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BRANDON POWERS | THE VALDOSTA DAILY TIMES

Leadership Lowndes


The Leadership Lowndes 2013 class reception was held at the **Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts** Thursday night. Members include Regionald Benjamin, Tessa Carder, Patrick Collins, Jed Douglas, Matthew Eutzler, Andrew Flemer, Edward Ford, Paula Fricker, Carla Gervin, Brett Hester, Mikki Hudson, Dedra Hughes, Steve Johnson, Audrey King, Wade Krueger, Kelly Lenz, Emily Macheski-Preston, Clayton Milligan, Ron O' Meara, Benjamin Polk, Suzan Prince, Janice Richardson, Molly Roan, Amanda Shapard, Alex Sharpe, Valarie Smith, Lee Tarpley, Rebecca Taylor, Bobby Watford and Baha Zeidan.

CAPTAIN OF HIS DESTINY

Former Valdosta mayor returns
for book signing

BY DEAN POLING
THE VALDOSTA DAILY TIMES

VALDOSTA — Many Valdostans will remember Gill Autrey as Valdosta's one-time mayor, but for more than a decade he's lived in Apalachicola where he's become a boat captain and now the author of a new book.



GONE WITH THE TIDES

and

Other Southern Stories

On Monday evening, Autrey returns to Valdosta to sign his book, "Gone with the Tides and Other Southern Stories." He wrote the stories and his wife, Lane, took the book's photos.

"The stories are all true with a little poetic license here and there, some were written for a monthly paper, The St. George Island Times, no longer in publication," Autrey says. "Others were written over a period of years. I would call them reflections."

Autrey has led a life that seems too busy for reflection but one that would give much to reflect upon.

Autrey served in Vietnam where he served as a Marine, flying CH-53 Sikorsky helicopters, rising to the rank of captain.

He has worked in banking, securities, and tomato farming. From 1986-88, Autrey served as Valdosta's mayor.



Shown are Gill and Lane Autrey.

SUBMITTED PHOTO

AUTREY

FROM PAGE ONE

He was instrumental in saving Moody Air Force Base in the early 1990s, when the base faced possible closure.

Yet, by the late 1990s, he was ready for a dramatic change in his life.

"My days in Valdosta are very special to me, but after some health problems and

personal reversals, I decided a different lifestyle might be in order for my long term well being,"

Autrey says. "I have been coming to the Apalachicola area since 1973 and always loved the water, so my Mother and I decided to pack up and move down here in August of 1998."

Sadly, the only times he usually returns to Valdosta is for funerals, "and

that's getting way too often, but many of my friends come visit and we play music and fish."

Arriving in 1998, Autrey worked in real estate. As the market went south, he looked for another way to make a living. Used to living a versatile life, he set his eye upon the sea.

"I've been on the water most of my life and have always wanted to get my captain's license so it was a natural for me," Autrey says. "'Lily' is a 28-foot Adventure Craft houseboat with a sun deck on top. I do river cruises on the Apalachicola River and into the back waters, a 246,000-acre estuarine preserve that protects the Apalachicola Bay, the most productive estuary in the Northern Hemisphere. I take families, children, pets, etc., and we just go exploring."

He has been a U.S. Coast Guard licensed captain for more than four years. Lily is his 18th boat.

His adventures and his political life prepared him to write a book.

"When I was in public life, I was often asked to speak. I more often told stories rather than making a typical political speech," Autrey says. "I've been writing some down over the last several years. Some folks are already asking for the next book. I have it in my head and I expect it will be out some time in the next year."

In terms of life, Gill Autrey believes in living it to the fullest, and offers some advice for those seeking something different or something more.

