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Turner Center for the Arts

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Arts & Entertainment

November 2019

• “From The Ground Up: Art & Design Foundations”

Dedo Maranville Fine Arts Gallery, Valdosta State University Fine Arts Building, corner of Oak and Brookwood. Valdosta State University Art & Design present this exhibit. **Run dates:** Oct. 21 through Nov. 8. **Reception:** 6-7:30 p.m., Oct. 21. **Gallery hours:** 8:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Mondays through Thursdays; 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Fridays. **Admission:** Free. **More information:** Call (229) 333-5835 or visit www.valdosta.edu/art.

• Fall Senior Exhibition

Dedo Maranville Fine Arts Gallery, Valdosta State University Fine Arts Building, corner of Oak and Brookwood. Valdosta State University Art & Design present this exhibit. Graduating seniors show what they have learned. **Run dates:** Nov. 17 through Dec. 9. **Reception:** 1-3 p.m., Nov. 17. **Gallery hours:** 8:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Mondays through Thursdays; 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Fridays. **Admission:** Free. **More information:** Call (229) 333-5835 or visit www.valdosta.edu/art.

• Artist Natalia Andreeva exhibits works

Annette Howell Turner Center, 527 N. Patterson St. **Run dates:** Nov. 4 through Jan. 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. No admission charge. **More information:** Call (229) 247-2787 or visit turnercenter.org.

• “Inside Out” Annette Howell

Turner Center, 527 N. Patterson St. **Run dates:** Nov. 4 through Jan. 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. No admission charge. **More information:** Call (229) 247-2787 or visit turnercenter.org



Artwork by Natalia Andreeva

• Regional Artist Community

Annette Howell Turner Center, 527 N. Patterson St. **Run dates:** Nov. 4 through Jan. 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. No admission charge. **More information:** Call (229) 247-2787 or visit turnercenter.org.

• “Othello”

Valdosta State University Fine Arts Building, corner of Oak and

Brookwood. VSU Theatre & Dance present this Shakespearean tragedy. VSU Theatre **synopsis** adapted from Folger Shakespeare Library: folger.edu: “In ‘Othello,’ Shakespeare creates a powerful drama that tells the story of the love between the Moor general, Othello, and the Venetian lady, Desdemona. Their marriage is sabotaged by one of dramatic

literature’s greatest villains, Iago. One of his most intimate and devastating tragedies, Shakespeare’s ‘Othello’ with its themes of love, jealousy and prejudice has pathos that is universal.” **Run dates:** 7:30 p.m., Nov. 14-16; 3 p.m., Nov. 17; 7:30 p.m., Nov. 18-19. **More information:** Call (229) 333-5973 or visit www.valdosta.edu/comarts.

• The 21st Annual Cabaret

Magnolia Room, VSU University Center. Valdosta State University Theatre & Dance **synopsis:** “Enjoy a delicious meal, and musical theatre entertainment as you

support the Golden Circle Scholarship & Support Fund. The evening’s entertainment will feature the many journeys from Musical Theatre.” Cabaret tickets will be online through noon Wednesday, Nov. 20. As this is a plated meal, the Wednesday, Nov. 20, deadline is firm, organizers said. Tickets may be purchased online or by calling the Theatre & Dance administrative secretary, (229) 253-2914. **Run date:** Sunday, Nov. 24; gathering, 6 p.m.; dinner, 6:30 p.m.; performance, 7:30 p.m. **VS**

8 TONY AWARDS
INCLUDING
BEST MUSICAL

WINNER!
2013 GRAMMY AWARD
BEST MUSICAL THEATER ALBUM

Arts
& CULTURE

Once



his music needed one thing. her.

Turner Center's Presenter Series

The Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts is bringing *Once* to Valdosta as part of its Presenter Series. . *Once* is an unforgettable story about going for your dreams... not living in fear...and the power of music to connect all of us. An optional pre-show dinner will be offered at 6 pm. Reservations are required.

IF YOU GO

Event: *Once*

Date/Time: Thursday, January 28, 2020

Location: Mathis Auditorium

Tickets: \$50 - \$135

For more information: call (229) 333-2150 or visit <http://turnercenter.org/calendar-of-events/presenter-series>

Valdosta State University

Valdosta State University Theatre and Dance will present *Othello*. This Shakespearean drama tells the story of the love between a general, Othello, and the Venetian lady Desdemona. A gripping and devastating tragedy filled with love, jealousy, and betrayal. Also in November, Valdosta State University's Department of Music will host 15 free concerts and recitals throughout the month. Visit www.valdosta.edu/music for more information.

IF YOU GO

Othello

Sawyer Theatre

November 14-19

Tickets: \$17 for adults, \$16 for senior citizens, \$13 for children, \$10 for groups of 10 or more.

For more information: visit www.valdosta.edu/theatre



Arts & Entertainment

October 2019

• Artist Sean Hurley

Annette Howell Turner Center, 527 N. Patterson St. **Run dates:** Sept. 16 through Oct. 30. **Gallery hours:** 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Tuesdays through Thursdays; 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays; closed Sundays and Mondays. No admission charge. **More information:** Call (229) 247-2787 or visit turnercenter.org.



Artwork by Sean Hurley

• Artist Kristy Hughes

Annette Howell Turner Center, 527 N. Patterson St. **Run dates:** Sept. 16 through Oct. 30. **Gallery hours:** 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Tuesdays through Thursdays; 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays; closed Sundays and Mondays. No admission charge. **More information:** Call (229) 247-2787 or visit turnercenter.org.

