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Thursdaylife

Thursday, October 23, 2008

Valdostadailytimes.com

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PHOTO BY JAMIE HARMON

ABOVE: Items from the estate of Leona Strickland Hudson to be auctioned this evening to benefit the Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts.

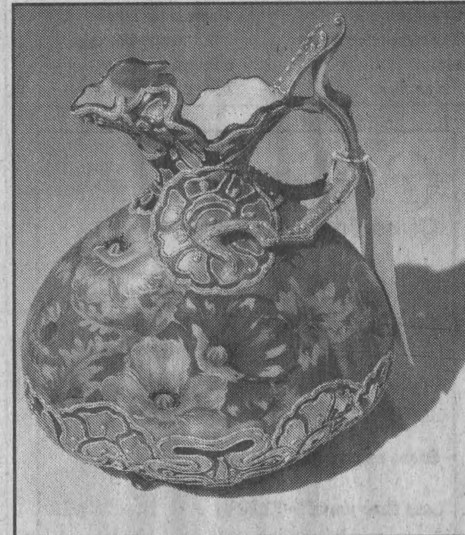


PHOTO BY JAMIE HARMON

ABOVE: An item from the estate of Leona Strickland Hudson to be auctioned this evening to benefit the Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts.



PHOTO BY JAMIE HARMON

RIGHT: A variety of items from the estate of Leona Strickland Hudson to be auctioned this evening to benefit the Arts.

Auction for the Arts

Woman's estate keeps giving

BY DEAN POLING

which named its concertmaster chair in her honor. After the war, Hudson took his new

VALDOSTA — In addition to donating a half-million dollars, Leona Strickland Hudson left the Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts her collection of silver, porcelain, cut-glass and china.

This evening, those items will be up for auction with the proceeds benefiting the arts center.

The center has prepared for the auction as if it were one of its art exhibits. Pieces are displayed in the Boyette Gallery as settings across numerous cloth tabletops. And the public is invited to view these pieces, as people have for the past several days, prior to this evening's viewing reception and auction.

The auction is the latest episode from an estate that keeps on giving.

Last month, if you represented a local organization, especially an arts group, you were thrilled to receive a call from Wade H. Coleman, the Valdosta attorney in charge of the Hudson estate.

In early September, Coleman presented a \$500,000 check from Leona Strickland Hudson's estate to the Valdosta Symphony Orchestra,

or, and is using the money as an interest-bearing endowment.

A couple weeks later, Coleman presented another \$500,000 check to the Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts for a similar endowment use. She also left her collection to the arts center to use either as a display or to raise money in an auction. The center plans to name its pottery workshop/classroom in honor of Leona Strickland Hudson and her husband, the late Dugald Hudson. All of the center's October events have been conducted in honor of the Hudsons.

Coleman has also presented money to other Valdosta organizations: \$130,000 to hospice, \$100,000 to the local Boys & Girls Club, approximately \$100,000 to the local Boys Scouts, and about \$75,000 to the Dr. Zaccari lecture series.

Born May 2, 1920 in a house on North Patterson Street, Leona Strickland grew up in Valdosta, the daughter of Will Strickland, a local banker who also owned Strickland Hardware Company, and Rosa Strickland.

In 1945, Leona Strickland married Lt. Dugald Walker Hudson of Greenville, S.C. A valedictorian and World War II veteran, an infantry officer then a judge advocate officer who debriefed

bride for three years to live in post-war Germany. They lived in many places around the world, before returning to the States, specifically Atlanta, where he joined the faculty of Georgia State University. In Atlanta, she followed in the tradition of her father, working in a bank.

In 2006, Dugald Hudson died and Leona Strickland Hudson returned to her hometown of Valdosta.

The Hudsons had lived modestly. She was driving an 11-year-old Chevrolet at the time of her death. They had no children. No close relatives. In her will, she bequeathed her entire estate to charitable organizations.

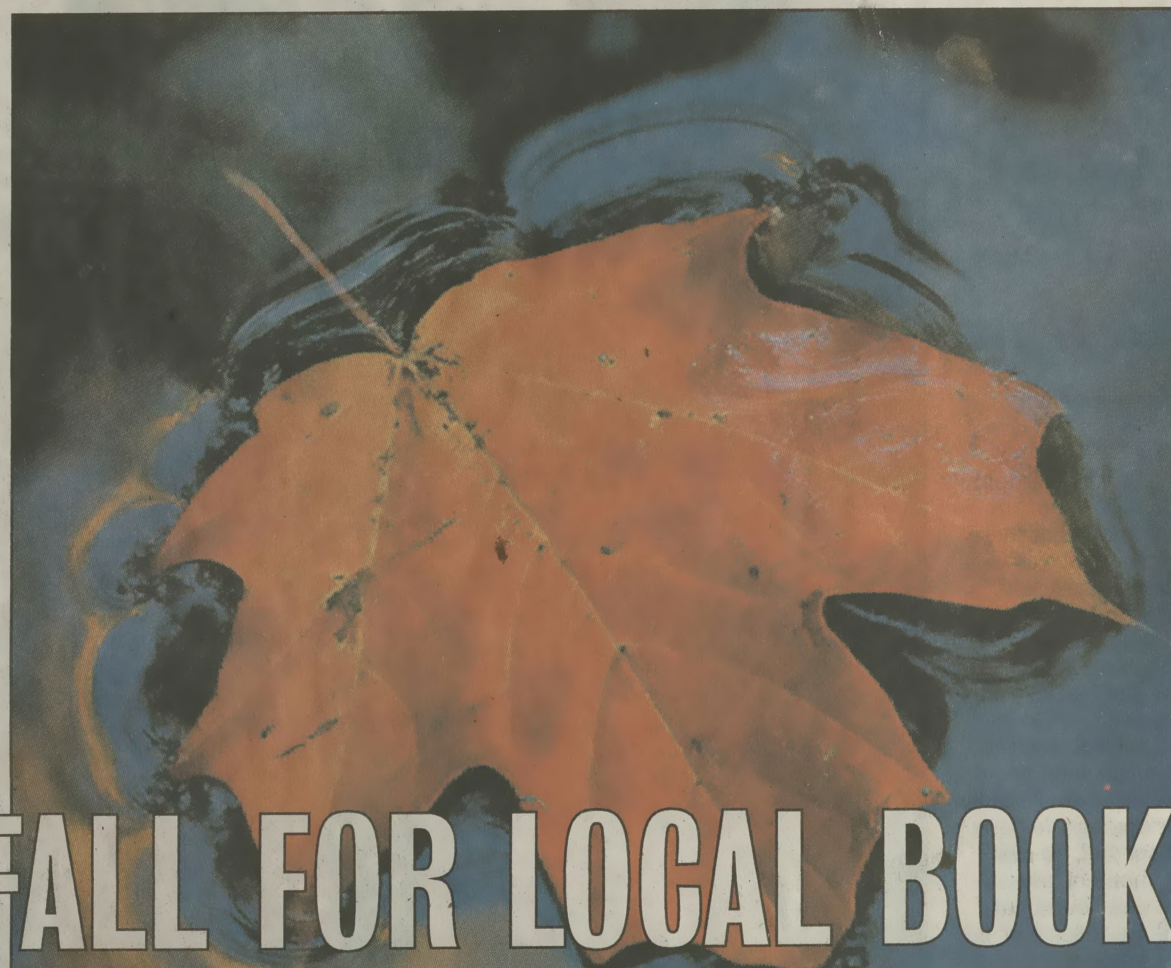
AUCTION

Cut-glass, porcelain, silver and china items from the estate of Leona Strickland Hudson.