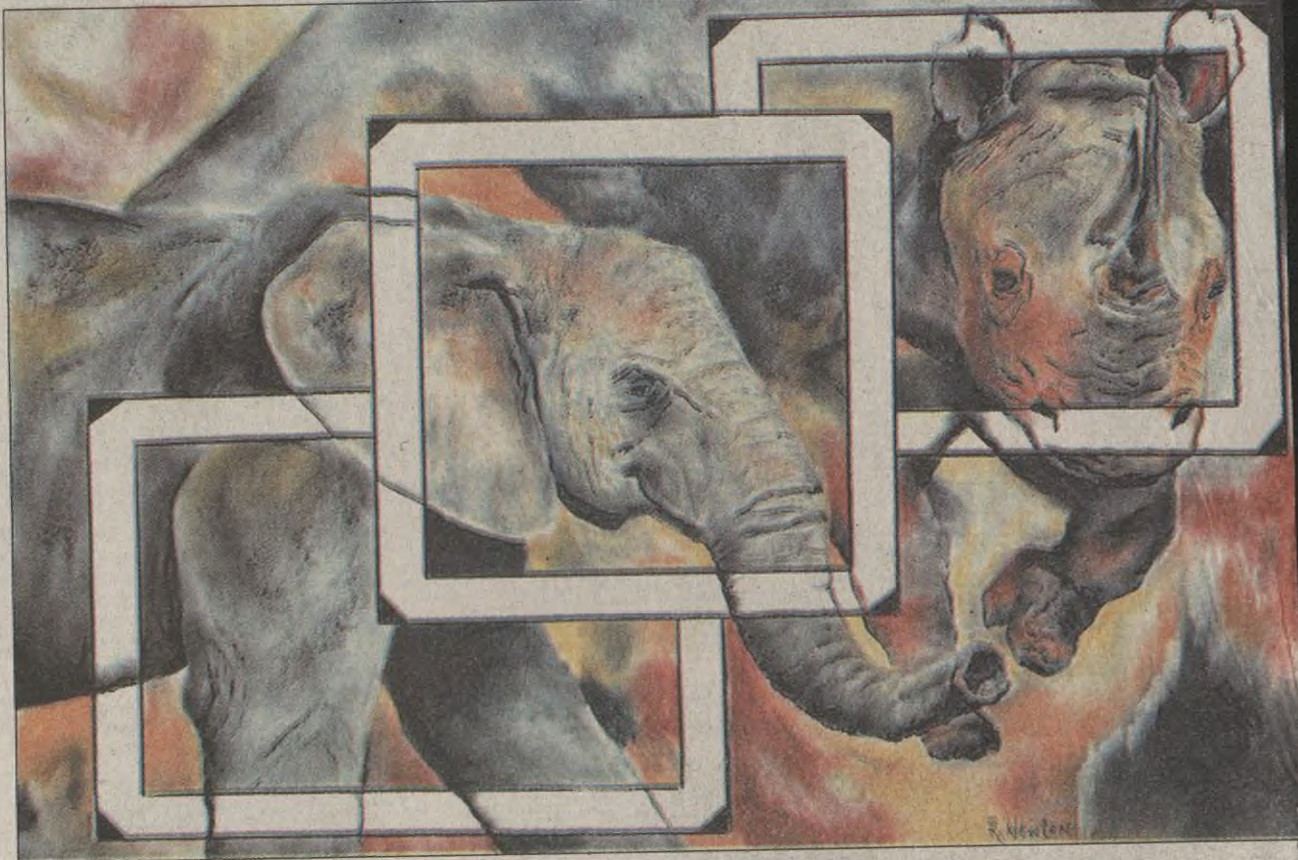
"First decide what it is they would rather be doing and if it's their passion they have to figure out how to give up what is now giving them security and weigh everything out," Autrey says. "It's not for everyone. I've just always thought life was an adventure and I can't wait to turn the next page. I don't look back."

BOOK SIGNING

Capt. Gill Autrey will sign his book, "Gone with the Tides and Other Southern Stories," 5-7 p.m. Monday, Dec. 10, **Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts**, 527 N. Patterson St. More information: Call (229) 247-2787; or visit www.turnercenter.org.



'Story Chair,' artist Craig Hawkins, Valdosta, from Drawproject 2012.



'Polaroid Safari,' artist Roxanne Newton, Hahira, from Drawproject 2010.

Drawproject 2013 seeks artists

BY DEAN POLING
THE VALDOSTA DAILY TIMES

VALDOSTA — If you're an artist who likes to draw and you draw well, the Seventh Annual Drawproject needs you.

Created by former Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts curator Jamie Harmon, the Drawproject has continued since his departure from the region nearly three years ago. Bill Shenton, the center's current curator, and Blake Pearce, Valdosta State University Art department head, are seeking donation drawings for an auction to help raise money for art scholarships.

"Money raised from this event supports two scholarships benefiting Valdosta State University Art students," Pearce says.

"The Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts Scholarship is awarded annually to support a VSU junior art, design, or art education major for meritorious production in the classroom and a commitment to service within the community. The Danielle B. Harmon Student Merit Scholarship recognizes departmental majors for superior classroom performance."

Through the years, five students have received the Turner Center scholarship and five to six students have annually received the Harmon award.

The Drawproject is as simple as its name. It asks

artists to share drawings, all drawn on the same size paper; however, the term "drawing" can be used loosely. As Jamie Harmon said in the past, "There were no rules or definition of what a 'drawing' is ... only their interpretation."

Drawings have ranged from realism to cartoons, from scribbles to detailed pointillism, from stark black-and-white to gradients of grays to color. One year, an artist even transposed a photograph onto the paper. But Pearce has said he prefers seeing the pieces remain true to the concepts of drawing as the show's title states.

Artists interested in participating can contact Pearce by email apearce@valdosta.edu. All drawings must be submitted by Dec. 20 to either the VSU Art Department, VSU Fine Arts Building, corner of Oak and Brookwood, or the Turner Center, 527 N. Patterson St.

The Drawproject's opening, reception and auction to raise funds are scheduled for the evening of Tuesday, Jan. 15.

"We're grateful to the VSU Art Department, the artists who donate unique, original artwork, and to the sponsors Guardian Bank and Classic Art & Frames for making the Drawproject an enduring success," said Cheryl Oliver, Turner Center executive director. "We also appreciate the patrons who attend the event and make it fun with their bidding. They not only bring excitement to the evening, they end up with highly prized art pieces."



'I'm So Lonesome I Could Cry,' artist Bob Caruthers, Canyon, Texas, from Drawproject 2009.



GALLERY

"Barrier Islands: Creations of Tide and Time" featuring artists Mary Jane Volkmann, Brenda Hofreiter, and Nancy Moskovitz is on display, along with "Water Under Pressure," the hand-painted prints of artist Leslie Peebles; artist Jeffrey Smart Baisden's "Drawing Close"; the East African Art exhibit, the fine European porcelain exhibit, and the return of the annual snow village exhibit.

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

Run dates: The shows run through Jan. 9, 2013.

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 opening reception dates).

Admission: Free.

More information: Call (229) 247-2787; or visit www.turnercenter.org



'White-tailed Buck on Morning Walk,' artist Nancy Moskovitz.

Three artists explore the Barrier Islands

Sunday, November 25, 2012 **5C**

BY DEAN POLING
THE VALDOSTA DAILY TIMES

VALDOSTA — Three Florida artists bring to life the “Barrier Islands: Creations of Tide and Time,” a panoramic exhibit showing at the Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts.

