
Community Archives - Turner Center for the Arts Scrapbook Collection

CA/007-02-011

2015-2017

Turner Center Binder 11 2015-2017

Turner Center for the Arts

For this and additional works see: [Vtext - Scholarly Texts and Research at Valdosta State University](#)

UUID: 9CFC1FF7-7773-4899-81B5-6172221C79F9

Recommended Citation:

Turner Center for the Arts. "Turner Center Binder 11 2015-2017." *Turner Center for the Arts Scrapbook Collection*, Valdosta State University Archives and Special Collections, Valdosta, Georgia. <https://hdl.handle.net/10428/7101>

This item is part of the *Community Archives: Turner Center for the Arts Scrapbook Collection* at Valdosta State University Archives and Special Collections. Physical and intellectual rights are reserved by the Turner Center. Physical materials were loaned to Valdosta State University Archives and Special Collections for the purposes of digital preservation. The digital items here are part of an online collection only. If you have any questions or concerns contact archives@valdosta.edu

Valdosta 'Springs' Into Art

story and photos by **JASON A. SMITH**

The 29th Annual Spring Into Art exhibit was held at the Annette Turner Center for the Arts Monday, April 11.

The exhibit hosted 388 artworks by 211 artists. The works were divided into four different categories: Painting, drawing/printmaking/mixed media, digital arts/photography and sculpture/ceramics/jewelry/crafts. There was also a standalone category for best in show, with the winner receiving \$1,000.

The best in show winner was Alfred Phillips from Gainesville, Fla. His piece, "Kenny's Dock," is an acrylic painting. This was his third time entering the Spring into Art exhibit. The first year he entered, he was a recipient of the calendar selection. His second year, Phillips received an honorable mention.

"This is a fabulous way to showcase art in South Georgia and North Florida," Phillips said. "I am so pleased to be a part of it and fortunate to be an award winner."



Alfred Phillips' Best in Show work 'Kenny's Dock.'



Alan Sifuentes' second place work 'Light Bleed 4.'



Alfred Phillips' Merit Award work, '43rd & Newberry.'

Arts & Entertainment

MAY 2016

• Spring Into Art

Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts, 527 N. Patterson St. The most democratic exhibit in South Georgia displays hundreds of works by hundreds of area artists in all of the arts center's galleries. Show continues through June 8. Gallery hours: 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Tuesdays through Thursdays; 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays; closed Sundays and Mondays. Admission: Free. More information: Call (229) 247-2787; or visit www.turnercenter.org.

• "Leaving Iowa"

The Dosta Playhouse, 122 N. Patterson St. Theatre Guild Valdosta presents this play by playwrights Tim Clue & Spike Manton. Synopsis: "The story of Don Browning, a middle-aged writer, who returns home and decides to finally take his father's ashes to his childhood home, as requested. But when Don discovers Grandma's house is now a grocery store, he begins traveling across Iowa searching for a proper resting place for his father. This father-and-son road trip shifts...

• Peach State Summer Theatre

Sawyer Theatre, Valdosta State University Fine Arts Building, corner of Oak and Brookwood. The first show starts June 3; the second show starts June 17; the third show starts June 24; then all three productions are performed in rotating repertory through July 17.

• DISNEY'S

BEAUTY AND THE BEAST
PSST! originally produced the live stage version of the Disney animated classic 10 years ago. It was Peach State's second season and "Beauty" confirmed the

summer musical troupe could work in Valdosta after moving from Jekyll Island the previous year. The return of "Beauty and the Beast" to Sawyer Theatre in the Valdosta State University Fine Arts Building marks the first time PSST! has re-staged one of its past shows. The story is the Disney version of the fairy tale involving a beautiful girl who is held by a man cursed to be a beast. If someone falls in love with the beast, the curse is lifted. The Disney film received an Oscar nomination for best picture. As the movie, the stage version includes songs such as the title theme and "Be Our Guest." The show has a family-friendly rating. Jacquie Wheeler, PSST! artistic director, directs this show. She is a regular director of PSST! shows.

• RING OF FIRE

Subtitled "The Johnny Cash Songbook," "Ring of Fire" features several songs from the late Man in Black's repertoire. Unlike the 2015 PSST! hit "Always ... Patsy Cline" featuring an actress playing Cline,

"Ring of Fire" does not include an actor portraying Cash, Guthrie said. Instead, a small cast of eight tells the Cash story through his songs and choreography. Like a Johnny Cash album, the song selection ranges from hell to heaven, good-timing to gospel, sinners to saints. The show contains adult themes which may not be suitable for all audiences. The director has yet to be announced.

• NICE WORK IF YOU CAN GET IT

Something old is new again. Essentially, the songs of George and Ira Gershwin were used to

create this new musical set in the 1920s that debuted on Broadway in 2012. The story involves bootleggers and love in the Prohibition era. The show is mostly family friendly but does contain some adult themes which may not be suitable for all audiences. Randy Wheeler directs this show. He has directed a show in each season of PSST!



More information: Visit www.valdosta.edu/psst.





THE POOL STORE
ONE STOP SHOP FOR ALL YOUR POOL SUPPLIES

Service, Repairs, Playsets, Grills & Patio Furniture

247-6440
3363 N. Valdosta Rd.
www.thepoolstore.net

916/285

Furniture Express 
Outlet  **Beds for Less**



Most Selection • More Savings
Area's Largest Selection of
Mattresses • Bedrooms • Living Rooms • Dinettes

229-293-0040 • 808 N. Patterson
www.bedsforlessvaldosta.com

6881/26



Mary O. Smith's second place work 'Walking the Bank.'



