



INTERVIEW: Cameraman Rupert Thompson, foreground, films Michael Feldman interviewing Joanne Johnson Tuesday for the Disney Channel at Bottle Village in Simi Valley. Behind them is the work of the late Tressa "Grandma" Prisbrey. The cable television show is based on Feldman's weekend radio program "Whad 'Y Know." Todd Bigelow/The Enterprise Staff

Disney comes to Prisbrey's Bottle Village for broadcast

By Suzane Bricker
The Enterprise Staff

Hollywood production crews kept pace with narrator Michael Feldman, who walked the length of the Bottle Village pavement with microphone in hand.

Starting at the Round House, then veering toward the Doll House, and finally ending up at the Rumpus Room, cameras rolled past the symmetrical rows of lime green bottles embedded in concrete.

As Feldman walked from building to building, he paused, turned toward the cameras and offered a few, personal observations on the iconoclastic memorabilia left behind by legendary folk artist Tressa "Grandma" Prisbrey.

Feldman's excursion in and around the 15 houses on the grounds of Bottle Village Tuesday afternoon was

all part of a taping of a premiere pilot program for the Disney Channel.

The television show is based upon Feldman's radio program aired on the weekends titled, "Whad 'Y Know."

The show is recorded in front of a live audience on Saturdays and broadcast out of Madison, Wis., to more than 100 stations nationwide.

Locally it can be heard on station KCRW Sundays from 10 p.m. to midnight.

Three private independent companies were involved in the three-hour filming of the Disney pilot program Tuesday.

"The show will be structured somewhat like a news program," said Barry Koeb, representative for the Hollywood-based Robert Heath Productions.

(Please see **FILMING**, Page 8)



CLOSE-UP: Cameraman Rupert Thompson takes a close-up shot of the legendary folk artist Grandma Tressa Prisbrey's work at Bottle Village.

Filming

(Cont. from Page 1)

Koeb said they selected Bottle Village as one of the sites for the premiere shows because they believe it would be of interest to viewers.

The target audience for the new half-hour program, which has yet to be assigned an air date, is from about the midteens on up, Koeb said.

Five or six scenes will be shot in Madison, Wis., and the surrounding areas, once the segments taped in Simi Valley are completed.

After the pilot is produced, Disney

will make a decision as to whether or not they want more segments filmed and how many, Koeb said.

"We are not sure how the pilot program will look in comparison with the actual (television) series," he said, "but it could differ greatly."

Helen Dennert, president of the Preserve Bottle Village Committee, said she sees only one real drawback to Disney's selection of Bottle Village for the taping of its television program.

"I am pretty excited and really glad they are here," said Dennert, adding she is sorry that those who do not have access to the cable channel will not be able to view the program.