivals. She also began taking him to Longhorn shows. Today he is a star in both arenas, as reigning champion and as a money-maker for Morehart with people standing in line to pay to have their picture taken with him.

"We have traveled with him to events throughout the Midwest and the South," says Morehart. "He has been inside TV stations and even traveled up a service elevator to the second floor of a corporate headquarters. People love to see him and climb into the saddle for a picture."

Sancho has had new mothers with four-week old babies in his saddle as well as a 93-year-old man at the Ohio State Fair. He has been in parades like the nationally renowned

Tyler, Texas Rose Parade and in countless rodeos, expositions, shows and festivals. Morehart says people will return year after year to see Sancho and have family portraits taken with him.

"One man had raised Longhorns for 40 years, but said he had never sat on one, so he had his picture taken with his family around him," she recalls. "One woman from Mississippi calls regularly to see how he is. She has a picture of her daughter, who had her picture taken on him when she had cancer. People really get attached to him."

She says the 2,000-lb. steer is both gentle and well mannered.

"He is very careful with his horns," she says. "He is also very sentimental and bawls for me when I am gone. He knows the sound of the pickup when I drive back into the yard."

Morehart and Sancho do their share of charity work with the American Cancer Society and other groups. They also try to spread the word about Longhorns and cattle in general to their urban audiences. As long as he is healthy, she plans to continue their travels. She says Longhorns have a life expectancy that can stretch into their 20's.

When it's time for him to retire, Morehart may well have his replacement ready. In a strange mix of science and fate, it will be his grandsire.

"His grandsire on his mother's side was a famous bull named Zhivago," says



Broken to ride, Sancho the Longhorn steer sports a set of horns that measure 68 3/4 in. from tip to tip.

Morehart. "When he died, his owners had him cloned, and five clones survived. They sold me one of them."

Thus, the one-year-old grandsire of 12-year-old Sancho now travels with him to his events. Morehart says the youngster,

like his older grandson, is gentle, intelligent and loves his treats.

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