

## the Aware Home

# The InfoCanvas: Information Art

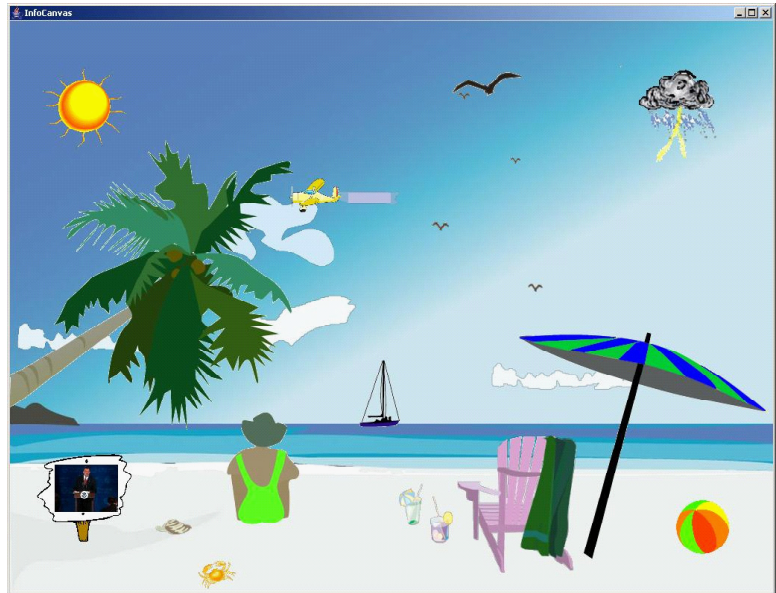
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### About This Project

People have a great deal of personal information (financial, weather, news, traffic, communication, etc.) that they'd like to maintain awareness of, but current methods for doing so are too "heavyweight".

Our approach to this problem is to use "Information Art." What you see here is the InfoCanvas system which is a kind of electronic painting in which the location and appearance of images in the scene changes to convey the state of an information resource. An individual creates their own painting, specifying both the data of personal interest and the images to represent that data.



The InfoCanvas is a hybrid ambient display; a flat-panel LCD screen in which the bezel can be removed and replaced by a picture frame. The whole unit can then be hung like a painting on a wall or set like a picture on a desk. Ideally, an InfoCanvas could be placed in a home or an office and support simple, opportunistic access to information that a family or person cares about.

### Next Steps:

We are deploying example InfoCanvas displays in actual offices and homes to see how they are used and to gauge people's reactions to them. Also, we are interested in developing graphical editing tools that make constructing and specifying an InfoCanvas display easier and faster.

