



Artists Chatnarong and Nayana Suwanchote of Trisons wire sculpture.

**Twisted aluminum wire morphs into art**—Husband and wife artists Chatnarong and Nayana Suwanchote of Trisons hand shape fine gauge aluminum wire into sculptures at their day stall near the north Pike Place pergola. “All Trisons sculptures are made from one continuous piece of wire onto which we incorporate colorful plastic tubing while we hand shape the wire,” said Nayana Suwanchote. “For example, beginning at one handlebar of our bicycle sculpture, we wrap one piece of wire into shape until we complete the tip of the opposite handlebar.” The Suwanchotes’ super miniature, two-and-a-half-inch bicycle sculpture “uses 40 inches of 18-gauge aluminum wire, which I complete in seven minutes,” she said. “Our bicycle with a handlebar basket requires five feet of wire while our tandem bicycle uses six feet of wire.” Pedals on all bicycle sculptures, which include butterfly, banana, mountain and racing designs, move. “We encourage visitors to push the pedals with their fingers,” said Nayana. “And, they are amazed the pedals move.” To ensure all Market visitors can be art patrons, the Suwanchotes create bookmarks and clever sculptures in 72 designs that hold photographs, messages or recipes. They also take commissions for exclusive sculptures. “In May, we made 500 bookmarks from all of our designs for a birthday party in Atlanta, Georgia,” she said. “Our customer visited the Market two years ago and had remembered us. “We own 72 designs that include medical and dental, legal and educational, animal and

floral, and Seattle-area themes,” said Nayana. “We also have American and British Sign Language phrases.” Recent June brides placed large orders for the photograph/memo/recipe holders and freestanding bicycle sculptures as wedding favors. “Last month, we sculpted 60 photograph/ memo-holder wedding gifts that incorporate a corporate logo of a mountain topped with rays of sunlight,” she said. “The young customer is the marketing manager for her corporation.” A Vancouver, B.C. bride ordered 230 of the smallest freestanding bicycles, with kickstands, as wedding favors. “With a one month lead-time, the bride placed her order through our website,” said Nayana. “Then, the bride personally came to the Market from Canada to inspect each bicycle and pick up the order from us.” Corporate and business customers find the Trisons items appropriate for conventions and marketing gifts. “Last month, we created and shipped an order of 102 sculptures for the Microsoft Tech Ed ’05 convention held in Florida,” said Nayana. “And last year, we made 150 helicopter bookmarks used by a helicopter company for marketing gifts.” Price points range from \$3 for bicycle sculpture key chains to \$5 for bookmarks and \$7 for larger freestanding bicycles with kickstands to \$15 for photograph/memo/recipe holders and earrings. “Custom and large order prices vary based on amount of materials, sizes and quantity,” she said. “And each freestanding bicycle is gift boxed, including our smallest in a jeweler’s hinged ring box.” Part of the Market family since 2001, the Suwanchotes’ three sons ages 13, 11 and 10 are the origin of the family’s business name, Trisons. “Trisons is what sprang to mind the day we applied for our business license.” Originally from Thailand, the Suwanchotes emigrated to the U.S. 10 years ago. Chatnarong, who holds a teaching degree, “was always drawn to art,” Nayana said. “Until February 2004, before he taught me this art, I was a pharmacy technician, and bored. “We love it here, we love being part of the Market where we meet wonderful people everyday.” Stop by the Suwanchote day stall near the north Pike Place gazebo, log onto [www.Ladynin.com](http://www.Ladynin.com) or e-mail [Bonnie@Ladynin.com](mailto:Bonnie@Ladynin.com).