■ **When:** Preview and food, 6-7:30 p.m. today; auction starts 7:30 p.m.

■ **Where:** Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts, 527 N. Patterson St.

■ **More information:** Call 247-2787.



FALL FOR LOCAL BOOKS

A look at new works
from eight
South Georgia authors

BY DEAN POLING
The Valdosta Daily Times

VALDOSTA — Several South Georgia writers have released new books this fall. From the famed, best-selling pen of Janice Daugharty comes a series of short stories in “Going to Jackson,” published through locally based Snake Nation Press, which has also released the new book “Looking for Billy Bowlegs,” a historical novel by Robert Hornbuckle.

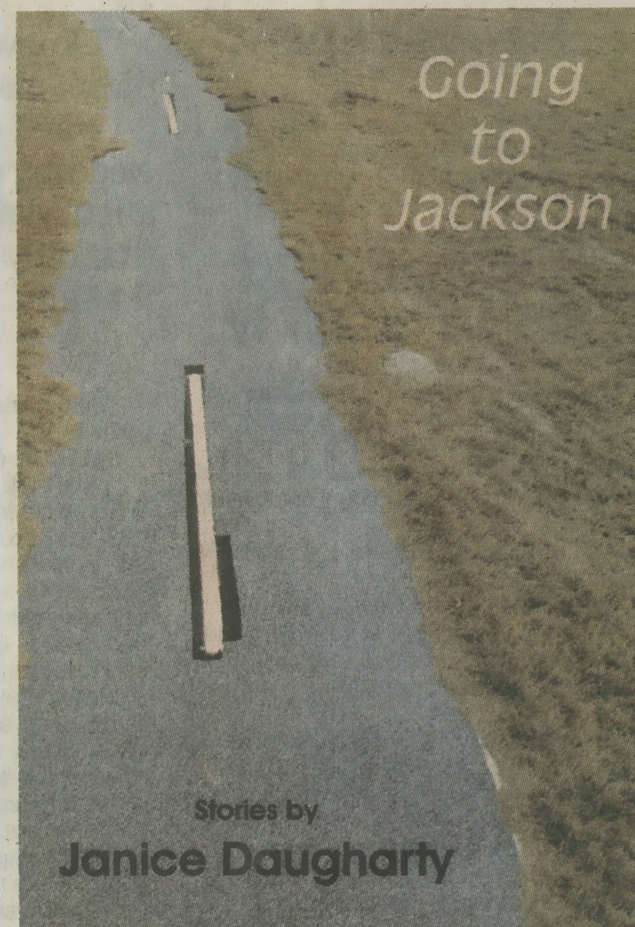
Some are part memoir, such as Dr. John Hickox’s third book “Today I Held a Baby” which explores his experi-

“novel based on a true story” in “The Long Desperate Road.”

Lili and Mario Bartoletti’s “Courtship: A Practical Guide for Partner Selection” is just what the title states.

“Heart Transplant” is Doris McGee’s second book of faith-based poetry. Kendrix J. Gardner offers spiritual insight in his latest book, “Maximizing Your New Life in Christ.”

Freddie L. Sirmans Sr. has released a series of new paperbacks encompassing everything from the “Countdown to Doomsday” to “Deadly Cost of Low Morals and Values.”



Her book is ‘Going to Jackson’
but Janice Daugharty remains
happy in Statenville

BY DEAN POLING
The Valdosta Daily Times

Several years have passed since Janice Daugharty has published a collection of her short stories, but that doesn’t mean she hasn’t been busy writing short stories and essays.

Daugharty is back with “Going to Jackson,” a short story collection published by the locally based publishing house Snake Nation Press.

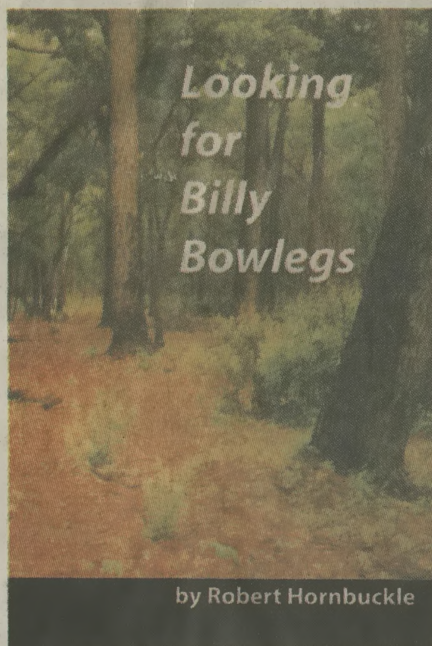
“Going to Jackson” features several short works of the style, insight, and raw grace that placed Daugharty’s novels, such as “Paw Paw Patch,” “Earl in the Yellow Shirt,” “Whistle” and “Like a Sister,” on national bestseller lists.

Working with a locally based publisher is something new for Daugharty. While some books by local authors include a blurb of support from Daugharty, the blurbs for her regionally published book include a line from The New York Times Book Review — “Even working in microcosm, Janice Daugharty is an author who thinks big.” — and from bestselling author Joyce Carol Oates — “Janice

ences delivering a baby as a doctor, and raising children as a father, or former Valdosta nurse Willie Cordell's

South Georgia writers are busy and so will readers of local authors this fall. We flip through the pages to help you choose.

Daugharty is a born storyteller. Her voice is a finely honed 'Southern' voice that is warm, vibrant, and original."



BOOK READING

Janice Daugharty and Robert Hornbuckle will read and sign their respective books, 2-4 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 1, Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts, 527 N. Patterson St.

LOOKING FOR BILLY BOWLEGS

Robert Hornbuckle

Hornbuckle takes readers on a dually epic and intimate journey in this smartly written historical novel set deep in the Okefenokee following the culture of the Seminole Indians and the settlers who have come to tame the swampland. His book looks at the nation's original "cowboys and Indians era," before Hollywood mythologized the Indian wars of the Old West. "The Second Seminole Indian War erupted on America's least-known frontier in northern Florida and southern Georgia," Hornbuckle notes. "In the early 1800s, a band of Seminole Indians harbored in the Okefenokee (modern spelling) Swamp and used it as a base in a last-ditch fight against encroachment on their lands by white settlers. It was after a canoe trip through the swamp that I became interested in the Seminoles who fought there. I wondered how they could have survived in such a severe environment, much less how they could emerge from the swamp at will to wage war (and) at various times be superior." Through research and imagination, Hornbuckle answers his questions in "Looking for Billy Bowlegs."

More information: Visit www.snakenationpress.org

Daugharty continues finding that voice from her long-time Echols County home, where she lives with husband Seward Daugharty. She is Valdosta State University's writer in residence, and is a past Pulitzer Prize nominee.

This past week, The Valdosta Daily Times conducted an e-mail interview with Daugharty about her new book, working with Snake Nation Press Publisher Roberta George, and a life in writing.

THE VALDOSTA DAILY TIMES: "Going to Jackson" is your second short-story collection. How is working with short stories compared to novels? Do you approach them in different ways?

JANICE DAUGHARTY: "I'm teaching a course in creative writing this fall at VSU. We started off by learning to read closely — that is word by word, sentence by sentence, then paragraphs and the whole. By the end of the course, they should be prepared to write short stories of their own. Not a single one ever asked me how I approach writing a novel as compared to a short story, and I'm so glad, because I don't know. I've written hundreds of stories and almost that many novels, and I can only say that I approach both initially with inspired ideas, scenes with little dramas going on like short films, images strong enough to carry me to the end, if my characters are 'real.'"