Annette Crosby's first place work 'Tribal Dance.'



Travis D. Simmons' third place work 'Dance of the Dying.'



Jill Bright's 'Planting and Harvesting.'



Brandon Blaine McMillian's second place work 'Sister.'



D. Arthur McBride's Merit Award work 'Blessing (Paul Cardall).'

The exhibit will be hosted at the **Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts, 527 N. Patterson St., through June 8.**

Gallery hours: 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Tuesday through Thursday; 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays; closed Sunday and Monday with the exception of opening reception dates.

Admission is free during normal gallery hours.

For more information, call (229) 247-2787 or visit turnercenter.org.

Full list of Spring Into Art award winners:

In the painting category, first place went to Nicole Rosseland from St. Marys for her untitled oil painting. Second place went to Mary O. Smith from Woodbine for her oil painting, "Walking the Bank." Third place went to Jeanne Cowart of Valdosta for her oil painting, "Edge of the Woods."

In the **drawing/printmaking/mixed media** category, first place went to Annette Crosby of Valdosta for her mixed-media work, "Tribal Dance." Second place went to Brandon Blain McMillan of Hahira for his mixed-media resin work, "Sister." Third place went to Travis D. Simmons of Valdosta for his mixed-media work, "Dance of the Dying."

In the **digital arts/photography** category, first place went to Deborah Baird of Woodbine for her photography work, "Quarry." Second place went to Alan Sifuentes of Valdosta for his inkjet enlarged silver gelatin photograph, "Light Bleed 4." Third place went to Joe Morgan of Valdosta for his photography work, "Not Your Mother's Airforce."

In the **sculpture/ceramics/jewelry/crafts** category, first place went to Ron Borders of Valdosta for his glass-and-wood work, "Pride." Second place went to Donald Penny of Hahira for his stoneware work, "Moon Vessel." Third place went to Debi Davis of Valdosta for her jewelry work, "Turquoise Defined."

Honorable mentions went to Philip Bagrow of Norfolk, Va. for his oil painting, "Silver and Lemons," Cynthia W. Council of Valdosta for her oil painting, "The Princess Story," Billy A. Dykes of Valdosta for his basswood work, "Hang Tuff," Rosemary S. Ferguson of Tallahassee Fla., for her watercolor, "Beach Cottages," Colleen Harris of Valdosta for her oil painting, "Valdosta Shopkeeper, 1869," Donna May Hatcher of Tifton for her mixed-media work, "Residue 2015," Pong Holton of Douglas for the sculpture "Funny Face," Stefani A. Joseph of Savannah for her oil painting, "Alice Invades the Studio of the Infanta Margarita," Suzanna Winton of Thomasville for her watercolor, "The Barbershop" and Linda Wunder of Jekyll Island for her mixed-media work, "American Bald Eagles."

Merit awards went to Brenda C. Anderson of Valdosta for her oil painting, "Artichokes II," David Barclay of Apalachicola, Fla., for his carved woodwork, "New Mexico," Bebe L. Blanton of Valdosta for the acrylic painting "Peace," Harvie Ann Cox of Moultrie for the watercolor

"Garden Fairy," Nancy S. Crombie of Valdosta for her oil painting, "Sunset on Farm," Efrain Cruz for the mixed-media work "I Died for You," Dot Dowling of Albany for her rattan reed, antler and pine needle work, "Lavender," Larry Elshoff of Lake City, Fla., for his film photography work, "Sculpture Gardens," Michael Galindo of Valdosta for the unlisted media works "Spider" and "Spiral," Sharon Hester of Perry, Fla., for the colored pencil work "Skimmer at Franklin Pond," Pong Holton of Douglas for the basket work "Jhon Cato," Robert E. Johnston of Blackshear for his crafts work, "A Cigar Box Guitar," J. Stephen Lahr of Valdosta for the acrylic painting "Skyview #35," D. Arthur McBride of Havana, Fla., for the oil painting "Blessing (Paul Cardall)," Reg Moore of Pinetta, Fla., for the acrylic painting "Herring Watch," Kathy Nelson of Hartsfield for her acrylic painting, "Where is Your Focus," Wyatt R. Nocera of Thomasville for the woven freestyle work "Pink Shrug," Alfred Philips of Gainesville, Fla., for his acrylic painting, "43rd & Newberry," Darlene Pilcher of Tifton for her watercolor, "Glorious Clouds," Jamerson Pitts of Lamont, Fla., for the acrylic painting "Jerry T & Flip Flop," Janet Post of Hastings, Fla., for her oil painting, "The Price of Freedom," Gale Poteat of Tallahassee for the watercolor "Night Blooming," Sally Turner Querin of Valdosta for her photograph, "Gay Pride Parade, New York," David Retterbush of Valdosta for his photograph, "Green Space," Michael T. Schmidt of Hahira for the cone 6 porcelain, gyrosprite work "Two Paper Cups," Pam Scruggs of Valdosta for her transparent watercolor, "Curing Bam," Karol D. Selvaggio of Tallahassee for the watercolor "Diamonds in the Sea," Carol Jo Smidt of Woodbine for the oil painting "Working Girl," L. Stephanie Smith of Quitman for her photograph, "Personal Effects, Gettysburg," Mary O. Smith of Woodbine for her watercolor, "Tugs," Zach Steele of Valdosta for his oil painting and oil pastels work, "How's Your Life," Krystle Stotler of Perry for her photograph, "Deconstruction Purging History," Andrea Thomas of Valdosta for the oil painting "Greenhouse Parchment," Ron Thomson of Tallahassee for his oil painting, "Sailing the Free Seas," Thomas M. Thomson of Havana, Fla., for his oil painting, "The Gate," Fred A. Ware of Valdosta for his photograph, "Even at Warp Speed," and Kalina Winska of Valdosta for her graphite on paper work, "Field Theory No. 1."