This show features paintings by Mary Jane Volkmann, Brenda Hofreiter, and Nancy Moskovitz. Together, they take viewers on a coastal tour of vibrant beauty and powerful moods.

Viewing these works, you may sense the breeze on your face, smell the salt in your nose, and feel the grit of sand between your toes.

Volkmann is a signature member of Plein Air Florida, a group committed to painting the outdoors while being in the outdoors.

“I’ve been told I’m a lyrical painter,” Volkmann says in an artistic statement.

“That statement makes me smile, because whether a painting stems from watching a bird land on a twisted branch or from observing golden grass wave musically on a warm afternoon, I wonder at the metaphors of spirit which seem to reflect themselves in everything I see. As an artist and as a person, I am captivated by the diverse sea of faces and lifestyles in our human family and I am humbled by the exquisite beauty of the natural world which supports us and is entrusted to our care. My paintings are my explorations, my questions, my meditations and my contemplations.”

Hofreiter is a fourth-generation Floridian. She founded Plein Air Painters of Central Florida and served six years as its president.

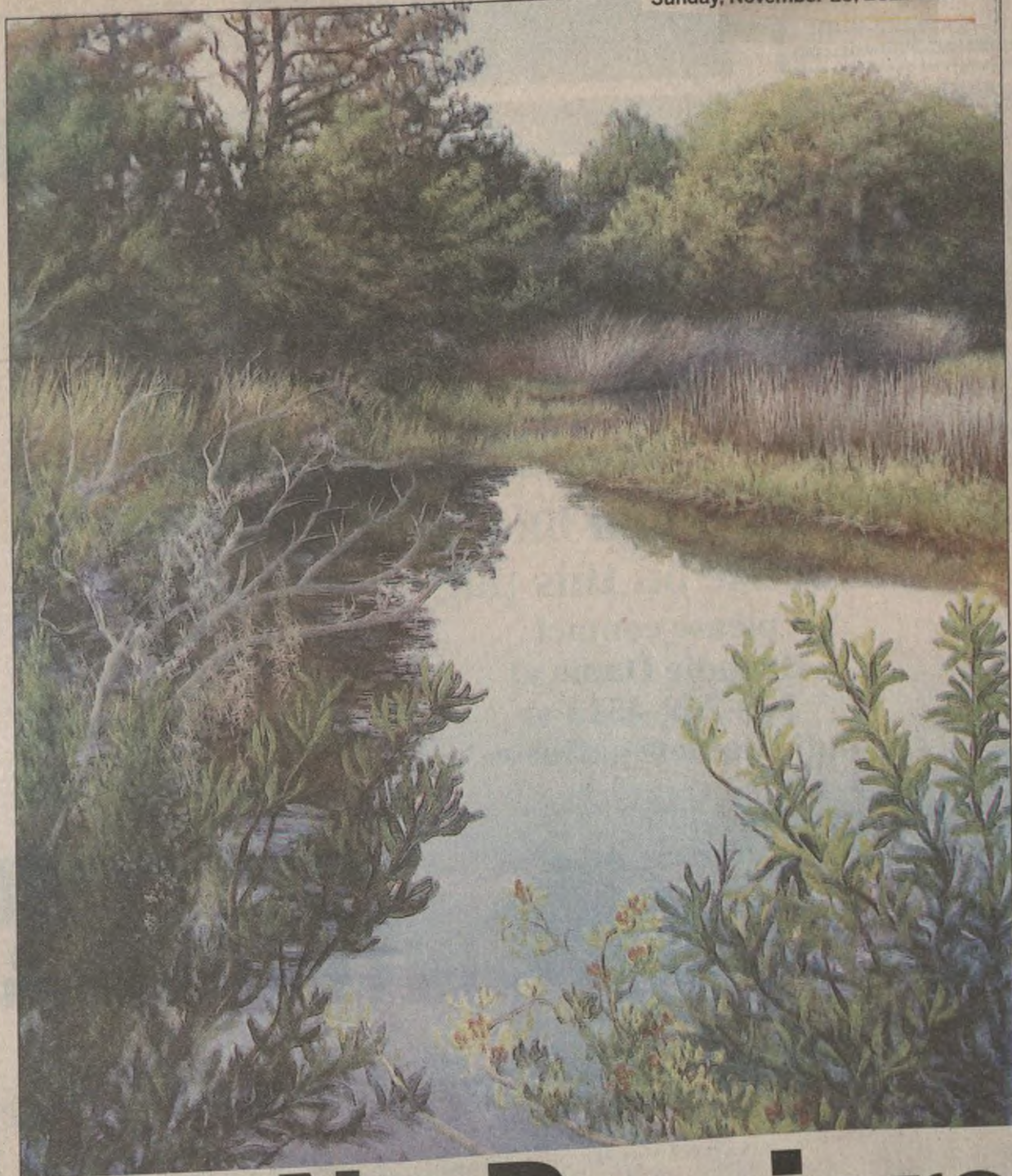
“Painting ‘en plein air’ is the way I express my intimate connection to the land,” Hofreiter says in an artistic statement.

“My paintings are window to my world, and share with the viewer the peace and serenity find in the timeless beauty of nature.”

Moskovitz spent two years, 2007-08, as the artist in residency at the Georgia state park on Sapelo Island.

“I need to be near the ocean, to smell the air, to taste its saltiness and feel its sting. Every childhood summer featured a week on Cape Cod, Mass. Maybe that’s why I live on the peninsula called Florida,” Moskovitz says in an artistic statement.