VDT: "Going to Jackson" is published by the regional Snake Nation Press. You've worked with many editors and publishers. How was working with Roberta George and having the process so close to home?

JANICE DAUGHARTY: "I love it. Actually, though, Roberta is the toughest, the surest that she's right and doesn't hesitate to stick to her point. Here's a funny for-instance: The title story of this collection, 'Going to

Please see DAUGHARTY, Page 6E



JANICE DAUGHARTY



Artist Sarah Cascone, Brookwood School.

GALLERY

Student art from Brookwood School, Thomasville, on display in the Roberta George Children's Gallery, along with the Georgia Watercolor Society's 29th Annual Members' Exhibition, Price-Campbell Foundation Gallery; artist Barbara Balzer's sculptures, Josette's Gallery; artist Jack Deloney, Sallie and Harmon Boyette Gallery.

Where: Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts, 527 N. Patterson St.

When: Shows run through Nov. 13.

Gallery hours: 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Tuesdays through Thursdays; 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays, with exception of reception dates; closed Sundays and Mondays.

More information: Call 247-2787.

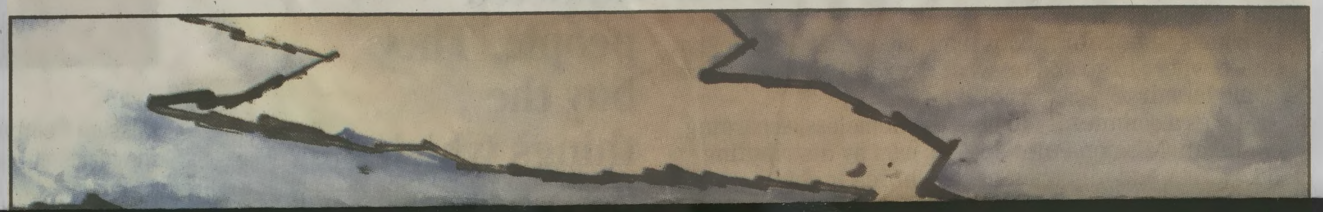


Artist Austin Tyler, Brookwood School.

Colorful Regions

Arts center expands reach of youth exhibits

BY DEAN POLING
The Valdosta Daily Times



VALDOSTA — The Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts has long been a supporter of art from area young people, but a current youth exhibit has stretched that support to the region.

The center's Roberta George Children's Gallery is currently displaying a colorful exhibit of works from the students of the Brookwood School in Thomasville. The Roberta George gallery has consistently featured the works of regional children, youths and students since the Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts opened several years ago.

Past Youth Art Month exhibits have featured a wide variety of works from youths from South Georgia and North Florida. The center's other galleries have displayed pieces from working artists from not only across the region and state, but the nation.

The Brookwood show represents the first exhibit from outside Valdosta-Lowndes County and its immediate neighboring counties. Regional artists, especially the works of regional students and children, means the arts center as well as Valdosta-Lowndes County may expect to attract more regional visitors.



Artist Brad Kinni, Brookwood School.

Sundaylife

E

Valdostadailytimes.com

The Valdosta Daily Times

Sunday, November 2, 2008

REDNECK CHRISTMAS



PHOTO: JAMIE HARMON

The Three Redneck Tenors performing last year on the Mathis City Auditorium stage as part of the Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts Presenter Series, which hosts the comic singing group again this week.

Three

Redneck Tenors return with the Presenter Series

BY DEAN POLING

The Valdosta Daily Times

VALDOSTA — Forget Rudolph's red nose. Valdosta-Lowndes County starts the holiday season early this week with a little redneck.

The Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts presents "Three Redneck Tenors: Christmas Spec-Tac-Yule-Ar" Thursday evening at Mathis City Auditorium. The show marks a return of the Three Redneck Tenors who also kicked off the Presenter Series season last year.

The Tenors present a comic show of presumed bumpkins who are played by talented men with Broadway and operatic backgrounds. John Wilkerson, Alex Bumpas, Matthew Lord, and Dinny McGuire play Billy Bob, Bill Joe with Billy Billee as their manager the Colonel.

Given that it's only early November, Valdosta is one of the first spots for this year's Redneck Christmas, says Redneck Tenor Matthew Lord in a recent phone interview with The Valdosta Daily Times.

"I was looking at the calendar and thought, We're doing the Christmas show this early?" Lord says. "Valdosta is the first one to get it this year."

While the group has prepared for the Christmas tour, at the time of this interview a few weeks ago, the Three Redneck Tenors were preparing for a series of Los Angeles auditions for a television special. Through LMNO Productions, the Tenors were scheduled to personally play their characters and



PHOTO: JAMIE HARMON

Redneck Tenor Matthew Lord discusses the show with Louise Okuma following last year's Valdosta performance. The Three Redneck Tenors return to Valdosta this week.

SHOWTIME

Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts Presenter Series presents "Three Redneck Tenors: Christmas Spec-Tac-Yule-Ar."

When: 7:30 p.m. Thursday.

Where: Mathis City Auditorium, 2300 N. Ashley St.

Ticket: \$45.

Reservations, more information: Call 247-2787; or visit the arts center, 527 N. Patterson St.

The Valdosta Daily Times is a Presenter Series sponsor.

"It's great hearing people laugh," Lord says, "but it wouldn't be remotely funny if the singing wasn't first rate."

— Redneck Tenor Matthew Lord

sing their songs to representatives from ABC, CBS, NBC, FOX, and other networks. Not presenting a Christmas special but rather presenting a show closer to the one the Rednecks presented last year in Valdosta, which featured a diversity of songs such as "Lone Prairie," "La Donna e Mobile," "Please Kind Sir," "Green, Green Grass of Home,"

"YMCA," "O Sole Mio," "It's Now or Never," "Greensleeves," "Hound Dog," "You Light Up My Life," "Nessun Dorma," "La Danza," "Shenan-doah."

What they did for the network executives will be similar to what Valdostans saw last year when the Tenors were received during a reception at the arts center: A mix of singing,

jokes, impromptu bits with folks they met, as well as a bit of themselves mixed with their redneck personas.

As for the Christmas show, Lord says the Tenors are ready to be back on the road performing for live audiences, and especially looking forward to returning to Valdosta.

"We had a great time in Valdosta with the show and hanging out with several folks after the show," Lord says.

While the show will feature holiday music, the purpose of the Tenor shows remain the same, he says. Top-notch singing mixed with comedy.

"It's great hearing people laugh," Lord says, "but it wouldn't be remotely funny if the singing wasn't first rate."

It is that mix of humor and singing that makes the Tenors a unique experience, Lord says.

"We use the online phrase that we 'make the ordinary extraordinary,'" he says. "No matter where you live, no matter how goofy you think your town is, you may live next door to that person who lives an ordinary life but does an extraordinary thing. Our show is about the idea that the talent beneath is more than the package you see."



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Rotary assists arts center

The Valdosta North Rotary Club has awarded the Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts a check for \$5,300 from its annual charity auction event. Bob Harrison, past president of Valdosta North Rotary and current board chairman of the arts center, presented the check to Sharon Lodge, the center's director of operations.

Seeing Red



PHOTO: JAMIE HARMON

Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts Presenter Series board members Bob Goddard, Bruce Sumner, Bob Harrison, Nancy Warren, Gail Hobgood, Mary Gooding, and Ken Rickett pose with the cast of the Three Redneck Tenors after last year's show.