Arts & Entertainment

JUNE 2016

• **"Leaving Iowa"**

The Dosta Playhouse, 122 N. Ashley St. Theatre Guild Valdosta presents the play by playwrights Tim Clue & Spike Manton. Synopsis: "The story of Don Browning, a middle-aged writer, who returns home and decides to finally take his father's ashes to his childhood home, as requested. But when Don discovers Grandma's house is now a grocery store, he begins traveling across Iowa searching for a proper resting place for his father. This father-and-son road trip shifts from the present to Don's memories of the annual, torturous vacations of his childhood. Ultimately, Don's existential journey leads him to reconcile his past and present at an unpredictable but perfect final destination." **Run dates:** June 2-4. **More information:** (229) 24-STAGE; or visit www.theatreguildvaldosta.com



• **Artist Glenn Simmons** ↑

Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts, 527 N. Patterson St. Exhibit of work by Quitman resident and Valdosta native. Show opens with a free, public reception, 5-7 p.m., June 13. Show runs into August. 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) **More information:** (229) 247-2787; or visit turnercenter.org

• **Artist Todd Wessel**

Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts, 527 N. Patterson St. Exhibit of work by Valdosta artist. Show opens with a free, public reception, 5-7 p.m., June 13. Show runs into August. 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) **More information:** (229) 247-2787; or visit turnercenter.org



• **Artist Carol Smidt** ↑

Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts, 527 N. Patterson St. Exhibit of work by Woodbine artist. Show opens with a free, public reception, 5-7 p.m., June 13. Show runs into August. 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) **More information:** (229) 247-2787; or visit turnercenter.org

• **Hailee Steinfeld in concert**

Wild Adventures Theme Park, Old Clyattville Road. "Pitch Perfect 2," Academy Award nominee and pop radio recording artist with platinum single, "Love Myself," performs. **Run date:** June 4. **More information:** wildadventures.com

• **MercyMe in concert**

Wild Adventures Theme Park, Old Clyattville Road. Multiple American Music Award and Dove Award winning contemporary Christian band, with hit "I Can Only Imagine," performs. **Run date:** June 25. **More information:** wildadventures.com

• **Emerson Drive and Waterloo Revival in concert**

Wild Adventures Theme Park, Old Clyattville Road. Grammy-nominated country band best known for "Fall Into Me" and No. 1 single, "Moments," performs. **Run date:** July 2. **More information:** wildadventures.com



MercyMe
performing at
Wild Adventures Theme Park
June 25

Celebrations & Lifestyles

Sunday, June 12, 2016

www.valdostadailytimes.com



'Cherry Street,' artist Glenn Simmons.

Artistic Turns Center opens new shows

BY DEAN POLING
dean.poling@gafnews.com

VALDOSTA — Three featured painters and the city photo contest follow a legion of artists as the Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts prepares to follow the popular Spring Into Art with new exhibits opening this week.

Carol Jo Smidt is a Woodbine artist. Her exhibit is titled "Colors of Life." Her paintings will be displayed in the Price Campbell Foundation Gallery.

Todd Wessel is a Valdosta artist. The exhibit is titled "Impressionist Landscapes." His paintings will be displayed in the Sallie &

Harmon Boyette Gallery.

Glenn Simmons is a Quitman resident and Valdosta native. The exhibit is titled "Reborn." His paintings will be displayed in Josette's Gallery.

The City of Valdosta annual People's Choice Photography Contest features numerous photographs taken by area res-

idents. The photographs picture scenes throughout the city limits of Valdosta, in various categories. Arts center visitors vote for favorites. The show will be on display in the Tillman Gallery. Winners will be announced in July.

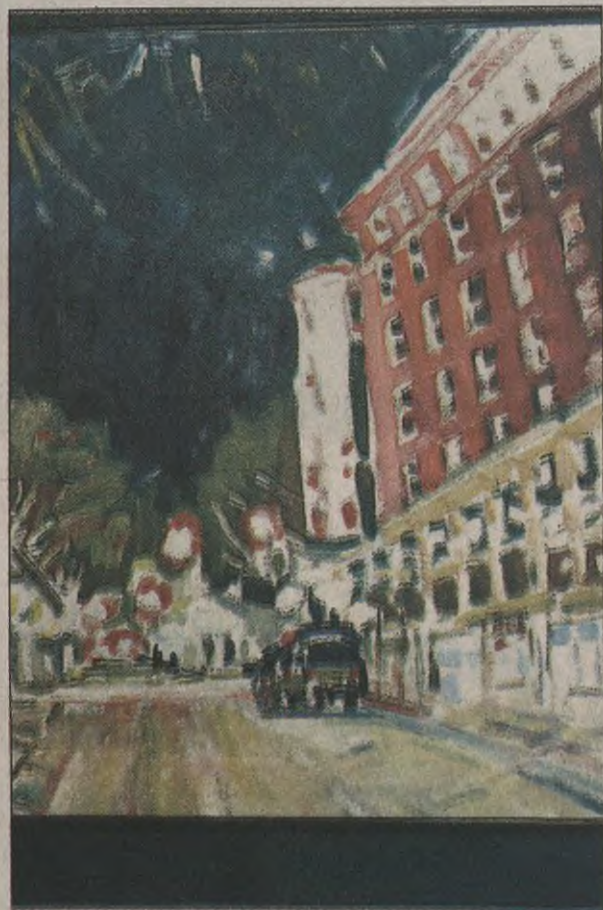
Art Explorations Student Exhibition of youth art will be displayed in the Roberta George Children's Gallery.