“My artistic journey follows many paths. This path joins me to artist friends Mary Jane Volkmann and Brenda Hofreiter to combine my love of the sea with a mission to share the beauty and purpose of our barrier islands.”



No Barriers

Life



Under PRESSURE

Artist creates bold wildlife prints

BY DEAN POLING
THE VALDOSTA DAILY TIMES

VALDOSTA — Artist Leslie Peebles blends the elements of graphic illustration with fine art in her dynamic "Wildlife Under Pressure" exhibit showing at the Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts.

The Alachua, Fla., artist creates indelible imagery from North Florida in the media of hand-painted relief prints and oil paintings. While her oils are moving, it is her series of prints that captivate through rhythmic line work and bold colors.

Though a New Jersey native, Peebles seems to have an innate eye for capturing the North Florida terrain and its population of pelicans, cranes, tortoises and gators. Her family moved to North Florida in 1971 when she was about 12 years old.

"North Florida has been my home for most of my life and my images depict the land, trees, wildlife and people of the area," Peebles says in an artistic statement. "I believe there are many layers to the perception of reality. My art reveals deeper layers; it reveals soulful, spiritual or mythical dimensions of places and beings. I want others to see the ethereal and Eden-like beauty of the world around us as I see it."

In creating her print images, Peebles first draws what she sees. She transfers these drawings to blocks of linoleum and wood. She carves the images into the wood or linoleum. "I print their surfaces onto hand-made paper using a century old

"I believe there are many layers to the perception of reality. My art reveals deeper layers; it reveals soulful, spiritual or mythical dimensions of places and beings."

GALLERY

"Water Under Pressure," the hand-painted prints of artist Leslie Peebles, appears along with artist Jeffrey Smart Baisden's "Drawing Close"; "Barrier Islands: Creations of Tide and Time" featuring artists Mary Jane Volkmann, Brenda Hofreiter, and Nancy Moskovitz; the East African Art exhibit, the fine European porcelain exhibit, and the return of the annual snow village exhibit.

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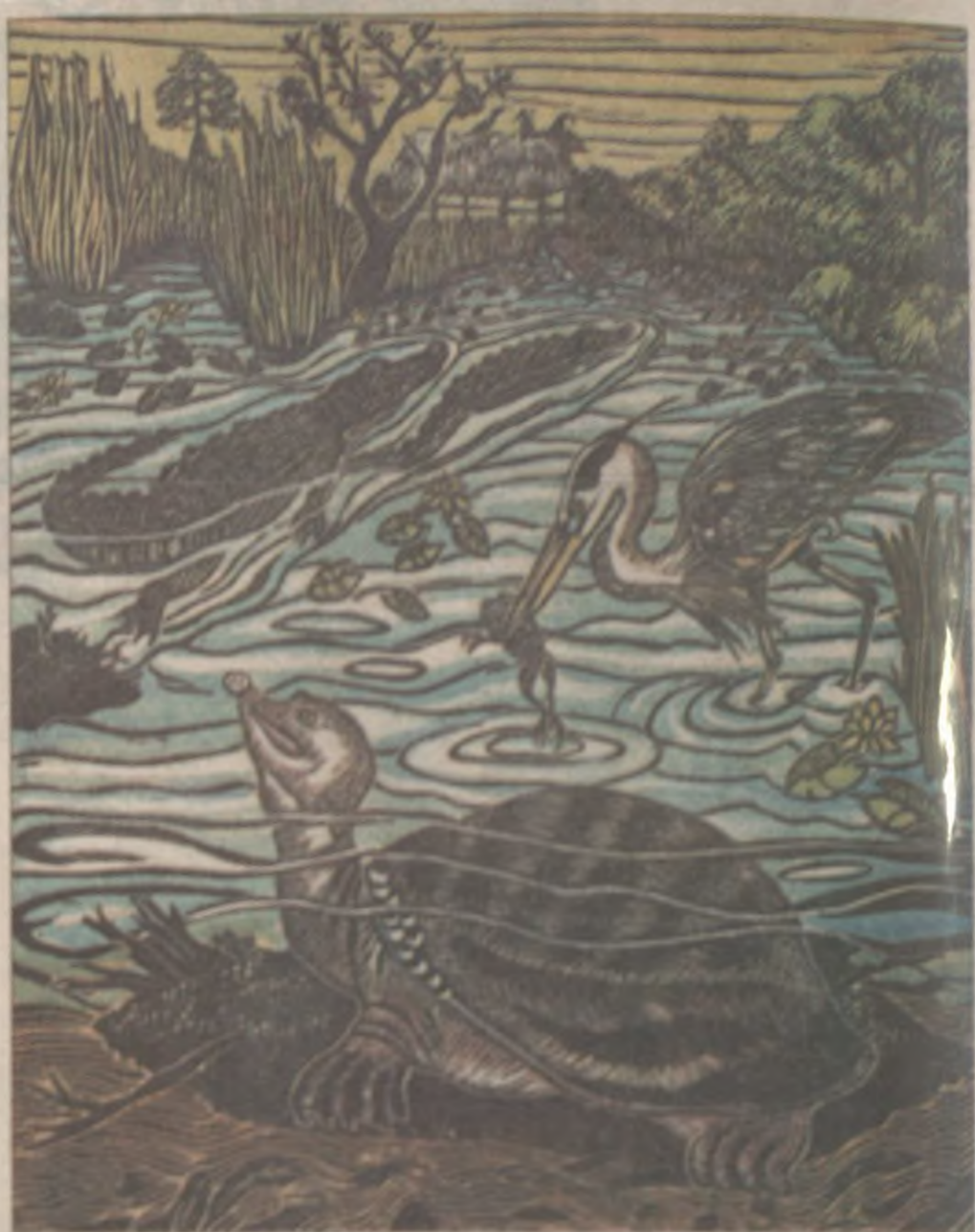
Admission: Free.