Thursday, November 6, 2008

Valdostadailytimes.com



Draw Project Scholarship

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

From funds earned through the 2008 Draw Project event, the Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts provided a fall 2008/spring 2009 scholarship to a Valdosta State University art student. Jennifer M. LeFever, center, an art education major and community volunteer, won the scholarship. Through her application and interview with the VSU Scholarship Committee, LeFever displayed an interest in serving the community as an advocate of the arts and education. Bob Harrison, arts center board chairman, left, and Blake Pearce, professor and head of the VSU Department of Art, pose with LeFever at the center. In 2006, LeFever received a Turner Center scholarship at the recommendation of her high school art teacher for leadership in the National Art Honor Society at Lowndes High School. A full-time student, she is currently a member of several honor societies, works two part-time jobs and still finds time to volunteer with local organizations. She will serve as a liaison between the Turner Center and the VSU Art Department. Jamie Harmon, arts center gallery director, initiated the Draw Project to raise money for art scholarships.



Work by artist Cassie Byrd.

BY DEAN POLING

The Valdosta Daily Times

VALDOSTA — Eleven graduating Valdosta State University art students participate in "Synergy: The VSU Fall 2008 Senior Exhibition" opening with a free, public reception today.

VSU Art hosts two senior exhibits per year, one in the fall and one in the spring. These shows give graduating seniors the opportunity to showcase their abilities and for VSU Art to show what students have learned and accomplished during their time as students.

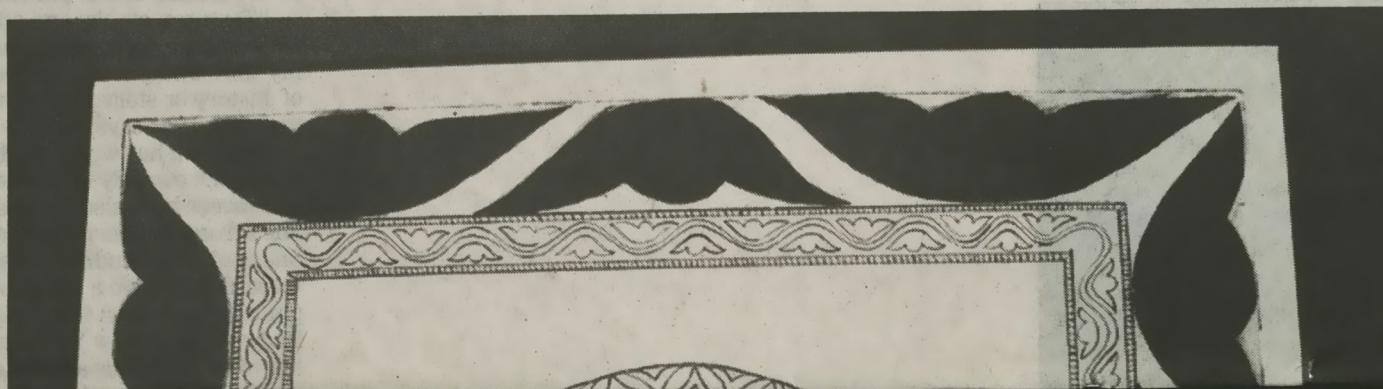
This exhibit features seniors Asher Allen, Laura Aquadro, Cassie Byrd, Shea Cleveland, Izuanete Garcia, Shaye Hudspeth, Jeni Morris, Mary Moua, Courtney Page, Hemangi Patel, Jonathan Wright.

The artists chose the title "Synergy" for their show, defining it as, "a combination of several different elements that when combined have a greater effect than the sum of the element's individual effects."

Styles and mediums range from paintings and drawings from abstracts to nudes, sculpture, ceramics, graphic design, jewelry, printmaking, and photography.

SYNERGY

VSU fall
senior show
opens today





'Mind Matters,' artist Hemangi Patel.



LEFT: 'Breakaway,'
artist Izzy Garcia.



RIGHT: 'My
Peewee,' artist
Jonathan Wright.

GALLERY

"Synergy: The VSU Fall 2008
Senior Exhibition."

Reception: Show opens with a
free, public reception, 2-4 p.m. to-
day. VSU Student Jazz Ensemble
will provide music.

Show length: Runs today to Dec.
8.

Where: VSU Art Gallery, VSU Fine
Arts Building, corner of Oak and
Brookwood.

The Presenter Series



TENORS CHRISTMAS SPEC-TAC-YULE-AR

Thursday November 6, 2008 - 7:30pm
Mathis Auditorium - Valdosta

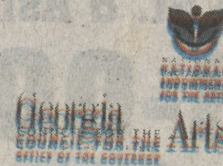
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THE VALDOSTA DAILY TIMES

Wednesday, November 26, 2008

valdostadailytimes.com

75 Cents

Silhouette portraits to benefit Center for the Arts

VALDOSTA — To raise funds, the Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts is hosting silhouette artist Clay Rice next week.

The center must secure 60 appointments for silhouette portraits and is close to that number but could use a few more and can accept as many as 100 appointments.

Clay Rice is a legacy silhouette artist. His grandfather, Carew Rice, gained international fame snipping not only por-

traits but scenic views in silhouette.

Clay Rice is reportedly one of only about 30 scissors artists — one who cuts his silhouettes directly from life with scissors in hand — in the U.S. today.

The South Carolina-based artist is scheduled to be at the Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts, 527 N. Patterson St., on Dec. 2.

More information on appointments, costs, etc., contact the arts center by 4 p.m. today. Call 247-2787.

Making Wilby Coleman's three-dimensional art into a two-dimensional book

Irony

BY DEAN POLING
The Valdosta Daily Times

VALDOSTA — Admirers of Wilby Coleman's metal sculptures know the deal well. Coleman does not sell his art work. He doesn't have to. Doesn't want to. Won't.

Through the years, he's accepted some commission work, creating a massive steel bird for a Thomasville company, or a giant iron ant for a festival, as two examples. But otherwise, Coleman has kept his art for himself, exhibiting it in galleries often, displaying it always in his house and on the grounds of his home.

His reasons for not selling are well-known. One is that he began his work late in life, a metamorphosis that changed him day by day and week by week from

a full-time Valdosta attorney who had dabbled in art in his youth, to an attorney dabbling in art again, to a full-time lawyer and part-time artist to part-time attorney and part-time artist, to a man who left his successful art practice to pursue his art full-time.

As Coleman has said in the past, "If I had been doing this for 40 years or more and started doing it to make a living, I'm sure I would have a different attitude about selling them."

Another reason he hasn't sold his work is because, with it at his home, he knows it will be displayed where many people can enjoy it. Too often, he has said, someone buys a piece of art then hangs it in a rarely used room, or shoves it into a closet, where not even the purchaser sees the art.

So, Wilby Coleman has refused to sell his work ... until now. Kinda sorta, anyway.

You still can't drive up to Coleman's house with a pick-up, a handful of cash, and a couple of strong backs to place the heavy sculpture in the back of the truck, but you can own Coleman's art ... all of it.

Images of his work have been collected in a beautiful book titled "Irony: The Metal Sculpture of Wilby Coleman." Printed as a hard-cover edition, in color, on 100-pound paper, "Irony" features page after page of Coleman's work and the stories behind his pieces.

Part of the beauty of Coleman's sculpture has always been his ability to discover the alter-ego within everyday objects. A shovel, both deep and wide, becomes the robes of a judge. A bicycle seat becomes the head of his "The Preying Mantis." So many things re-imagined from their original purposes that it's hard to see these items again in their everyday use without a bit of Wilby in them.