Fine European Porcelain Collection on display again in the Howard Gallery.

The new shows open with a free, public reception, 5-7 p.m. Monday. Show runs through July 27. 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) More information: Call (229) 247-2787; or visit turnercenter.org.



'Elk,' artist Carol Jo Smidt.



Art by Todd Wessel.

Get your local daily news, special offers & more delivered right to your inbox! **SIGN UP NOW >**

http://www.valdostadailytimes.com/news/local_news/smith-park-art-project-nears-completion/article_2717c45e-82c3-50ca-96ef-0fa0de810456.html

Smith Park art project nears completion

By Jason A. Smith jason.smith@gafnews.com May 28, 2016



Jason A. Smith | The Valdosta Daily Times Residents Ma'at and Melanie Chastang burn images onto wood for the Smith Park art project.

0

VALDOSTA — The community-based art project at Smith Park is scheduled to be completed by the end of the month.

“The project will be finished by the May 31,” said Jeff Mather, the lead artist.

Mather is a community-based public artist, environmental sculptor and teaching artist based in Atlanta, according to Community Built Association.

Local artists have been helping with the project along with community members.

"It is coming along awesome," said artist Joel Dion. "Everyone has a little bit of investment in the project."

There will be wood-burned art pieces applied to the final project, said Mather. Community members have come out and sketched pieces that are important to Valdosta or important to them individually.

The project has had more than 30 residents help with the project, said Steve Lahr, assistant chair on the Public Art Advisory Committee.

More than 130 students from Pinevale Elementary, Valdosta High School, Valdosta Middle School and Valdosta State University helped make preliminary sketches for the project.

The parts of different sketches were used to help design the final project.

The entire piece will be multi-colored, said Lahr. There will be four distinct colors.

"Each project, the PAAC has done is centered around Valdosta; this piece will echo the historic houses in the area," he said.

The piece is intended to be a friendly welcome to Valdosta.

"It will be a welcome to the historical downtown, Main Street and the art district of Valdosta without putting up a sign," said Lahr.

The art will be the sixth piece that the PAAC has put together in Valdosta, said Lahr. He said he hopes to see projects such as this created throughout town with the support of residents and businesses.

Jason Smith is a reporter at The Valdosta Daily Times. He can be contacted at 229-244-3400 ext.1256.

0 comments

Sign in

1 person listening

Scholarships available for aspiring guitarists

BY DEAN POLING
dean.poling@gafnews.com

VALDOSTA — Scholarship applications are available for young people

wanting to learn guitar. The Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts is accepting applications for the Hal & Jill Project. Organizers have been collecting donations of

old guitars and funds and seeking musicians to teach guitar lessons to young people who may have no other opportunity to learn how to play guitar. Cheryl Oliver, executive

director of the Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts, founded the Hal & Jill Project. The program is named for Oliver's children: Hal Johnson and Jill Johnson.

Jill was 3 1/2 years old when she died in a 1974 car wreck. Hal died in late January. He had been diagnosed with cancer only weeks earlier. He was 47 years old.

Hal Johnson was a musician. He played music, wrote songs and performed throughout his life. Oliver has said she

See Guitarists on 10A

wanted something to honor him as well as her young daughter. Given the integral part music played in her son's life and the need for musical instruction at the arts center, she said in a past interview she believes the Hal & Jill Project accomplishes both.

The project will teach youths 12-18 years old. Oliver said she envisions starting with two instructors, each teaching beginning instruction on the guitars to a group of six students, followed by individual instruction for the students truly interested in

learning the guitar.

The Hal & Jill Project is for the youth who wants to pick up a guitar but may have no other opportunity to learn the instrument.

Oliver said she witnessed the influence playing guitar had on her son's life. Introducing the guitar to young people, seeing music influence their lives, is a legacy her son would appreciate.

More information, email coliver@turnercenter.org, or visit www.turnercenter.org, or the arts center, 527 N. Patterson St., or call (229) 247-2787.

Art Blitzkrieg

Artist has days to finish project

BY DEAN POLING
dean.poling@gafnews.com

VALDOSTA — Planning is the secret for completing what is described as a "blitzkrieg of art."

The latest public art project must be completed by the end of the month with work scheduled to start this week.

Yet, planning for the latest public art began earlier this year, said Jeff Mather, an Atlanta-based artist in charge of the project, Stephen Lahr, a member

of the public art council, and Joel Dion, the artist in charge of one of the community art projects from last year.

During recent weeks, Mather has met with several young people who have offered drawings of possible designs. For example, Mather met with the Valdosta Middle School Art Club in April.

He had paper prepared that pictured the planned location of the public art. Students drew their proposals on top of the

location image on the paper.

The latest public art project will be created at Smith Park, a median strip of a park on Highway 84 to the east of downtown.