More information: Call (229) 247-2787; or visit www.turnercenter.org

Charles Brand Etching Press and then watercolor directly into the prints."

Peebles seeks the relationships between landscapes, lifeforms and the elements and how they affect one another.

"Gnarled forms reveal a triumphant history of struggle against the elements," Peebles says. "Communities of individuals coexist in harmony and support each other's survival. I want to inspire people to identify with and cherish life through meaningful imagery."



Art by Leslie Peebles.



Brooks County singing troupe presents World War II show

BY DEAN POLING
THE VALDOSTA DAILY TIMES

QUITMAN — A Brooks County-based singing group returns to the stage this week with a new patriotic show, a performance to commemorate Veterans Day this weekend.

Sounds of Dixie presents "I'll Be Seeing You: A Musical Tribute to America's Greatest Generation," said Elizabeth Jones of Dixie, who directs the show with fellow musician Andy Daughtry.

"The music from this era is very lyrical and passionate," Jones says.

Opening with the National Anthem, "I'll Be Seeing You" presents a retrospective of World War II-era songs as well as Broadway and patriotic tunes.

Songs include "This Is My Country," "Yankee Doodle Dandy," "Grand Old Flag," "Accentuate the Positive," "A Nightingale Sang in Berkeley Square," "It's Been a Long, Long Time," "Love Letters," songs from the musicals "Oklahoma" and "The Sound of Music," "Stardust," "Begin the Beguine," "Don't Get Around Much," "I'll Be Seeing You," and more.

The show will include a military medley paying tribute to audience members from the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, and Coast Guard.

Throughout the show, Cheryl Oliver, the Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts executive director, will narrate an original

SHOWTIME

Quitman United Methodist Church and Quitman/Brooks County Museum & Cultural Center present The Sounds of Dixie's "I'll Be Seeing You."

When: 7:30 p.m., Thursday, Nov. 8.

Where: Quitman United Methodist Church, East Screven Street, Quitman.

Ticket: \$15. Advanced tickets available from the church (263-8622) and the museum (263-6000).

script.

"I'll Be Seeing You" is the latest show from Elizabeth Jones' Sounds of Dixie. Oliver has also worked on several of the past productions. These shows include salutes to Andrew Lloyd Weber, Cole Porter, the best of Broadway, and other patriotic and World War II-related shows.

The shows feature local and regional talent. Many of the performers are Jones' one-time students.

CAST: Larry Adams, Renee Bradford, accompanist Andy Daughtry, Gail Bearrentine, Lori Carnine, Bob Gaines, Margie Grant, guest soloist J.J. Hobbs, James Horton, Erin McKenzie, Karin Murray, Electa Ricket, Jimmy Sirmans, Jeannie Wisenbaker.

DIRECTION: Elizabeth Jones and Andy Daughtry, directors; Cheryl Oliver, narrator.

Opinion

WHAT WE THINK

Center: Fine things with fine arts

It's no secret that the Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts stays busy, but lately, the center has seemed to be the epicenter of busy.

Two weeks ago, arts center staff hosted and organized the visit of the professionally touring show "Nunset Boulevard" as part of its Presenter Series season at Mathis City Auditorium.

Center staff hosted a couple of hundred people to lunch and enjoy a presentation by a cookbook author.

The arts center has also enjoyed the presentation of "Flaunt," a traveling exhibit of fashions created from recycled materials.

From 5-7 p.m. today, the arts center holds a reception to open several new art exhibits which feature the stunning color pencils of Jeffrey Smart Baisden; Barrier Islands images by artists Mary Jane Volk-

mann, Brenda Hofreiter, and Nancy Moskovitz; hand-painted wildlife relief prints and oil paintings by Leslie Peebles. The reception also opens a new holiday season featuring the annual snow village in the children's gallery, as well as the permanent collection pieces of East African art and fine European porcelain.

If that's not enough, the center hosts the song show of "War Bonds," presented by a professional performing husband-and-wife team. It is a 1940s revue that salutes the World War II era just in time for Veterans Day with a 7:30 p.m., Nov. 12, performance scheduled inside the arts center.

Cheryl Oliver, the arts center's staff and board of directors deserve hearty applause for all of their works.

They do fine things with the fine arts.

It's all about choice...and er



There's a place at the table for **YOU!**

Our Chamber members include very large businesses with more than 500 employees, and very small one-person businesses. We represent banks, retailers, hoteliers, restaurants, manufacturers, doctors, lawyers...you name it. Our members include businesses that have been around for more than 100 years, and some that have been around for less than 100 days.

With 1,500+ members, we realize the needs of our members vary. For some, having a voice in advocacy is most important, while others see the ability to network and advertise as essential. The "one size fits all" membership just doesn't work anymore.

We exist to serve YOU! So no matter how big or small, or what industry you are in, we want to create a Chamber membership that serves the special needs of YOUR business. So instead of a membership dues formula based on number of employees or type of business, our new tiered dues structure is all about YOU. Members can now choose the level of service and benefits that's right for their business.



CHAMBER
CENTENNIAL
GALA

Centennial Marks 100

"Thank You" Centennial Champions!