But with so many of his works marching across the pages of this book, with so many well-told stories behind them, one fully appreciates the true strength of his art is that Wilby Coleman's mind has the dexterity of Lewis Carroll with the hammer-smithing drive of a John Henry. From the hard realities of everyday life, Coleman forges the stuff of whimsical dreams and legend.

Yet, Coleman has been so prolific that even a book of about 130 pages isn't enough. So, each volume includes a disc of all of Coleman's sculptures, as well as a DVD about the artist and his work.

Coleman has wanted to collect his works in a book for many years — a project that gained a sense of urgency when his eyesight began to fail. Several publishers were approached. Many balked at the degree of difficulty in making so many three-dimensional pieces palatable in the two-dimensional form of the book.

Roberta George, publisher of locally based Snake Nation Press, took on the Coleman book and admits that the photography necessary to make "Irony" viable nearly sunk the project more than once. "Irony" became Snake Nation's most ambitious project.

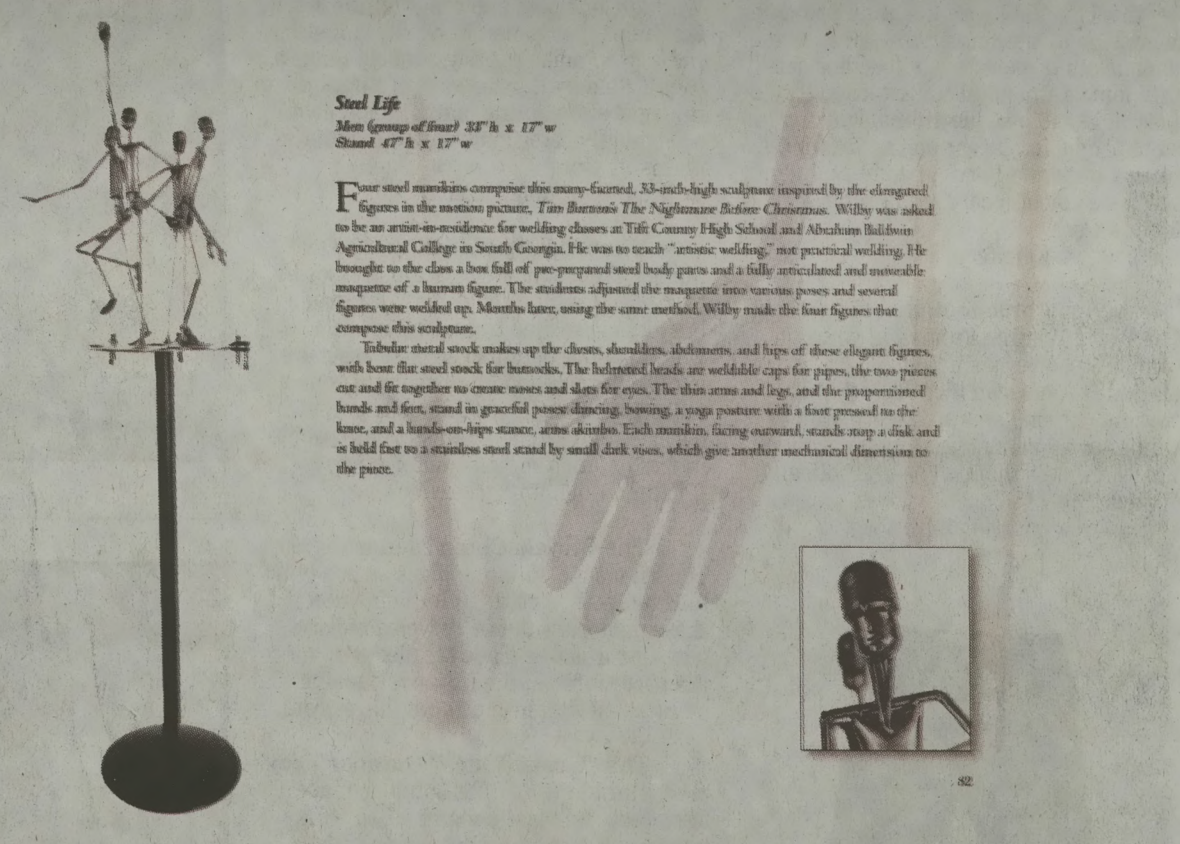
Attracting area photographer Julius Ariail to do the project's principal photography ensured that a book about iron sculpture wouldn't just float but it would sail. Ariail, an artist in his own right (see Page 8E of this edition for an example of his award-winning work), took the meticulous, often back-breaking, work of arranging Coleman's pieces, several of which weigh many pounds, some of which have been on exhibit in the outdoors for years, with unbridled enthusiasm. If not for Julius Ariail's dedication and talent, assisted by his wife, Julia, who designed the pages, the project may still be on the drawing boards, George said. Colson Printing printed the book.

"Irony" is meant as a title playing on the fact that Wilby Coleman creates art through a combination of blacksmithing skills of metal manipulation applied to the mental manipulation of "found art." But, with this book, the irony may well be that three-dimensional art can be forged into a highly enjoyable two-dimensional form.



Judges I Have Known
Judge 40" h x 14" w Stand 26" h x 16" w

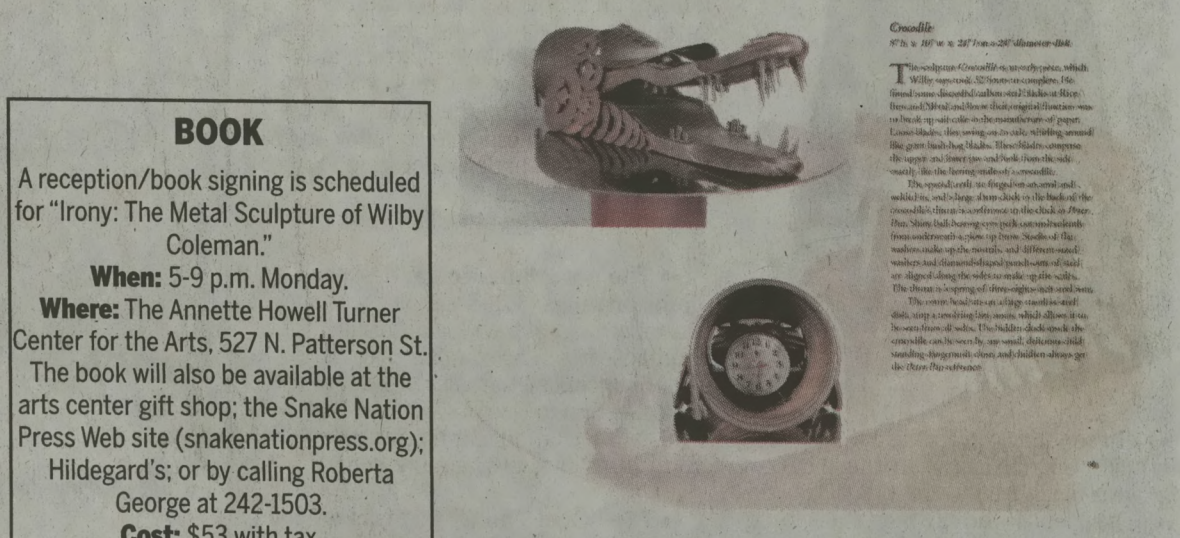
Several large pieces of Wilby's sculpture were shown in an institutional art show, called "Holiday Classics," at the Swan Coach House in Atlanta in 1994. Ned Rittin, Director of the High Museum of Art, came out to see the exhibit, and said to Harriet Robinson, curator of the Swan Coach House, "Well, I see Coleman's work has finally pulled you into the 21st Century."
Later, an art patron, Guyer Webb, saw Wilby's pieces and invited him to participate in an art exhibit in Savannah, at the annual meeting of the State Bar of Georgia. This exhibit was for lawyers, ex-lawyers, judges, and their families. Wilby brought several works that he had shown in the Swan Coach House exhibit, along with a new piece, *Judges I Have Known*.