Mather plans to incorporate some of the student ideas into the artwork and needs additional community involvement to build the wooden structure in the next couple of weeks.

People interested in helping with the

See Art on 10A



DEAN POLING | THE VALDOSTA DAILY TIMES
Joel Dion, Jeff Mather and Steve Lahr at the Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts prepare for the latest public art project. The art will be a 'gateway' piece at Smith Park on Highway 84.

construction of the art may check with the Facebook site <https://www.facebook.com/jeffmathervaldostapublicartproject2016/>, where they should find a work schedule and can sign up for times to work on the project.

"I'll be setting up a work tent at the narrow end of the triangle park — across 84 westbound from the Family Dollar — and anytime that people see the tent set up, they are welcome to come by and check in on the project

in process and see if we need an extra hand, even if they haven't signed up for that time slot," Mather said.

Lahr said the artwork will be a gateway piece — serving as a gateway to Downtown Valdosta and the art district.

The project will be the latest public art piece for the area. During the past two years, Lahr and the public art advisory committee have overseen downtown community art projects such as the mosaic outlining the

history of the world and Valdosta, the mosaic planter, and the abstract metal-work locomotive design helmed last summer by Dion.

The Mather gateway piece is funded by a \$5,000 Vibrant Community Grant, Lahr said.

Mather has been involved in similar projects through the Community Built Association. He described some of his projects as "community built artworks for social justice."

Mather is a community-based

public artist, environmental sculptor and teaching artist based in Atlanta, according to Community Built Association.

"He is a lead artist, co-founder, and board president for the Atlanta Partnership for Arts in Learning," according to his Community Built bio. "He coaches the designing and building of large-scale architectural sculptures. He is a member of Alternate ROOTS and several of his community-based public art projects have been funded

by ROOTS' Community/Artist Partnership Program. He has also been the lead artist for the On Site/Insight Program, coaching multi-school environmental art partnerships in Atlanta Public Schools."

He has less than two weeks to complete the art project. Wood is the best medium for the three-dimensional piece because, as Mather said, "you can stain it, paint it, drill it, nail it."

The perfect material for an artistic blitzkrieg.

Guitar project launched

BY DEAN POLING
dean.poling@gafnews.com

VALDOSTA — As executive director of the arts center, she saw the need for a musical program.

As a mother who has suffered the passing of two children, she wanted a program to honor them.

Cheryl Oliver, executive director of the Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts, has founded the Hal & Jill Project.

The project is collecting donations of old guitars and funds and seeking musi-

cians to teach guitar lessons to young people who may have no other opportunity to learn how to play guitar, Oliver said.

The program is named for Oliver's children: Hal Johnson and Jill Johnson.

Jill was 3 1/2 years old when she died in a 1974 car wreck.

Hal died in late January. He had been diagnosed with cancer only weeks earlier. He was 47 years old.

Hal Johnson was a musician.

Oliver recalls taking her son to guitar lessons when

he was a boy. He started playing in middle school. After a couple of years of lessons, she recalls Johnson continuing to learn songs and develop as a musician.

She remembers with a smile Johnson playing "Mommas Don't Let Your Babies Grow Up To Be Cowboys" so many times Oliver thought she would never want to hear it again.

Johnson played music, wrote songs and performed throughout his life.

"He never put the guitar

See Music on 9A



DEAN POLING | THE VALDOSTA DAILY TIMES

Cheryl Oliver, Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts executive director, seeks guitar donations for the Hal & Jill Project, a program that honors her children by teaching guitar to youths.

MUSIC: Guitars may be donated

down," Oliver said.

After his passing, family and friends found numerous songs he'd recorded. The recordings were collected and played during a recent celebration of Johnson's life.

Oliver said she wanted something to honor him as well as her young daughter. Given the integral part music played in her son's life and the need for musical instruction at the arts center, she said she believes the Hal & Jill Project accomplishes both.

Husband Jack Oliver supported her idea. The arts center board has backed the project.

Earlier this week, Oliver had gathered four guitars. Two were donated and Oliver purchased two guitars. Guitar donations are welcome. Nothing fancy, Oliver said. The donated guitars don't even need strings; the project will see them restrung.

Instructors are also needed. The Hal & Jill Project is raising money, too. Guitar instructors will be paid, Oliver said.

The project will teach youths 12-18 years old. Oliver said she envisions starting with two instructors, each teaching beginning instruction on the guitars to a group of six students, followed by individual instruction for the students truly interested in learning the guitar.

The Hal & Jill Project is for the youth who wants to pick up a guitar but may have no other opportunity to learn the instrument.

Oliver said she witnessed the influence playing guitar had on her son's life. Introducing the guitar to young people, seeing music influence their lives, is a legacy her son would appreciate.

More information, email coliver@turnercenter.org, or visit www.turnercenter.org.

Photo contest deadline nears

BY DEAN POLING

dean.poling@gaffnews.com

VALDOSTA — The deadline approaches to enter the Valdosta People's Choice Photo Contest.

The popular contest features images of the city, taken by area folks, with favorite photos chosen by visitors to the Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts.

The deadline for entries is May 31.

The contest started eight years ago when the city needed photos for brochures, websites and other promotional campaigns.

Sementa Mathews, the City of Valdosta public information officer, had the idea of a city photo contest. People could take photos of locations within the Valdosta city limits and the city would have a portfolio of images for use.

The idea was successful and became an annual event in its own right.

The Eighth Annual Valdosta People's Choice Photo Contest is seeking entries, Mathews said. More than a hundred entries are expected.