- Azalea Health Innovations
- Bill & Anne Shenton
- Brantley & Lori Cauley
- Bush Wealth Management
- Chet & Myrna Ballard
- Citizens Community Bank
- CJB Industries, Inc.
- Classic Art & Frame
- Coleman Talley, LLP
- Covington's Dining & Catering
- Dick & Jane Shelton
- Don & Carla Penny
- DuPont Crop Protection
- Elliott, Blackburn & Gooding, P.C.
- Emil & Patti Girardin
- ERCO Worldwide
- Express Employment Professionals
- First State Bank & Trust
- Fowler, Holley, Rambo and Stalvey, PC
- G&G Family Medical Center
- Georgia Power Company
- Heritage Bank of the South
- Jerry and Terri Lupo
- Mary & Tom Gooding
- McDonald Nurseries & Landscaping
- Mediacom
- Medicare Supplement Ins. Services
- Premier Rental-Purchase
- Prince Automotive Group
- SCANA Energy
- Southeastern Federal Credit Union
- Southwest Georgia Bank
- Sparkles Weddings and Special Events
- Stan & Sue Cox
- Steve Barnes - In memory of MSgt. Norman D. Barnes
- Sunset Farm Foods
- Tim & Bobbie Jones
- Valdosta-Lowndes County Tourism Authority
- Valdosta-Lowndes Industrial Authority
- Valenti, Rackley & Associates, LLC
- Valdosta Insurance Services
- Valwood School
- Wild Adventures Theme Park
- Wiregrass Georgia Technical College

The Valdosta-Lowndes business community found a collective voice in September 2012, when the Valdosta-Lowndes County Chamber was born. Today, 100 years later, the Chamber is comprised of more than 1,500 members representing virtually every business sector.

Anniversaries are a wonderful time for reflection, but they also encourage a look into the future. Now, more than ever, leaders need to look ahead at what's coming down the road. Elections, uncertainty, and economic instability loom large, and it's more important than ever that the business community present a united front, working together to ensure that businesses and citizens have the opportunity to innovate, create jobs, and thrive in a robust economy for many years to come.

"The Chamber, like many others, has been working tirelessly for a century to encourage growth, and create jobs in our community. It has learned from each victory, and defeat, how to be better, stronger, and more nimble for its members and the community," said **Tim Jones** (Citizens Community Bank). "As this year's Chairman of the Board, I am honored to celebrate 100 years of Chamber service to the business community and Citizens Community Bank looks forward to helping make the next 100 years worth celebrating even more."



Chairman Tim Jones raises a glass to toast 100 years of progress for the Chamber and the community, and to commend Chamber President **Myrna Ballard** for 15 years of strong leadership.



Chamber staff poses for a quick portrait at the Gala. Pictured are **Erika Bennett** (Director of Government Affairs & Marketing), **Mike Stalvey** (Senior Director of Operations), **Keyara Hamilton** (Director of Business & Workforce Development), **Patty Martin** (Administrative Coordinator), **Myrna Ballard** (Chamber President), **Karil Brockington** (Senior Director of Administration), **Betty Morgan** (Vice President), **Wanda Stanley** (Director of Communications), and **Varian Brown** (Director of Economic Development).

Ring Container Technology
 Robinson Insurance
 S & M Air Duct Cleaning/Pressure Washing
 Sabrina Auto Sales, Inc.
 Salvage
 Sam Dennis, Attorney
 Sean Strickland-IT Guy
 Secured Benefits Group
 Servpro of Valdosta
 Sew and So Fabrics
 Shapiro Properties, LLC
 Shaw Brothers
 Sherwin-Williams Company #2138
 Signature Landscapes, Inc.
 Slone Associates, Inc.
 Smok'n Pig B-B-Q
 Solstas Lab Partners
 Sonny Shroyer
 South GA Solar Power
 South Georgia Die & Machining Co.
 Southeastern Federal Credit Union
 Southern Carpet & Tile, LLC
 Southern Grace Farms
 Southern Pediatric Clinic
 Southern Printer Cartridge Supply
 Sparkles Weddings & Special Events
 Spring Chase Apartments
 St. Barnabas Episcopal Church
 Stellar Photo Booth Rental
 Stone Creek Golf Club
 Stratas Foods
 Summers Concrete Contracting, Inc.
 Sunrise Bank Valdosta
 Sunset Farm Foods, Inc.
 SurEste Cantina
 T & C Services
 The Fish Net Restaurant
 The Flower Gallery
 The Foot & Ankle Institute of South Georgia, P.C.
 The Gathering, UMC
 The Haven, Battered Women's Shelter
 The Links
 The Pool Store
 The Scruggs Company
 TherapyWorks Pediatric Center, LLC
 Thomas Collision, Inc.

Three Oaks Apartments
 Tillman & Tillman, LLP
 T-Mobile #8040
 Toads & Teacups Childrens Shop
 Total Image Productions
 Triangle Furniture Sofa & Mattress Outlet
 Turner Insurance Services, LLC
 U.S. Cleaning Services Etc, Inc.
 UniHealth Source of Valdosta
 Union Tank Car Company
 United Hospice, Inc.
 USA Funnies
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 Valdosta Junior Service League
 Valdosta Mall
 Valdosta Mayor's Council for
 Persons with Disabilities
 Valdosta Mechanical Company
 Valdosta Rotary Club
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 Langdale College of Business
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 Variety Canteen
 Village Shoe Repair
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 WCTV
 Webster University
 Wes Sewell Photography
 Whisk Organic Food Market
 Williams Investment Company/
 Williams Hotel Group
 Wingfoot Truck Care (Wingfoot
 Commercial Tires, LLC)
 Wooden Nickel Pub Holding Co., LLC
 Woodlawn Forrest Church of Christ
 Worksite Benefit Solutions, LLC
 WTLH/WTLF
 Yancey Brothers
 Yes, it's Cake!
 Young, Thagard, Hoffman, Smith
 & Lawrence, LLP
 Zant's Flower Shop
 Zaxby's



With your membership investment and by volunteering with the Chamber, you will help promote quality business development in the community.