Steel Life
Men (group of four) 31" h x 17" w
Stand 47" h x 17" w

Four steel mannikins comprise this many-faceted, 33-inch-high sculpture inspired by the elongated figures in the motion picture, *Tin Burman's The Nightmare Before Christmas*. Wilby was asked to be an artist-in-residence for welding classes at Tift County High School and Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College in South Georgia. He was to teach "artistic welding," not practical welding. He brought to the class a box full of pre-prepared steel body parts and a fully articulated and malleable mannequin of a human figure. The students adjusted the mannequin into various poses and several figures were welded up. Months later, using the same method, Wilby made the four figures that compose this sculpture.

Tubular metal stock makes up the chests, shoulders, abdomens, and hips of these elegant figures, with bent flat steel stock for buttocks. The helmeted heads are weldable caps for pipes, the two pieces cut and fit together to create noses and slots for eyes. The thin arms and legs, and the proportioned hands and feet, stand in graceful poses: dancing, bowing, a yoga posture with a foot pressed to the knee, and a hands-on-hips stance, arms akimbo. Each mannikin, facing outward, stands atop a disk and is held fast to a stainless steel stand by small dark vices, which give another mechanical dimension to the piece.



Cranial
6" h x 10" w x 21" (iron) diameter disk

The sculpture *Cranial* is made of pipe, which Wilby wrapped in 32 sheets of copper. He found some discarded cables and 1/2 inch x 1/2 inch iron and steel rods from their original function was to hold up a wall in the maintenance of paper. Lower plates, they come in to coils, sitting around the gate back but black. The plates compress the space and form the neck from the side, with the heavy metal of cranial.
The spiral ends to lengthen and extend, while the end shape from disk to the head of the cranial, then is a reference to the back of a chair. The three ball-bearing caps (one on each side) from a car seat, they are up there. Stacks of flat washers make up the nostrils, and different sized washers and cleaned metal pieces form the side of the skull along the sides to make up the teeth. The three is a coping of three-right-angle steel. The corner head into a large stainless steel disk, stop a connecting line, which allows it to be seen from all sides. The hidden disk inside the cranial can be seen by one small distance with a magnifying glass, and children always get the three the reference.

BOOK
A reception/book signing is scheduled for "Irony: The Metal Sculpture of Wilby Coleman."
When: 5-9 p.m. Monday.
Where: The Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts, 527 N. Patterson St. The book will also be available at the arts center gift shop; the Snake Nation Press Web site (snakenationpress.org); Hildegard's; or by calling Roberta George at 242-1503.
Cost: \$53 with tax.



'Mountain Spring,' artist Julius Ariall.

League of the Fall



'Abigale's Eyes,' artist Thomas M. Thomson.

GALLERY

Southern Artists League show is on display in the Sallie and Harmon Boyette Gallery, along with artist Carla Goldberg's paintings, Josette's Gallery; ceramic sculpture by The Firm, Price-Campbell Foundation Gallery; student works from Moulton Branch Elementary School, Roberta George Children's Gallery.

Where: The Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts, 527 N. Patterson St.

Show length: These exhibits run through Jan. 7.

Gallery hours: 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Tuesdays through Thursdays; 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays; closed Sundays and Mondays, with exception of show openings and special events.

Admission: Free.

More information: Call 247-2787.

Like autumn leaves,
Southern Artists
League presents
diverse show

BY DEAN POLING

The Valdosta Daily Times

VALDOSTA — The Southern Artists League has many missions. The SAL provides regional artists with an organization of artistic camaraderie. It is a way for artists to share experiences, training and techniques with one another. And it has a missionary's zeal in bringing regional art to regional audiences.

Members have presented monthly exhibits at The Valdosta Daily Times for more than a decade. The Southern Artists League hosts similar exhibits at the Holiday Inn. The SAL is a regular proponent of Downtown Valdosta's Art After Dark. And it presents multi-artist exhibits, displaying the versatile talents and styles of the Southern Artists League's membership.

One of these latter shows is on display in the Sallie and Harmon Boyette Gallery of the Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts.

The SAL's fall exhibit is a smorgasbord for the eyes and mind. Numerous styles and techniques are displayed. Talents abound. And the SAL has tried a different approach in jurying this show.

Jurying a show is essentially judging it for prizes. Many shows offer a best in show and/or first, second and third places often in the categories of two-dimensional, such as paintings, drawings and photographs, and three-dimensional, such as sculpture and ceramics.

This year, the League offered prizes for two-dimensional, three-dimensional, photography, and best in show. These winners are shown on this page today.

Best in show was awarded to Thomas M. Thomson for "Abigale's Eyes." Jean Eaton Gay won the two-dimensional category with "Woodland Passage." The photography winner is Julius Ariall for "Mountain Spring"; his photographs of Wilby Coleman's sculptures can also be seen on Page 1E of this section today. Michael Schmidt won three-dimensional for "Bound Unbound"; Schmidt's work is also on display in the arts center with The Firm's ceramics exhibit.



'Woodland Passage,' artist Jean Eaton Gay.



'Bound Unbound,' Michael T. Schmidt.

The Presenter Series



"25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee!"
Sunday Jan. 11th At 3pm.

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Thursday, December 4, 2008

Tuesday, December 9, 2008

Saturday, January 3, 2009

Monday, January 5, 2009

Wednesday, January 7, 2009

Thursday, January 8, 2009

Friday, January 9, 2009

Saturday, January 10, 2009

Sunday, January 11, 2009



Bottles, artist Shane Christensen.



'Rattle Lid,' artist Stephen Heywood.



'Head Quarters,' artist Brian Jensen.

THE FIRM

Exhibit underscores the versatile strength of ceramics

BY DEAN POLING

The Valdosta Daily Times

VALDOSTA — Michael Schmidt has been a keen proponent of ceramics as art since his arrival here several years ago as a ceramics instructor at Valdosta State University.

He's spearheaded the creation of the ceramic bowls for America's Second Harvest's annual Empty Bowls fundraiser. Through two yearly sales of his and students' ceramics, he funds visiting guest ceramics artists for VSU Art.

And he regularly participates in area art shows, winning the three-dimensional portion of the current Southern Artists League exhibit at the Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts.

At the present, his work is on display in two arts center galleries.

Schmidt is also part of The Firm exhibit of ceramics displayed in the Price-Campbell Foundation Gallery.

He is joined in The Firm by fellow ceramics artists Stephen Heywood, Brian Jensen, and Shane Christensen.

The exhibit denotes how ceramics can be the expected cups, pitchers, saucers, plates and bowls, as well as unexpected pieces that forego practical use for aesthetic purpose.

The Firm exhibit is a wonderfully expressive show that underscores ceramics' fragile symmetry with the power of its unexpected versatility.



'66 Oil Bucket,' artist Michael Schmidt.

GALLERY

Ceramic sculpture by The Firm is on display in the Price-Campbell Foundation Gallery, along with Southern Artists League show, Sallie and Harmon Boyette Gallery; artist Carla Goldberg's paintings, Josette's Gallery; student works from Moulton Branch Elementary School, Roberta George Children's Gallery.

Where: The Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts, 527 N. Patterson St.

Show length: These exhibits run through Jan. 7.