The first year of the contest attracted about 40 entries, Mathews said. There were no sponsors.

By the second year, the city partnered with the Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts to exhibit the works. One-hundred-twenty-eight images were entered the second year.

The show-contest has grown ever since.

Following the arts center exhibit, the public voting for favorites, the reception to announce winners, the winning photos travel to be exhibited at various locations throughout Valdosta. Valdosta Regional Airport, for example, always exhibits the contest during the holidays which is the peak travel season.

The contest has also developed categories and Mathews has secured

sponsors for the \$100 cash prize for each category.

The 2016 categories are:

- Planes & Trains (and other transportation in the city). Sponsored by the South Georgia Regional Commission & MPO.

- Paws & Claws (for animal lovers). Sponsored by the Lowndes County Animal Shelter.

- Trees & Bees (and other nature wonders). Sponsored by Georgia Power.

- Faces & Places (photographers' favorites). Sponsored by Valdosta Main Street.

- Sites & Lights (potential film & movie locations in the city). Sponsored by the Valdosta-Lowndes County Tourism Authority.

The contest also awards a \$200 cash prize for Best of Show. Mathews seeks a sponsor for the Best of Show award.

One thing that has not changed since the contest began is the target areas of the photographs.

All photos must be taken within the Valdosta city limits, Mathews said. Participating photographers do not have to live in Valdosta but the photos must be within Valdosta, she said.

Deadline for photographs is May 31.

Voting will occur June 13 through July 13 at the exhibit at the Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts. Winners will be announced during a public reception, 5-7 p.m., July 18. Photos will remain on exhibit through July 22 at the arts center's Tillman Gallery.

A complete list of contest rules is available at www.valdostacity.com/valdosta-peoples-choice-photo-contest.

More information: Call the arts center, (229) 247-2787; or the city public information office, (229) 259-3548.

Anyone interested in sponsoring the Best of Show award may also call the city office.

Celebrations & Lifestyles

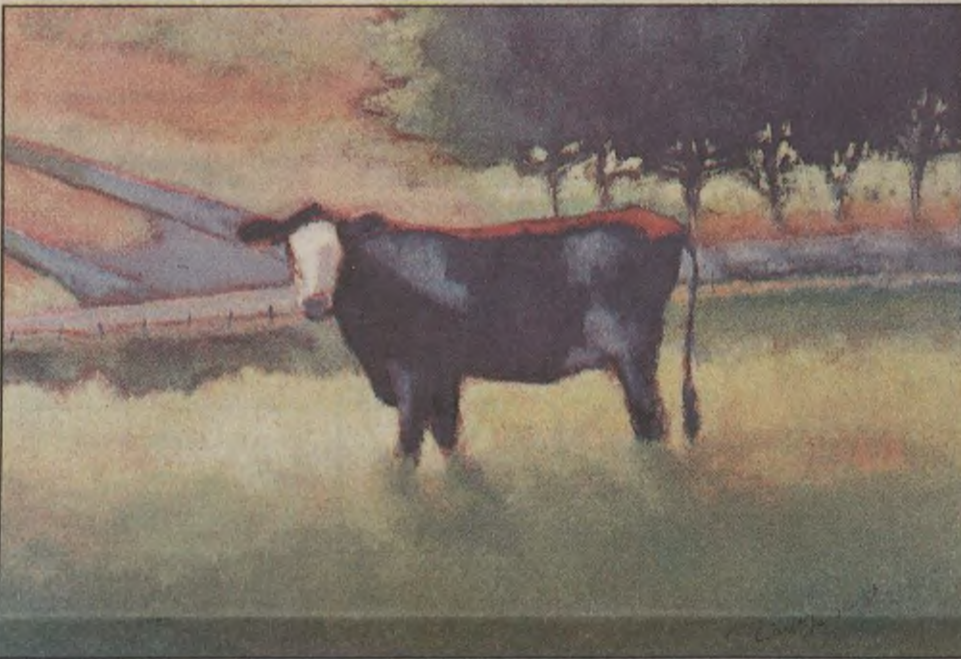
8C

Sunday, June 26, 2016

www.valdostadailytimes.com



'Blue Butch,' artist Carol Jo Smidt.



'Cow On a Hill,' artist Carol Jo Smidt.



'Georgia Girl,' artist Carol Jo Smidt.

Colors of Life

Artist captures the souls of animals

BY DEAN POLING

dean.poling@gafnews.com

VALDOSTA — Carol Jo Smidt paints bold canvases of animals.

She does not paint photographic pet portraits. She allows herself a free and open palette where the viewer may find green and orange shades in a dog's fur.

Smidt seems to capture the spirit of the animals. The bright aura that only makes an animal a beloved pet but an individual soul.

Smidt's "Colors of Life" is on exhibit in the Price-Campbell Gallery at the Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts.

She said she tries capturing the inner being of her subjects.

"My paintings are a result of a thoughtful, ongoing,

GALLERY

What: Carol Jo Smidt's "Colors of Life" is on display in the Price-Campbell Foundation Gallery, along with Todd Wessel's "Impressionist Landscapes," Sallie & Harmon Boyette Gallery; Glenn Simmions' "Reborn," Josette's Gallery; City of Valdosta annual People's Choice Photography Contest, Tillman Gallery; Art Explorations Student Exhibition, Roberta George Children's Gallery.

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

Run dates: Shows continue through July 27.

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

Admission: Free.