• Artists Jenny K. Hager/ D. Lance Vickery

Annette Howell Turner Center, 527 N. Patterson St. **Run dates:** Sept. 16 through Oct. 30. **Gallery hours:** 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Tuesdays through Thursdays; 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays; closed Sundays and Mondays. No admission charge. **More information:** Call (229) 247-2787 or visit turnercenter.org.

• “Red, White & Tuna”

The Dosta Playhouse, 122 N. Ashley St. Theatre Guild Valdosta presents playwrights Ed Howard, Joe Sears and Jaston Williams’ return to their wacky

town of Tuna. **Guild synopsis adapted from Samuel French:** “Along with Tuna’s perennial favorites, some new Tuna denizens burst into the Fourth of July Tuna High School Class Reunion. This sets the stage for a show full of fireworks and fun from the land where the Lion’s Club is too liberal and Patsy Cline never dies. It’s been several years since we left Bertha and Arles dancing at the end of ‘A Tuna Christmas’ ... Did the romance blossom? Has Didi Snawley received any ‘cosmic’ communications from R.R.’s UFO? Did Stanley make his fortune in the Albuquerque taxidermy business? These and other burning questions will be asked and answered in the side-splitting spoof of life in rural America.” **Run dates:** 7:30 p.m., Sept. 26-28; 3 p.m., Sept. 29; 7:30 p.m., Oct. 3-5. **More information:** Call (229) 24-STAGE or visit www.theatreguildvaldosta.com.



“Cock of the Walk” by Jenny K. Hager

• “Some Things Left”

Dedo Maranville Fine Arts Gallery, VSU Fine Arts Building, corner of Oak and Brookwood. VSU Art & Design presents collaborative installation with

artists Jon Swindler and Mike McFalls. **Run dates:** Sept. 23 through Oct. 11. **Gallery hours:** 8:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Mondays through Thursdays; 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Fridays. **Admission:** Free. **More information:** Call (229) 333-5835 or visit www.valdosta.edu/art.

• “From The Ground Up: Art & Design Foundations.”

Valdosta State University Art & Design present this exhibit. **Run dates:** Oct. 21 through Nov. 8. **Reception:** 6-7:30 p.m., Oct. 21. **Gallery hours:** 8:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Mondays through Thursdays; 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Fridays. **Admission:** Free. **More information:** Call (229) 333-5835 or visit www.valdosta.edu/art.

• “Fall Dances: Unbound”

Sawyer Theatre, Valdosta State University Fine Arts Building, corner of Oak and Brookwood. VSU Theatre & Dance presents the annual dance show. **VSU Theatre synopsis:** “‘Unbound’ is an evening of concert dance works by VSU dance faculty. Join us as we explore classic and contemporary forms of dance and blur the boundaries of traditional performance on Sawyer stage. Dances will provoke, inspire, liberate and leave audiences in awe as dances weave storytelling, abstract thought and superb artistry on the stage – and in the air.” **Run dates:** 7:30 p.m. October 17-19; 3 p.m., Oct. 20. **More information:** Call (229) 333-5973 or visit www.valdosta.edu/comarts.

• Valdosta Symphony Orchestra concert

Whitehead Auditorium, Valdosta State University Fine Arts Building, corner of Oak and Brookwood. VSO presents Mozart’s “Magic Flute Overture,” K. 620, Barber’s Violin Concerto, Op 14, featuring Elena Urioste on violin, Beethoven’s Symphony No. 7 in A Major, Op. 92. **Run date:** Oct. 26. **More information:** Call VSU College of the Arts Outreach at (229) 333-2150 or visit www.valdostasympphony.org.



"Contained" by D. Lance Vickery

• **"Cruising Steady"**

Mathis City Auditorium, 2300 N. Ashley St. Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts Presenter Series opens with this show of two performers portraying Aretha Franklin and Smokey Robinson. Broadway performer Patrice Covington and Jesse Nager, an NAACP award nominee, play the roles respectively. They have performed in Broadway shows such as "Motown the Musical," "Mamma Mia," "Mary Poppins" and "Good Vibrations." "Cruising Steady" ... is a tribute show that focuses on long-time friends Aretha Franklin and Smokey Robinson and how their lives were similarly shaped by the times and their experiences," according to the arts center synopsis. **Run date:** Sept. 23. **More information:** Visit the arts center, 527 N. Patterson St., or call (229) 247-2787.



"Cactus Tongued" by Kristy Hughes

• **"Frozen Jr."**

Old Valdosta High School Performing Arts Center, 3101 N. Forrest St. Drama Kids Theatre Guild presents a live stage version of the blockbuster Disney musical. The "junior" designation denotes an abbreviated version designed specifically to be performed by children and youths. **Run dates:** Sept. 21, 22. **More information:** Call Maggie Smith, (229) 269-2871; or visit dramakidsvaldosta.com.

• **"Robin Hood"**

Old Valdosta High School Performing Arts Center, 3101 N. Forrest St. Little Actors Theatre presents a children's version of the classic tale. **Run dates:** Sept. 28, 29. **More information:** Visit www.littleactorstheatrevaldosta.com.