Gallery hours: 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Tuesdays through Thursdays; 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays; closed Sundays and Mondays, with exception of show openings and special events.

Admission: Free. More information: Call 247-2787.



JAMIE HARMON/ANNETTE HOWELL TURNER CENTER FOR THE ARTS

State Rep. Amy Carter, center, will be the guest star in the Valdosta performance of 'The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee' playing Jan. 11. The show is sponsored by the Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts Presenter Series which is co-chaired by Nancy Warren, left, and Gail Hobgood.

Amy Carter spells g-u-e-s-t s-t-a-r in Presenter Series show

Arts center presents professional show Jan. 11 in Valdosta

BY DEAN POLING

The Valdosta Daily Times

VALDOSTA — State Rep. Amy Carter, D-Valdosta, faces a busy weekend in January.

She'll move to Atlanta on a Saturday to prepare for the 2009 General Assembly session.

She'll spell in Valdosta on Sunday.

On Monday, she will start the legislative session in Atlanta.

Wait a minute. She'll spell on Sunday? Spell what?

Carter has been selected as the celebrity speller in "The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee," a nationally touring, professional show coming Jan. 11 to Valdosta thanks to the Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts Pre-

You saw it first
online
as News at 3 p.m.
www.valdostadailytimes.com

senter Series. The Valdosta Daily Times is a Presenter Series sponsor.

"It is my honor to serve as the celebrity speller in the Presenter Series production of 'The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee,'" Carter says. "I want to encourage everyone to come see this fun production and take a chance at being one of the other three spellers on stage ... but beware, I can spell C-A-T!"

The show's producers asked the Presenter Series to select one local celebrity to appear as part of the show, says Nancy Warren, Presenter Series

board member. Carter was selected because of her position as a local legislator and because of her role as a Lowndes County educator, which fit the spelling bee theme of the musical.

Prior to the show, ticketholders interested in performing in three other guest speller roles are asked to arrive 45 minutes to an hour prior to show time on Jan. 11. Show staff will select the three from the applicants, and the three selected guest spellers will also be involved in the show.

"The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee's" premise: "Six young people in the throes of puberty, overseen by grown-ups who barely managed to escape childhood themselves, learn that winning isn't everything and losing doesn't

More info

Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts Presenter Series presents "The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee," 3:30 p.m., Jan. 11, Mathis City Auditorium, 2300 N. Ashley St.

■ Ticket: \$45; \$25, student ticket with student ID.

■ Reservations, more information: Call 247-2787; or visit the arts center at 527 N. Patterson St.

necessarily make you a loser."

Warren says the "Spelling Bee" scheduled to play Valdosta is the PG version, an abridged production of the more irreverent one that played Broadway.

Friday, December 19, 2008

Valdostadailytimes.com



PAT GALLAGHER/THE VALDOSTA DAILY TIMES

Leadership Lowndes Class of 2009

The 2009 Leadership Lowndes Class poses for a group photo Thursday at the Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts during the Class of 2009 Welcome Reception. Members listed in alphabetical order are Anthony Barker, Glenn Biddle, Melissa Boatenreiter, Robert Bolton, Jesse Boyd, Dan Deaver, Marcie Dennard, Brittney Foster, Emily Foster, Robert Foster, Robert Goddard III, Thor Hahn, Bonita Hodges, Brenda Johnson, Carla Jordan, David Kirk, Steven Lambert, Samentha Mathews, Eliza McCall, William Nijem Jr., Nancy Phillips, Donald Poor, Charles Roberts, Penelope Schmidt, Michael Smith, Wes Taylor, Richard Welch and Robin Wetherington. Not photographed: Trent Taylor and Clint Wills.



'Quail Wagon' by Valdosta artist Don Pettigrew appears in November in the Colson Calendar 2009.

A Year in Art

Colson Calendar 2009 features fine art

BY DEAN POLING

The Valdosta Daily Times

VALDOSTA — Colson Printing Calendar 2009 is available. It features works from 13 local and regional artists selected from entries in the 2008 Spring Into Art show several months ago at the Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts.

Colson has been making selections for its calendars during the annual Spring Into Art exhibits since 1992, says Wendy Colson. In addition to the show awarding prizes, being chosen for the calendar has become a prestigious honor for participating artists.

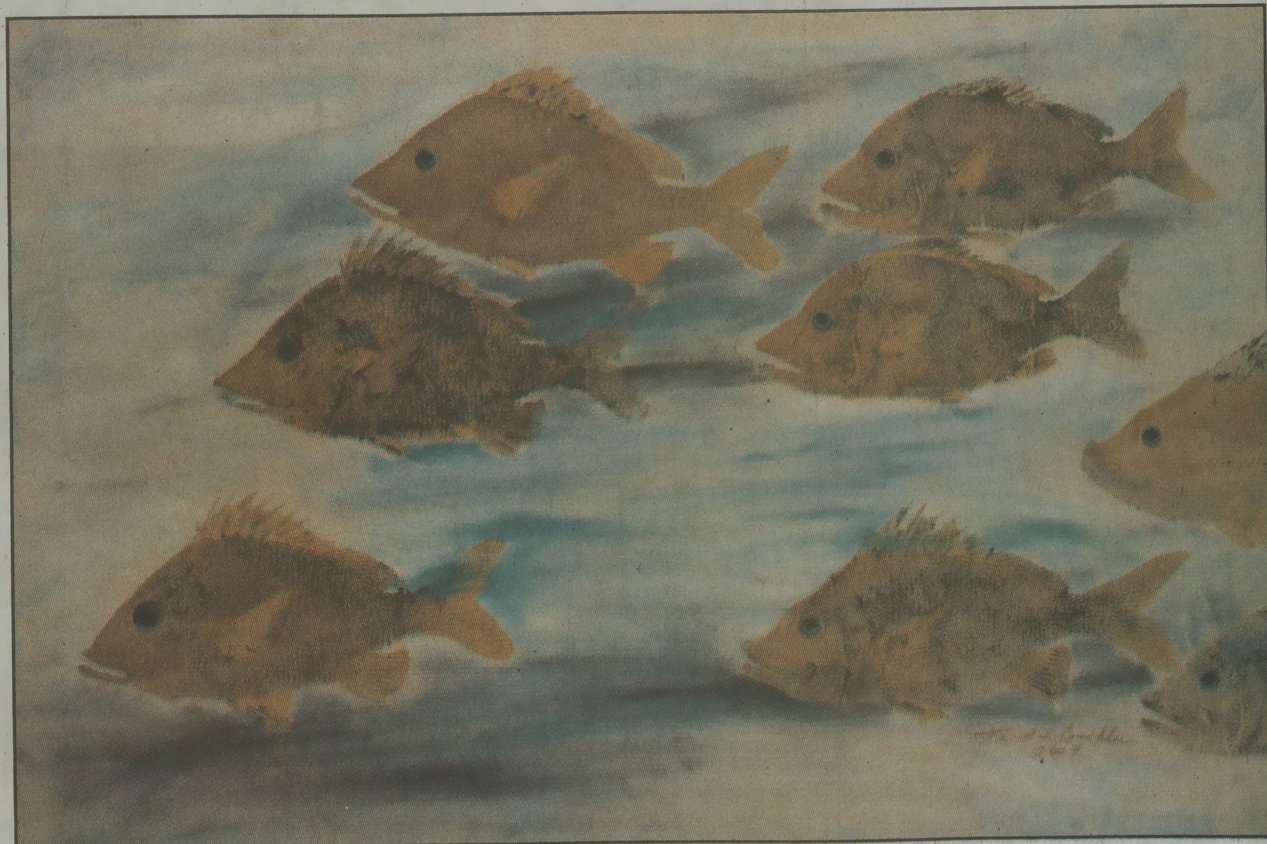
Calendar judges selected 13 works this year, one for the cover and one for each month. Some of the artists' names and styles should be familiar to area art patrons because the artists are either from here or have participated in numerous local shows.