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

ing, creative and intuitive process," she said in an artistic statement. "Creating art is a spiritual journey. It is somewhat of a surprise where a painting will lead me. I find that my paintings are more vivid and saturated than real life. I see color

in a subject and intensify those hues in a painting."

The Woodbine-based artist said she strives "to bring honor and respect to the subjects that I paint. As I create, I want the viewer to feel a deep, positive connection with my art."

Valdosta seen

Spring Into Art Gala

Spring Into Art – a phrase that immediately conjures up thoughts of a bountiful display of artwork at the Turner Center in Valdosta, GA in April and May of each year (29 of them, to be exact). How can something that has been so good for so long keep getting better?

And yet ... it does! Don Penny, an icon of the Valdosta art community, visited the Center in May, as he is wont to do, and offered a positive critique of the show. His words, "I see the level of quality of the artwork rising.

The 2016 Spring Into Art show was, quite simply, superb. The Spring Into Art season began with the annual Gala opening night that paid tribute the artists, patrons, sponsors and volunteers.

People who think they don't like art need to visit the Turner Center as often as people who know they do. The diversity and excellence of the 2016 show appealed to every taste.

Photography by Sarah Kathryn Garland

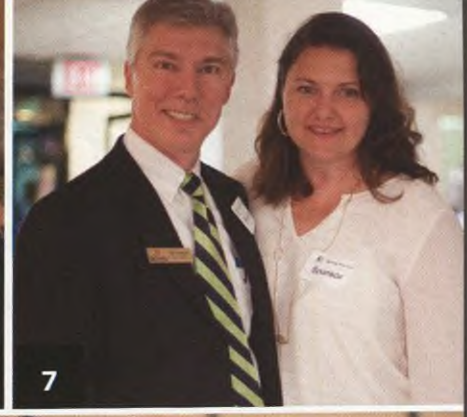




5



6



7



8



9



10



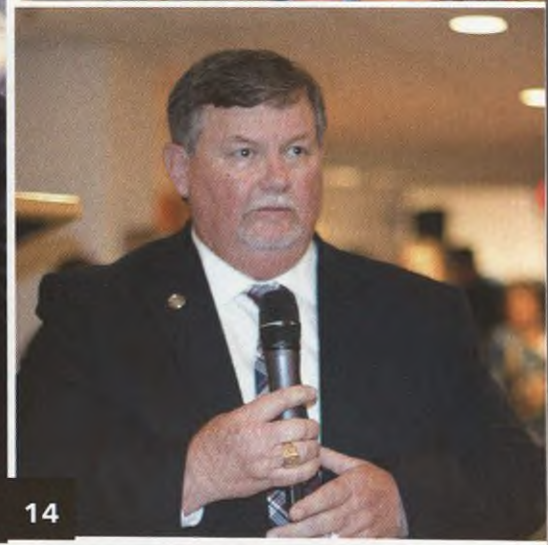
11



13



12



14

1. Joyce Swindle, Devan Martin, Dana Boruff and Darby Boruff 2. Dr. Hernando and Brooke Moreno 3. Sherry Wetherington, Josh Carter and Jeannette Strickland 4. John Riddle, Cynthia Coates and Connie Riddle 5. Ed and Paula Hutchinson 6. John Riddle, Lamb Lastinger, Connie Riddle and Sandra Belue 7. Bob and Mattia Goddar 8. Sarah and

Brad Soshnik 9. Josh and Jennifer Carter and Jill Bright 10. Mayor John Gayle 11. Paul Consolini and Darby Boruff 12. Tammy Borders and Dr. Betsy Thacker 13. Margaret Mittiga, Sherry Wetherington and Bert Tucker 14. Bill Slaughter, Chair of the Lowndes County Commission

Valdosta seen

Spring Into Art Gala

Spring Into Art – a phrase that immediately conjures up thoughts of a bountiful display of artwork at the Turner Center in Valdosta, GA in April and May of each year (29 of them, to be exact). How can something that has been so good for so long keep getting better?

And yet ... it does! Don Penny, an icon of the Valdosta art community, visited the Center in May, as he is wont to do, and offered a positive critique of the show. His words, "I see the level of quality of the artwork rising.

The 2016 Spring Into Art show was, quite simply, superb. The Spring Into Art season began with the annual Gala opening night that paid tribute the artists, patrons, sponsors and volunteers.

People who think they don't like art need to visit the Turner Center as often as people who know they do. The diversity and excellence of the 2016 show appealed to every taste.

Photography by Sarah Kathryn Garland



Valdosta seen

Red Carpet

The purpose of Red Carpet, in part, is to provide a forum for new Moody AFB officers and senior NCOs to meet business and government leaders; provide a positive and tangible welcome to our area; and to let these patriots know they are a valuable and appreciated part of our community. Sponsorship of these parties is

available to any South Georgia business or individual. The Red Carpet parties are held three times a year at the unique and picturesque Ocean Pond Clubhouse near Lake Park. The parties include a social hour followed by a traditional southern fried chicken dinner.