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Advanced membership benefits.



Denise McKenzie (Bank of the Ozarks) Executive Membership, **Jim Sineath** (Georgia Warehouse) Premium Member, **Cheryl Oliver** (Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts) Non-Profit Membership, **Jeff Fulp** (ERCO Worldwide) Chairman's Circle, **Josh Braun** (Gander Mountain) Enterprise Membership, **Ronnie Pierce** (Creative Photography) Business Membership, **Mr. and Mrs. Martin** (Silver Star Members).

Visit ValdostaChamber.com to review the new membership levels and maximize your membership benefits.

The Chamber now has the following membership levels to choose from:



- **Chairman's Circle** - Be among 12 top community investors. Receive the maximum Chamber benefits and ensure the Chamber is able to continue programs aimed to build a higher quality of life and strengthen the local economy.

| | |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Bush Wealth Management | Citizens Community Bank |
| ERCO Worldwide Inc. | First State Bank and Trust |
| Georgia Power | Southeastern Federal Credit Union |
| South Georgia Medical Center | Valdosta State University |

Would you like to be a part of this elite group? There are only 4 Chairman's Circle memberships left!



- **Executive Membership** - Set your business above the rest with increased opportunities for exposure and interaction.



- **Premium Membership** - If you have multiple businesses, they can all be involved and receive benefits at a special rate at this level.

- **Enterprise Membership** - Promote your business by receiving special recognition for investing more than the basic level.

- **Business Membership** - Get connected. With access to approximately 25 Chamber events each year the networking opportunities are endless. Take advantage of member-only prices, services, marketing and advertising opportunities.

- **Non-Profit Membership** - Receive all the benefits of a business membership at a discounted non-profit rate.



- **Silver Star Membership** - Designed for retired individuals and couples who want to stay engaged with the business world and network with other retirees.

- **Associate Membership** - An avenue for government employees or individuals not associated with a business to keep in touch with Chamber professionals and activities.



'Arabesque,' artist Jeffrey Smart Baisden.

Something to Talk About

6C Sunday, November 4, 2012

Jeffrey Smart Baisden is a master of the medium but there's more to see and say

BY DEAN POLING
THE VALDOSTA DAILY TIMES

VALDOSTA — Every discussion about Jeffrey Smart Baisden's artwork seems to center on her exquisite skills with color pencils.

There's good reason for this.

People attending this week's opening of new exhibits at the Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts will realize that Baisden is a master of the medium.

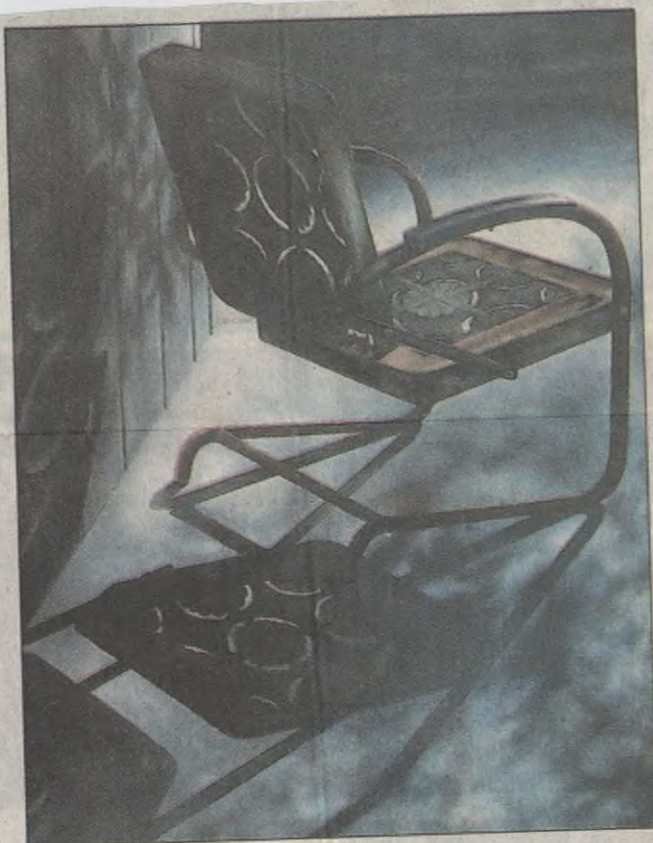
Through colored pencils, the Live Oak, Fla., artist creates photorealistic images of subjects that demand attention to both detail and color: The glistening forever reflections of silverware pieces piled atop one another; the striations of rust, metal, primer and paint in an outdoor chair.

Her work is meticulous and true.

Yet, people rarely comment on Baisden's composition. She is a master. It's not just a "pile" of silverware, but an artfully cropped arrangement of interweaving layers of silverware. In "Between the Horns of the Dilemma," she finds a strong composition in the arrangement of metal folding chairs in a gathering place.

Yet, even further than her mastery of medium and eye for composition, it seems few ever discuss the pensive and lonely quality of her work. With an absence of people, her images can evoke a feeling of abandonment as in the long shadows of the chair in "Forward Observer." Or the pending action as people fill those folding chairs of "Dilemma" with their bodies as they fill the charged air with the debate of their ideas.