The 2009 Colson Calendar artists are Joe Morgan, Valdosta, "Eye of the Beholder" (cover); David Retterbush, Valdosta, "Vintage Grill" (January); Sylvia Warrick, Valdosta, "Napus Interruptus" (February); Mary Ann Cox, Tifton, "Bluegrass Trio" (March); Jean Goldstein, Hurtsboro, Ala., "Splash" (April); Rani Garner, Buena Vista, Ga., "Wild Grapes" (May); John Logan, Norman Park, Ga., "Lone Egret" (June); Helena Meek, Buena Vista, "Red Sky" (July); Harold Griner, Alachua, Fla., "Saltwater Cowboy" (August); David Bechler, Valdosta, "Fish School #3" (September); Deanna Wheeler, Pinetta, Fla., "Little Britches" (October); Don Pettigrew, Valdosta, "Quail Wagon" (November); Ben Copeland, Lakeland, "Amaryllis" (December).

This year's calendar is an exquisite collection and a fine representation of the two-dimensional art that appeared in the 2008 Spring Into Art show at the Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts.



'Eye of the Beholder' by Valdosta artist Joe Morgan is the cover selection for the Colson Calendar 2009.



'Fish School #3' by Valdosta artist David Bechler is the September selection in the Colson Calendar 2009.

Calendar

The 2009 Colson Calendar

Where: Available at Colson Printing Company, the Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts, 527 N. Patterson St., and the Valdosta-Lowndes County Chamber of Commerce.

Cost: The calendar is free.

The shows must go on

2009 offers a great selection of local entertainment

BY DEAN POLING

The Valdosta Daily Times

VALDOSTA — While an old year comes to an end, the area's 2008-09 arts season is only at the halfway mark, with plenty of shows scheduled for the coming months.

Here's a look at some of the shows already on the books for a happy and entertaining new year.

ANNETTE HOWELL TURNER CENTER FOR THE ARTS

527 N. Patterson St.
Phone: 247-2787.

• **Drawproject**, Boyette Gallery, Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts, 527 N. Patterson St. Jamie Harmon's VSU Art scholarship fundraiser featuring works from several artists and people. Show opens with a free, public reception, 5-7 p.m., Jan. 12. Show runs through Feb. 25.

Gallery hours: 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Tuesdays through Thursdays; 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays; closed Sundays and Mondays.

• **Artist Robert Coon**, Price-Campbell Foundation Gallery, Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts, 527 N. Patterson St. Metal sculpture. Show opens with a free, public reception, 5-7 p.m., Jan. 12. Show runs through Feb. 25. Gallery hours: 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Tuesdays through Thursdays; 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays; closed Sundays and Mondays.

• **Artist Miriam Costanza**, Josette's Gallery, Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts, 527 N. Patterson St. Paintings. Show opens with a free, public reception, 5-7 p.m., Jan. 12. Show runs through Feb. 25. Gallery hours: 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Tuesdays through Thursdays; 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays; closed Sundays and Mondays.

• **Valwood School art students**,

Roberta George Children's Gallery, Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts, 527 N. Patterson St. Show opens with a free, public reception, 5-7 p.m., Jan. 12. Show runs through Feb. 25. Gallery hours: 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Tuesdays through Thursdays; 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays; closed Sundays and Mondays.

• **Youth Art Month**. Show opens March 1.

• **Spring Into Art 2009**. Show opens April 13.

• **Best of Spring Into Art 2009**. Show opens June 1, 2009.

ANNETTE HOWELL TURNER CENTER FOR THE ARTS PRESENTER SERIES

All shows at Mathis City Auditorium, 2300 N. Ashley St.

Tickets: \$45 per show; special

SHOWS | 4A

Sunday, December 28, 2008

student rate of \$25 for "The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee." More information, reservations: Call 247-2787.

• **"The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee,"** 3 p.m., Jan. 11. Last season's Sunday matinee production of "Annie" proved a success, so the Presenter Series repeats the Sunday matinee this year. This nationally touring production of the Broadway show's premise: "Six young people in the throes of puberty, overseen by grown-ups who barely managed to escape childhood themselves, learn that winning isn't everything and losing doesn't necessarily make you a loser." Though this is a Sunday matinee, "Putnam" deals with much more mature themes than "Annie." The Presenter Series has booked the abridged "PG" version of this production, but this is not a show for small children.

• **"Bye Bye Birdie,"** 7:30 p.m., Feb. 10. This nationally touring revival brings back the beloved musical satire of late '50s America, focusing on music star Conrad Birdie's farewell concert before being drafted in the Army. The fictional character's name is a play on Conway Twitty, but he's based purely on Elvis Presley.

• **New Shanghai Circus,** 7:30 p.m., March 12. A Chinese acrobatic troupe that promises to dazzle with its performance, which has been seen from Broadway to PBS. This show is also set to celebrate Valdosta's annual Azalea International.



The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee

Presenter Series hopes folks will come sit for a 'Spell'

BY DEAN POLING

The Valdosta Daily Times

VALDOSTA — Let the spell-down begin! Starting next week with "The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee," the Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts Presenter Series kicks off a show per month throughout the winter.

Last season's Sunday matinee production of "Annie" proved a success, so the Presenter Series repeats the Sunday matinee this year with "Spelling Bee," a nationally touring production of the successful Broadway musical.

Some local folks who saw the original musical on Broadway expressed early concern that this show may be too risqué for audiences thinking of it as being similar to "Annie." Nancy Warren of the Presenter Series board says the version traveling to Valdosta is the modified PG version which is more general-audience friendly.

"The resurgence of interest in spelling bees with recent movies makes this popular with all age groups," Warren says. "According to 'The Bee,' geared particularly to grades 7-12 and adult."

The show's premise: "Six young people in the throes of puberty, overseen by grown-ups who barely managed to escape childhood themselves, learn that winning isn't everything and losing doesn't necessarily make you a loser."

The show was a Tony-award winner on Broadway, has comedic songs, and works with local folks from the audience. State Rep. Amy Carter has been tapped as the show's celebrity speller. She will be joined by three other audience members as guest spellers during the Jan. 11 Valdosta show; anyone interested in being a guest speller in the show should arrive 45 minutes to an hour before the "Spelling Bee's" 3 p.m. curtain time.

Following "Spelling Bee," the Presenter Series hosts the musical "Bye Bye Birdie," 7:30 p.m., Feb. 10; and the New Shanghai Circus, 7:30 p.m., March 12. All three shows are at Mathis City Auditorium.

The Valdosta Daily Times is a longtime sponsor of the Presenter Series and is joined by fellow sponsors Ambling Companies, First State Bank & Trust, Georgia Power, Mr. & Mrs. John A. Lastinger, Dr. James Sinnott/Dr. Ed Fricker & Families, South Georgia Pecan, WALB NBC 10.



Christian Busath, Brittany Ross in 'The Bee.'



Zandi DeJesus in 'The Bee.'

SHOWTIME

The Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts Presenter Series hosts "The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee." **Where:** Mathis City Auditorium, 2300 N. Ashley St. **When:** 3 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 11. **Ticket:** \$45, general admission; \$25, student rate is available. **Reservations, more information:** Call 247-2787.