Photography by Vicki Hughes



1



2



3



4



5



6



7

1. Col. Mike Ross, Lucy Greene, Chief Master Sgt. Artie Pearson and Diana Kelch 2. John & Mary Crawford 3. Master Sgt. Jean-Guy Fleury and his wife with Col. Norm Dozier 4. Tammy & Todd Leathermon and Michael Jetter 5. Tina Folsom, Lt. Col. Melvin Green, Commander VSU ROTC, Cissy Green and Brad Folsom 6. David Zammit, Amanda Grover, Becky Herndon and Lee McArthur 7. Delroy Mullis and Col. Norm Dozier



9



10



11



12



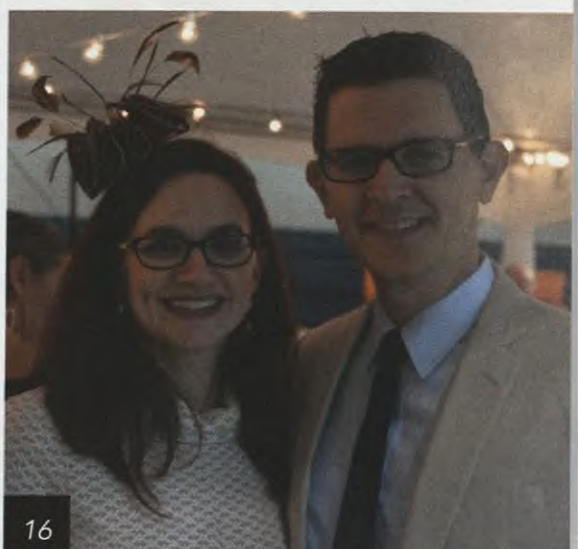
13



14



15



16

1. Shawn & Brianne Kelley and Sarah & Brad Soshnik
2. Steve & Cathy Johnson 3. JD & Kerri Dean and Jason
& Shelley Holloway 4. Brian & Pam Griner 5. Suzanne
Tyrone and Katherine Trickett 6. Mala Vallotton and
Lynn Vallotton 7. Meredith Nuckols, Heather Shaw and
Ronda Paoletti 8. Gracie Crane and Sarah Cocke 9. Kristi

Moorman and Jeanna Ganas 10. Angela Burnett and Trina
Register 11. Jennifer Norris, Lisa Aguilar, Kerri Dean and
Anne McLeod 12. Ava & Tripp Castleberry 13. Jenny
Carroll, Maura Respess and Katherine Trickett 14. Jason
Tyrone and Fernando Alvarado 15. Dale Crane and Laura
Elliott 16. Hannah & Lee Wetherington



1. Dan & Carolyn Coleman. 2. Nancy Warren and Bob Goddard. 3. John Bennett and Jeani Snyder. 4. Donna & Doug Farwell. 5. Allan Dear, Gloria Boyette, Nancy Warren and Dan Coleman. 6. John & Connie Riddle and Bob and Mattia Goddard. 7. Bonnie Rainey, Marian Belanger and Gail Hobgood. 8. ?, Wayne Evans and Mala Vallotton. 9. Bette Bechtel and Rose Ware. 10. Kristen & Laurel Yu. 11. Jim & Josette Ingram and Patricia & Ole Vigerstol.

12. Howard Hsu, Bowen Riddle, Ki Riddle and Tamara Hardesty Hsu. 13. Converse & Jill Bright and Pam & Ferrell Scruggs. 14. Cheryl Oliver, Carla Penny and Robin Thomas. 15. Barbara & Blake Pearce. 16. (Front Row) Gail Hobgood, Carolyn Caoleman, Gloria Boyette, Nancy Warren, Dan Coleman, David Cummings, Kay Jennett (Back Row) John Hanson, John Hiers, John Magnasco, Jennifer Lawrence, Fritz Scarborough, Allan Dear and Bob Goddard.

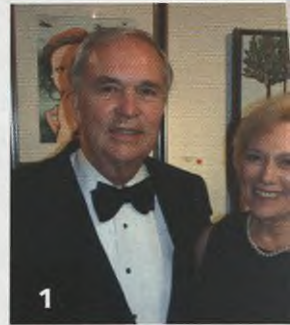
Valdosta seen

VSO Champagne Breakfast

The Champagne Breakfast is an annual event presented by the Valdosta Symphony Orchestra Board of Directors with the assistance of the Valdosta Symphony Guild. The event is designed to close the orchestral season in celebratory fashion, with toasts to all the principal players both on stage and off. The Champagne Breakfast is the perfect opportunity for

patrons to gather with musicians and enjoy a review of the year's accomplishments on stage, as every season presents the audience with increasingly interesting programs.

Photography by John F. Riddle





1. Dan & Carolyn Coleman. 2. Nancy Warren and Bob Goddard. 3. John Bennett and Jeani Snyder. 4. Donna & Doug Farwell. 5. Allan Dear, Gloria Boyette, Nancy Warren and Dan Coleman. 6. John & Connie Riddle and Bob and Mattia Goddard. 7. Bonnie Rainey, Marian Belanger and Gail Hobgood. 8. ?, Wayne Evans and Mala Vallotton. 9. Bette Bechtel and Rose Ware. 10. Kristen & Laurel Yu. 11. Jim & Josette Ingram and Partricia & Ole Vigerstol.

12. Howard Hsu, Bowen Riddle, Ki Riddle and Tamara Hardesty Hsu. 13. Converse & Jill Bright and Pam & Ferrell Scruggs. 14. Cheryl Oliver, Carla Penny and Robin Thomas. 15. Barbara & Blake Pearce. 16. (Front Row) Gail Hobgood, Carolyn Caoleman, Gloria Boyette, Nancy Warren, Dan Coleman, David Cummings, Kay Jennett (Back Row) John Hanson, John Hiers, John Magnasco, Jennifer Lawrence, Fritz Scarborough, Allan Dear and Bob Goddard.