• **"Red, White & Tuna"**

The Dosta Playhouse, 122 N. Ashley St. Theatre Guild Valdosta presents playwrights Ed Howard, Joe Sears and Jaston Williams' return to their wacky town of Tuna. **Guild synopsis adapted from Samuel French:** "Along with Tuna's perennial favorites, some new Tuna denizens burst into the Fourth of July Tuna High School Class Reunion. This sets the stage for a show full of fireworks and fun from the land where the Lion's Club is too liberal and Patsy Cline never dies. It's been several years since we left Bertha and Arles dancing at the end of 'A Tuna Christmas' ... Did the romance blossom? Has Didi Snavley received any 'cosmic' communications from R.R.'s UFO? Did Stanley make his fortune in the Albuquerque taxidermy business? These and other burning questions will be asked and answered in the side-splitting spoof of life in rural America." **Run dates:** 7:30 p.m., Sept. 26-28; 3 p.m., Sept. 29; 7:30 p.m., Oct. 3-5. **More information:** Call (229) 24-STAGE or visit www.theatreguildvaldosta.com.

• **Art & Design Faculty Exhibition**

Dedo Maranville Fine Arts Gallery, VSU Fine Arts Building, corner of Oak and Brookwood. VSU Arts & Design presents the annual exhibit featuring works by VSU art faculty. **Run dates:** Aug. 26 through Sept. 13. **Gallery hours:** 8:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Mondays through Thursdays; 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Fridays. Free admission. **More information:** Call (229) 333-5835 or visit www.valdosta.edu/art.

• **"Some Things Left"**

Dedo Maranville Fine Arts Gallery, VSU Fine Arts Building, corner of Oak and Brookwood. VSU Art & Design presents collaborative installation with artists Jon Swindler and Mike McFalls. **Run dates:** Sept. 23 through Oct. 11. **Reception and artists talk:** 6-7:30 p.m., Sept. 23. **Gallery hours:** 8:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Mondays through Thursdays; 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Fridays. Free admission. **More information:** Call (229) 333-5835 or visit www.valdosta.edu/art.

• **"The Gorges Motel"**

Lab Theatre, Valdosta State University Fine Arts Building, corner of Oak and Brookwood. VSU Theatre & Dance presents anew work by playwrights Gretchen Cryer, Lynne Halliday, Isaac Himmelman, James Hindman, Arlene Hutton and Craig Pospisil. VSU Theatre synopsis adapted from dramtists.com: "The Gorges Motel" is a new play, premiering in 2016 at the New York Fringe Festival. It takes the form of seven plays by six playwrights, that together make an enjoyable theatrical event. Lives intersect in comic and dramatic fashion in a motel that has seen better days in Watkins Glen, N.Y. The ridiculous and the sublime all come together in these plays about moving forward." **NOTE:** Production contains mature language, themes. **Run date:** 7:30 p.m., September 19-21; 3 p.m., Sept. 22; 7:30 p.m., Sept. 23-24. **More information:** Call (229) 333-5973 or visit www.valdosta.edu/comarts.

• **Valdosta Symphony Orchestra concert**

Whitehead Auditorium, Valdosta State University Fine Arts Building, corner of Oak and Brookwood. VSO performs Clyne's "Masquerade," Rachmaninoff's "Rhapsody on a Theme of Paganini," Op. 43, featuring Rachel Cheung on piano; Tchaikovsky's Symphony No. 4 in F Minor, Op. 36 **Run dates:** Sept. 28. **More information:** Call VSU College of the Arts Outreach at (229) 333-2150 or visit www.valdostasympphony.org. **VS**

Arts & Entertainment

September 2019

- **Withlacoochee Quilters Guild exhibit**

Annette Howell Turner Center, 527 N. Patterson St. Bi-annual show of quilts created by South Georgia quilters. **Run dates:** July 29 through Sept. 11. **Gallery hours:** 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Tuesdays through Thursdays; 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays; closed Sundays and Mondays. No admission charge. **More information:** Call (229) 247-2787 or visit turnercenter.org.

- **Buddy LaHood exhibit**

Annette Howell Turner Center, 527 N. Patterson St. Paintings by the South Georgia artist. **Run dates:** July 29 through Sept. 11. **Gallery hours:** 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Tuesdays through Thursdays; 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays; closed Sundays and Mondays. No admission charge. **More information:** Call (229) 247-2787 or visit turnercenter.org.

- **Artist Sean Hurley**

Annette Howell Turner Center, 527 N. Patterson St. **Run dates:** Sept. 16 through Oct. 30. **Gallery hours:** 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Tuesdays through Thursdays; 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays; closed Sundays and Mondays. No admission charge. **More information:** Call (229) 247-2787 or visit turnercenter.org.

- **Artist Kristy Hughes**

Annette Howell Turner Center, 527 N. Patterson St. **Run dates:** Sept. 16 through Oct. 30. **Gallery hours:** 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Tuesdays through Thursdays; 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays; closed Sundays and Mondays. No admission charge. **More information:** Call (229) 247-2787 or visit turnercenter.org.

- **Artists Jenny K. Hager/
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"Stairwell" by Sean Hurley



"Cock of the Walk" by Jenny K. Hager

Arts & Entertainment

July 2019

• Jamie Harmon exhibit

Josette's and Mittiga galleries, Annette Howell Turner Center, 527 N. Patterson St. Photography exhibit from former Turner Center gallery director. **Run dates:** June 10 through July 24. **Gallery hours:** 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Tuesdays through Thursdays; 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays; closed Sundays and Mondays. No admission. **More information:** Call (229) 247-2787 or visit turnercenter.org.