While no one is present, there's much happening thematically in Baisden's work and that's something to talk about.



'Forward Observer,' artist Jeffrey Smart Baisden.

GALLERY

Artist Jeffrey Smart Baisden's "Drawing Close" is joined by "Barrier Islands: Creations of Tide and Time" featuring artists Mary Jane Volkmann, Brenda Hofreiter, and Nancy Moskovitz; "Water Under Pressure," the hand-painted prints of artist Leslie Peebles; along with the East African Art exhibit, the fine European porcelain exhibit, and the return of the annual snow village exhibit.

Opening reception: A free, public reception is scheduled for 5-7 p.m. Monday, Nov. 5.

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

Run dates: The shows run Nov. 5 through Jan. 9, 2013.

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 opening reception dates).

Admission: Free.

More information: Call (229) 247-2787 or visit www.turner-center.org

LIFE



'Between the Horns of the Dilemma,' artist Jeffrey Smart Baisden.

FLAUNT

FROM PAGE 1C

and neither had many of the artists. "It made every artist step outside of the box," said Timmons.

The exhibit's recycled and fresh twist on fashion showcases a variety of artists whose mediums are subtly reflective in each of the dresses.

"Flaunt" will remain in Valdosta until Nov. 13, when it will travel to Albany.

During the opening in Thomasville, each artist "flaunted" their pieces that were judged while models walked the green carpet and stood like mannequins on tree stumps to showcase that any trash could be turned to class in the right artist's hands.

"We are just extremely proud that Tracey was selected as only one of 28 in this prestigious art event," said Oliver. "We are proud to partner with the Thomasville Center for the Arts in presenting the opportunity to view these remarkable dresses."

The Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts will hold a reception 5-7 p.m. Monday, Nov. 5, that will introduce five new artists, the new children's art exhibit, the annual snow village display, and the "Flaunt" exhibit.

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Artist Cathy Corredor made this strapless, short-sleeved peacock creation from a thrift store rescue and recycled items such as silver aluminum pop tops and copper wire.



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This 'Toyota Junk' creation was made by Darlene Crosby of the Thomasville Center for the Arts which spearheaded 'Flaunt!'

FLAUNT

Fashion from Trash to Class

BY BRITTANY D. MCCLURE
THE VALDOSTA DAILY TIMES

VALDOSTA — Twenty-eight artists turned trash to class in the newest traveling art exhibit called "Flaunt" at the Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts.

"Every dress is made of recycled and upcycled material from each of the artist's sponsors," said arts center Executive Director Cheryl Oliver.

The show — which opened Sept. 7 at the Thomasville Center for the Arts — was in partnership with Downtown Thomasville and Keep Thomas County Beautiful.

Hundreds applied to the juried competition that judged each artist's work but also had a unique condition that called for each chosen artist to make a dress from 100 percent recycled material from an assigned sponsor.

"The call for artists was for those who used upcycled materials in their medium," said development coordinator for the Center for the Arts and Flaunt artist Tracey Timmons. "The dress was just a condition of the show."

Timmons is not a formally trained artist but makes jewelry from precious metal clay.

"It's a fine silver dust with an organic binder and water," said Timmons. "It's moldable."

Though she has never entered a juried competition, Timmons sent an application and pictures of five samples of her work hoping to be one of just 28 chosen to be a part of the exhibit.

"I found out in June that I was selected," said Timmons.

Every artist was assigned to one of 28 merchant locations in Downtown Thomasville where their show pieces — Timmons created 13 pendants — would be displayed and was also assigned a sponsor who would provide the recycled materials.

Timmons was paired with



Artist Tracey Timmons poses with her dress made out of a million dollars worth of shredded currency from the Thomasville National Bank.

The Gift Shop in Thomasville and the Thomasville National Bank. Thomasville National Bank chose the material of a million dollars worth of shredded currency, coin rolls and money boxes.

Each artist was given about a month but Timmons finished her dress in one weekend.

"Once the idea hit me, I just went for it," said Timmons.

Timmons used paintable wallpaper as the base material for her creation.

"I needed something heavy enough to hold glue without warping it," said Timmons.

She crafted the bodice using duct tape. After forming the shape, she painted glue onto the surface and packed on shredded currency in roughly six-inch strips.

The dress had to be worn by a model, so Timmons cut a strip straight down the back and used Velcro to hold it together.

She used a money box to make a purse and coin rolls to make bows which she placed on the model's shoes.

The idea for Timmons' creation came from the inspiration of every girl's secret weapon: The little black dress.

"The Gift Shop is a really elegant, upscale store," said Timmons. "I wanted my dress to fit the store."

Timmons' challenge was to not make the dress look crafty.

"I wanted it to look elegant," said Timmons.

Elegant doesn't even begin to describe the delectable piece of fashion.

Like Monet's "A Sunday on La Grande Jatte," from afar, the method is unnoticeable. As you walk closer, you begin to see the detail in each shredded bill.

At a distance, you see the creation, but up close, you witness the masterpiece that is the devotion of manipulating a million dollars worth of currency into an appealing yet functional piece of art.

Though Timmons works with upscaled material with her jewelry, she has never worked with recycled material to this extent,

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Life



PHOTO BY WILLIAM THE PHOTOGRAPHER

'Tisani,' an exhibit featuring dresses made from 100 percent recycled material, will be at the Bennett Howard Turner Center for the Arts through Nov. 22.