• Todd Wessell exhibit

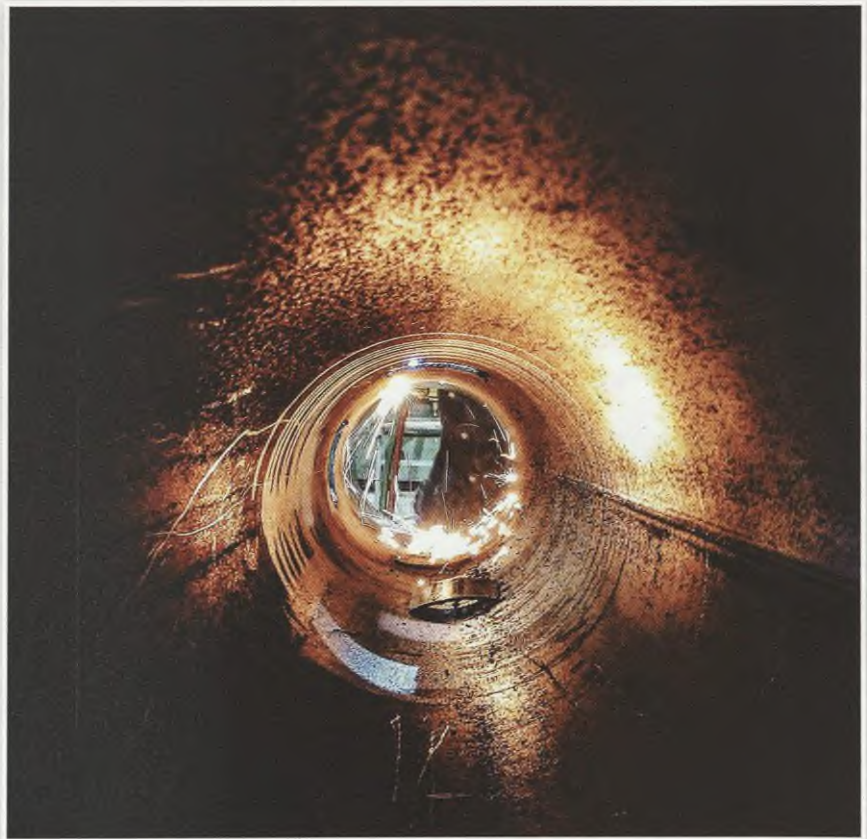
Price-Campbell Foundation Gallery, Annette Howell Turner Center, 527 N. Patterson St. Painting exhibit. **Run dates:** June 10 through July 24. **Gallery hours:** 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Tuesdays through Thursdays; 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays; closed Sundays and Mondays. No admission. **More information:** Call (229) 247-2787 or visit turnercenter.org.

• Vincent Keese exhibit

Sallie & Harmon Boyette Gallery, Annette Howell Turner Center, 527 N. Patterson St. Painting exhibit. **Run dates:** June 10 through July 24. **Gallery hours:** 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Tuesdays through Thursdays; 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays; closed Sundays and Mondays. No admission. **More information:** Call (229) 247-2787 or visit turnercenter.org.

• Eleventh Annual Valdosta People's Choice Photography Contest

Tillman Gallery, Annette Howell Turner Center, 527 N. Patterson St. Visitors can vote for their favorite photographs taken within the Valdosta city limits by area residents. **Run dates:** June 10 through July 24. **Gallery hours:** 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Tuesdays through Thursdays; 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays; closed Sundays and Mondays. No admission. **More information:** Call (229) 247-2787 or visit turnercenter.org.



Photography by People's Choice contestant Blake Allison

• Boys & Girls Club Art Explorations exhibit

Roberta George Gallery, Annette Howell Turner Center, 527 N. Patterson St. Youth artwork. **Run dates:** June 10 through July 24. **Gallery hours:** 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Tuesdays through Thursdays; 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays; closed Sundays and Mondays. No admission. **More information:** Call (229) 247-2787 or visit turnercenter.org.

• Peach State Summer Theatre

is in full repertory with three shows through July 21. All shows are in Sawyer Theatre, Valdosta State University Fine Arts Building, corner of Oak and Brookwood.



Photography by People's Choice contestant Blake Allison

Top People's Choice photos announced

7-18-19

VALDOSTA — Mayor John Gayle and Russ Henry, Coleman Talley representative, announced the winners of the 11th Annual Valdosta People's Choice Photo Contest at an awards reception Monday at the Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts.

For the past month, residents have voted for their favorite contest photos, which are currently on display in the Tillman Gallery, center representatives said.

Winners are:

- First Place: Nicholai Courtenay, "Swamp Thing."
- Second Place: Blake Alison, "Fire in the Hole."
- Third Place: Tawanna Southall, "Cali Marie."

Honorable Mentions:

- Nicholai Courtenay, "City Nights."
- Sophia Coronado, "Fountain on Bennie."
- Keir Smith, "Perspective of Beauty."
- Javon Longieliere, "Cheryl Road."
- Kaitlyn Davis, "Bella the Bird Dog."

Youth Winner:

- Stella Cofield, "Country Canopy."

Honorable Mentions:

- Kingston Courtenay,

MORE INFO

People's Choice voting ends: July 15, 2020.
Photo Contest awards reception: Monday, July 20, 2020.

For more information, call the Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts, (229) 247-2787, or the city's public information office, (229) 259-3548.

"Duck Tales."

A \$300 cash prize was awarded for first place, \$200 cash prize for second place and a \$100 cash prize for third place from among the adult-submitted entries. Five honorable mentions were also selected.

The public also voted on the first-place youth photo (ages 16 and younger) and one honorable mention. The youth first-place winner received a \$100 cash award.

Photographs will remain on display in the Tillman Gallery through Wednesday, July 24, when they will become part of a traveling display that can be viewed from August until December in various community locations.

Photo contest participants may pick up their works from the Turner Center on 10 a.m.-6 p.m., July 25, and 10 a.m.-4 p.m., July 26, center representatives said.

The partnership between the City of Valdosta and the Annette Howell

Turner Center for the Arts, co-organizers of the photo contest, recognizes the importance of the arts as a quality of life, civic engagement and economic development tool in the community, center representatives said.

Photographers can already prepare for the contest next year.

Dates for the 2020 Photo Contest

Photo submission deadline: Friday, May 15, 2020.

Photo contest opening reception: Monday, June 15, 2020 (in conjunction with a scheduled gallery opening reception).

People's Choice voting ends: July 15, 2020.

Photo Contest awards reception: Monday, July 20, 2020.

For more information, call the Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts, (229) 247-2787, or the city's public information office, (229) 259-3548.



AMANDA M. USHER | THE VALDOSTA DAILY TIMES

Volunteer Barry Alexander helps hang 150 street banners in Downtown Valdosta Saturday to identify the City Center Arts District.

BANNER: Official hopes banners attract attention to art businesses

of people aren't really familiar with the artistic aspect of it," she said.

She said the banners will catch the eye of pedestrians and visitors and will work to attract attention to the local art businesses downtown.

Lewis believes the CCAD and the street banners may also cause entrepreneurs to gravitate to the area and open up businesses downtown.

Barry Alexander, a

Brooklyn native who relocated to Valdosta in April, was among the volunteers Saturday hanging the banners.

Alexander said volunteering teaches him more about community events and helps him to decide if the area is a good place for his musical arts business.

He said the arts district is welcoming.

Mathews said the banners and the arts district

serve as a communicative tool to passersby.

"It's a clear message from our leadership that they understand the positive impact that arts make on our community, and we're just going to celebrate that.

"It draws attention to the Turner Center for the Arts, City of Valdosta, Main Street and all of us working together to make better arts opportunities," she said.

7/17/18



AMANDA M. USHER | THE VALDOSTA DAILY TIMES

Sementha Mathews, executive director of Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts, and Cheryl Oliver, retired executive director of Turner, work together to hang 150 street banners for the City Center Arts District downtown Saturday.

Banner Day

Downtown marked as arts district

VIDEO ONLINE

valdostadailytimes.com; see 'CITY CENTER ARTS DISTRICT'

BY AMANDA M. USHER
amanda.usher@gafnews.com

VALDOSTA — Main Street banners received companions Saturday in the form of 150 City Center Arts District street banners.

About a dozen volunteers walked along the streets hanging the banners which proclaim downtown as the City Center Arts District.

"It just identifies a place of community where we can celebrate (and) promote the arts in our community," said Sementha Mathews, executive director of the Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts.

The downtown arts district stretches across the Central Valdosta Development Authority's western, southern and eastern boundaries.

The CCAD extends northern two blocks to Webster Street to be inclusive of the Turner Center and Turner's Hudson Pot-



AMANDA M. USHER | THE VALDOSTA DAILY TIMES

Karen Lewis, Public Art Advisory Committee member, and her 6-year-old daughter, Kaylen Lewis, help volunteer Barry Alexander hang up street banners in Downtown Valdosta Saturday to identify the City Center Arts District. At least one dozen volunteers hung up 150 banners.

tery Studio and youth art education annex. Mathews said the CCAD is an opportunity for artists and art supporters to thrive within the city and the county. The CCAD was established by the Public Art Advisory Committee, and the Valdosta City Council

approved the initiative in October 2016. "With their approval, it is actually an official arts district here in our community, which really symbolizes their support of how the arts positively impacts our economic development here," Mathews said. Karen Lewis, newly

appointed advisory committee member, said the street banners are the committee's way of highlighting awareness for the arts district. "Most people kind of know downtown as being the historic area, but a lot

See Banner on 8A

6-23-19

Turner offers free yoga classes

BY ABIGAIL MURPHY

VALDOSTA — Every Wednesday at 6 p.m., the Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts offers a free yoga class open to inspire patrons through the art of good health and relaxation.

Yoga instructor Roberta George began offering the class while she was the art director at the Turner Center in the early 1990s. Eighteen years later, George is still teaching the yoga class to a regular following of yoga enthusiasts, as well as new patrons and the class is still offered at no charge to attendees.

"It's been a free gift to me, and so I want it to be a free gift to anybody," she said, referring to a man who years ago taught her yoga at no charge.

George said yoga is a physical discipline, an art form that can be thought of similar to dance since it's an expression of the body and allows for a creative energy to be found.

She said anything that makes people healthier or stronger allows them to be more creative, increasing their appreciation of other people and other art forms.

George said she remembers a man who lost his 2-year-old daughter. He was so angry at the world, and the only thing that kept him from giving up on life was physical exercise.

George said his running allowed him to breathe in more oxygen, allowing him to open up in a way he couldn't before. Countless other stories from friends and patrons reveal their personal stories of coping with challenges and enjoying life at greater levels, she said.

George said that is what yoga and other physical ac-

tivities are about: allowing people to open up in new ways.

"I'll teach a class. I'll do the breath of fire (a yoga breathing technique) driving home, and when I get out of the car, I'm ready to clean the house and write the novel," she said, adding that everyone's experience is different, but for her yoga gives her strength.

George said when you feel physically strong, your mental state is stronger, too. Yoga can help with longevity in general because it's giving attention to the body, she said.

"It has saved my life physically and mentally," she said.

It can also clear the mind allowing for more creativity to flow, becoming a tool for creativity and connecting a person's physical, mental and spiritual senses, she said.

The yoga classes draw a different audience to the Turner Center, some who have been taking the classes faithfully since George has been teaching them.

Ingrid Carroll, a yoga attendee, said she has been taking the yoga classes at the Turner Center for two to three years. She said she feels comfortable in class since the movements are simplistic yet effective. Carroll said she enjoys the class because people of any age can enjoy its benefits.

"Yoga is relaxing and helps people feel better overall," George said.

For more information about free yoga classes at the Turner Center, visit www.turnercenter.org or call (229) 247-2787.

Abigail Murphy is a summer intern with the Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts.

Muralist tapped for downtown building

AMANDA M. USHER

amanda.usher@gafnews.com

VALDOSTA - The muralist for the Downtown Valdosta Mural Project has been chosen.

The Public Art Advisory Committee has selected painter Janice Rago for a mural that will be placed on a downtown building, 136 N. Ashley St.

After the committee put out the call for artists in early April, 25 submissions were received, according to committee members.

"The main thing is, the artist was selected mainly off of the design. When narrowing down our selection for the muralist, we only reviewed the work first," Sarah Lowe, committee member, said.

"In the final selection, we also took into consideration (lastly) if the artist had the capacity to complete the work through previous works and/or website."



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Painter Janice Rago is the selected muralist for the Downtown Valdosta Mural Project.

Rago submitted three designs for the committee's judging. The design chosen features azaleas, the artist said.

"I think it's really going to liven up that area and that space," she said.

Rago has ties to the local community dating back to 2002 when she relocated to Valdosta from England.

The former Viking grad-

uated from Lowndes High School before becoming a Blazer at Valdosta State University.

She graduated in 2009 with an art degree.

"My style of work when I was in college, I used to paint a lot of flowers; just a lot of florals, all of my paintings had that," Rago said.

No longer living in Val-

dosta, she said it's exciting to return to paint flowers downtown 10 years after graduating VSU.

Rago plans to begin the mural later this month and foresees completing it within one week.

The cost of the mural is still being negotiated, Lowe said. Work on the mural is scheduled to be revealed June 7.

Valdosta hosts state library conference

BY KATELYN UMHOLTZ

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VALDOSTA — Around 100 librarians are headed to South Georgia.

The South Georgia Regional Library system, which consists of six sites in Lowndes, Echols and Lanier counties, hosts the Spring Public Library Directors Meeting May 7-9 for the first time in its new Valdosta facility.

"It's going to be a great marketing tool," said Miguel Vicente, South Georgia Library director. "All of the good things we have here, they're going to talk about it. They can see the new library, too."

During the three days, Willis L. Miller Library opens its doors to 62 library systems across the state to discuss library needs, disaster planning and partnership strategy.

Vicente said a conference such as this one is held three times a year, but as far as he can remember, it has never been hosted in Valdosta.

"Library systems volunteer to host these events, which are held three times each year," said Julie Walker, state librarian. "In many cases, such as in Valdosta, it's a chance to showcase a beautiful new library."

The new library, lo-

MORE INFO

For more information on hosting events or anything else the library might offer, contact (229) 333-0086 or visit the library.

cated at 2906 Julia Drive, opened just last year in July in a 34,000-square-foot facility complete with a children and teen area, WiFi, 3-D printing and plenty of conference space.

Along with sharing a wealth of ideas, guests can expect the Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts to host a reception, 6-7 p.m. Thursday.

Arthur Morin, who helps market South Georgia Regional Libraries, said the new library is open to any and all conferences and events.

"If you're a nonprofit organization, it's free of charge," Morin said. "They also make it available to businesses if you pay a small fee to use the facility. It's the library recognizing that it can serve the community and a new way to get people in the door."

For more information on hosting events or anything else the library might offer, contact (229) 333-0086 or visit the library.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

5/21

Holliday cousins visit art center

Lynn Thomas, Earle S. McKey III, and Robert W. McKey Jr., all first cousins two generations removed from 'Doc' Holliday, and their wives visited the Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts while in Valdosta for a family reunion. The family members visited the Turner Center to view the Spring Into Art exhibition, where Earle won first place in the painting category with his work titled, 'Garden-in-Aix.' Spring Into Art is on display at the Turner Center through June 5. Marie Carter and Lynn Thomas, artist Earle S. McKey III, and Robert W. McKey Jr. and Judith V. McKey of New Orleans pose next to Earle's winning artwork at the Turner Center.

CLEANUP: Park is a venue for parties

the Art Park.”

Mathews said she believes volunteers will have a sense of ownership and will want to take care of the Art Park.

Volunteers from Home Depot's Team Depot group helped Saturday. The volunteers agreed they would want to visit the Art Park once established.

Aquavious Core said he only recently heard of the Art Park.

“It's always great to, in some way, impact the community in many ways,” he said. “That just seemed like such a great idea to create something like this.”

He said it would allow young children to explore their artistic and creative sides.

Jeordi Booker said the mission of Team Depot is to promote community events.

“It wants to get active

in the community which is why we love working there,” he said.

Jameson Davis Jr. participated in the Great American Cleanup to get more involved with the community, he said.

“It helps others see and (will) encourage them to do it,” he said.

After learning of the cleanup Friday, Natalie Kuhlmann decided to volunteer with her son, William Kuhlmann.

Natalie Kuhlmann wanted to contribute to creating a better place, especially with Earth Day happening on April 22.

Her son said it's important to help the environment for one reason.

“So the humans can live,” William Kuhlmann said.

Molly Ferrier, KLVB board member, said she believes a clean neighborhood is essential, and that,



AMANDA M. USHER | THE VALDOSTA DAILY TIMES

Natalie Kuhlmann volunteers with her son, William Kuhlmann, Saturday during the Great American Cleanup at the Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts.

by bringing people together, they're investing in the community and maintaining a better, cleaner place.

The Art Park will be part of building a community, she said.

“Being able to have a place where you can bring your kids and your family and do different activities outside in the communi-

ty together is just really important,” Ferrier said. “It's what builds a better community.”

As part of the Great American Cleanup, volunteers also worked near the AG Pro (John Deere dealer) at North Valdosta Road, in the City of Hahira and at Northside Drive near J and K Foodmart.

05/1/20

Groups help Great American Cleanup

5/19

VALDOSTA — Officials say the numbers are finally in, and it looks like the Great American Cleanup was a success.

The 2019 Great American Cleanup consisted of five different cleanup projects, according to Keep Lowndes/Valdosta Beautiful.

Nearly 120 volunteers gathered to help pick up litter along Knights Academy Road, North Valdosta Road, an area near the intersection of Northside Drive and Forrestwood, and multiple projects in Hahira and at the Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts.

Two beautification projects were completed and 3,532 pounds of trash, litter and debris were removed from the community, according to KLVB officials.

The Great American Clean-

MORE INFO

There will be other cleanups and recycling events throughout the year. Community groups, organizations, and businesses can volunteer year-round by joining our Adopt-A-Road/Street program. Visit www.klvb.net for updates.

up is the signature event for Keep America Beautiful.

Sponsors and partners for the 2019 event included Keep Lowndes/Valdosta Beautiful, the City of Valdosta Stormwater, Public Works and public information departments, the City of Hahira, the Annette Howell Turner Center For The Arts, Lowndes County Code Enforcement and public works departments, Chick-Fil-A, and The Valdosta Daily Times. "A huge thanks goes out to all individual volunteers, as well as those who participated from Moody Air Force Base,

VSU Habitat For Humanity, Sigma Gamma Rho, Valdosta State University, Best Buy, Pine Grove Middle School, Home Depot Distribution Center, Azalea City Woman's Club, Ohana Jiu-jitsu, CJB Industries, Valdosta High School, Valwood School and the City of Hahira," sponsors said.

There will be other cleanups and recycling events throughout the year. Community groups, organizations, and businesses can volunteer year-round by joining our Adopt-A-Road/Street program. Visit www.klvb.net for updates.



S/1

AMANDA M. USHER | THE VALDOSTA DAILY TIMES

Molly Ferrier, board member for Keep Lowndes/Valdosta Beautiful, and Sementha Mathews, executive director of the Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts, shovel dried cement during the Great American Cleanup Saturday at Turner.

Great American Cleanup

Volunteers prep site for Art Park

AMANDA M. USHER

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VALDOSTA — In a few months, the Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts will debut its Art Park.

But first, the center has to prepare the .31-acre designated green space for a stage, picnic tables, a lending library and maybe even some hammocks.

On Saturday, Turner enlisted the help of Keep Lowndes/Valdosta Beautiful as part of the Great American Cleanup.

Sementha Mathews, Turner's executive director, raked leaves, shoveled dried cement and assisted the volunteers in other ways as they cleared out the wooded area.

When Mathews took leadership at the art center



AMANDA M. USHER | THE VALDOSTA DAILY TIMES

Jameson Davis Jr., a member of Home Depot's Team Depot, volunteers during the Great American Cleanup Saturday at the Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts.

last year, she said she saw opportunity in the unused green space.

The Art Park will complete Turner's campus and

could also be utilized as a venue for birthday parties and weddings, she said.

"The pavilion is really one of the centerpieces

VIDEO
ONLINE

valdostadailytimes.com;
see "GREAT CLEANUP"

over here which would allow us to take the classrooms from inside the building to the outside during the cooler months of the year," Mathews said.

KLVB's yearly cleanup was a chance for Turner to be able to clear the brush area, she said.

"They're just a huge support," she said. "It feels great because we couldn't pay for this kind of service, and it's so wonderful that the people that are helping us today are the very recipients that we want to see at

See Cleanup on 10A

From Page One

www.valdostadailytimes.com

Thursday, May 9, 2019

9A

BROWN BAG CONCERT



DERREK VAUGHN | THE VALDOSTA DAILY TIMES

Crowds gather on the historic courthouse lawn in Downtown Valdosta for the Brown Bag Lunch Concert Series.



DERREK VAUGHN | THE VALDOSTA DAILY TIMES

Liv Branch, 3, eats lunch and listens to the band Wednesday at the Brown Bag Lunch Concert Series.



THOMAS

However, the VHS band community was vocal in weeks prior to Thomas' resignation. Many attended a March 13 city school board meeting in outrage of Thomas' rumored departure.

"In the spirit of Winnersville, I request that the Board of Education reconsider and renew Mr. Thomas' contract and not destroy a great, award-winning program," said Don Davis.

Calendar & Events

8A

Thursday, May 24, 2018

www.valdostadailytimes.com

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

THURSDAY

Diabetes Class, 5 p.m. May 24, Johnston Lakes Library, Folsom Room, 720 Lakes Blvd., Lake Park. Sponsored by Chancy Drugs. Learn how to conquer diabetes. Topics from medication mysteries to delicious dishes. Everyone is welcome to attend. For more information, call 559-9394.

FRIDAY

Valwood School graduation, 1 p.m. Friday, May 25, at Rainwater Conference Center.

Valdosta High School graduation, 6 p.m. Friday, May 25, at Bazemore-Hyder Stadium.

Georgia Christian School graduation, 7 p.m. Friday, May 25.

Victory Christian School graduation, 7 p.m. Friday, May 25.

May 29-June 9, 1108 S. Patterson St. Cost: \$200 with a production at the end camp. Camps are for children 5-19. Visit www.latvaldosta.com to register or call 229-292-4742.

Valdosta People's Choice

Photo Contest & Gallery Opening Reception, Turner Center for the Arts, 527 N. Patterson St. Deadline to enter the contest is Thursday, May 31, 2018. All submitted photos should reflect the life and beauty within the Valdosta City limits. No entry fee. Also, will kick off the 10th Anniversary of the Valdosta People's Choice Photo Contest. Voting will run through July 11. For four weeks, the public can view the displayed photos in the Center's Tillman Gallery and cast votes for favorites. Free & open to the public. Visit turnercenter.org/events/.

sion is \$15. All shows will be held at the Valdosta Parks and Recreation Auditorium located at 1901 N. Forrest St. The theme is: "Rhythm Nation: Just Believe." For more information or tickets, call (229) 403-4813; (229) 403-4813 or visit: www.latoyacrawford.org

First Friday Contemplative

Service, 5:30 p.m., June 1, First Presbyterian Church, 313 N. Patterson. A worship opportunity open to the whole community as part of the downtown Valdosta First Friday events.

Karaoke on Demand,

Wednesday-Saturday, Rum Runner Sports Bar, 3988 N. Valdosta Road.

Wild & Scenic Film Festival,

7 p.m. May 31, Mathis Auditorium, 2300b N. Ashley St. There will be 13 films, speakers, refreshments,

and raffle prizes. Tickets: \$10. Event is to benefit WWALS Watershed Coalition. For more information, call (850) 290-2350.

Kids' Weekend Pottery Work-

shops with Julie Barnes Smith, 10 a.m. - noon June 2, Center for the Arts, 527 N. Patterson St. Ages 5-12. Fee: \$20. To register, call 247-2787.

18th Annual Youth Fishing

Derby, 7 a.m. 11 a.m. June 2, Flatlanders Lake, Lakeland. Children ages 3-15 are invited to join the festivities of fishing, snacks, and a raffle. Registration begins at 7 a.m. and fishing will take place from 7:45 a.m. - 9 a.m. First, second, and third place prizes will be awarded for longest fish and most fish to each age group. This event is hosted by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Banks Lake

Outdoors, Okefenokee Wildlife League, Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Lakeland Chamber of Commerce, and the City of Lakeland. There will be a raffle with prizes that are donated by event supporters. Raffles will begin at 10:30 a.m. For more information about the fishing derby, contact the Richard S. Bolt Visitor Center at Okefenokee National Wildlife Refuge at (912) 496-7836 from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. daily.

Big Tent Celebration, "A drug awareness program," 7 p.m. June 2, 2316 Old Clyattville Road.

South Georgia Regional

Library holds "Called" Meeting 1 p.m., June 4, Valdosta Lowndes County Library, 300 Woodrow Wilson Drive.

Wiregrass EdVenture Camp

at Wiregrass Georgia Technical College's Valdosta campus, 8 a.m.-4:15 p.m., June 5-7. Cost: \$70 (discount for multiple siblings after first enrollment). Cost includes class materials, drinks and snacks for two breaks a day. Register at www.ventbrit.com and search for Wiregrass EdVenture Camp - Valdosta Campus. Info: 29-333-2122.

Wiregrass EdVenture Camp

at Wiregrass Georgia Technical College's Cook campus, 8 a.m.-4:15 p.m., June 5. Cost: \$20 (discount for multiple siblings after first enrollment). Cost includes class materials, drinks and snacks for two breaks a day. Register at www.ventbrit.com and search for Wiregrass EdVenture Camp - COOI Campus. Info: 229-333-2122.

Defying Gravity

New Shanghai Circus returns

BY DEAN POLING

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VALDOSTA — The New Shanghai Circus comes from the Hunan Province of China.

Twenty-seven acrobats have played recent shows in Maui, Hawaii, then California as they make their way east for the Valdosta show later this week.

The Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts Presenter Series hosts the New Shanghai Circus Thursday, Jan. 31, Mathis City Auditorium.

It is a return visit for the circus, said Nancy Warren, who has booked Presenter Series shows for several years. She said in a past interview Shanghai Circus was one of the most popular Presenter Series shows in the past.

Lucas Case, Shanghai Circus tour manager, ex-

See Gravity on 8A

SHOWTIME

Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts presents New Shanghai Circus.

When: 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 31.

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

Tickets, more information:

Visit the arts center, 527 N. Patterson St., call (229) 247-2787, or visit turnercenter.org.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

New Shanghai Circus features 27 young acrobats from China. The show performs Jan. 31 in Valdosta.

5/23

Volunteers wanted for military monument

AMANDA M. USHER

amanda.usher@gafnews.com

VALDOSTA – Set to be unveiled on Veterans Day, Nov. 11, a monument in Freedom Park will honor the military community.

The Public Art Advisory Committee is seeking help with constructing a six-foot high, six-foot wide art project that will pay tribute to the men and women who have served in the military.

Marty Haythorn, the monument's lead artist, will guide volunteers through the process during free workshops held at the Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts annex, 601 N. Patterson St., on select dates.

Sementha Mathews, Turner executive director, said the piece will depict military core values such as honor.

See Veterans on 8A

VETERANS: Workshops will be June 4-6

"Everybody will have certain pieces, and then, he (Haythorn) will put it all together," she said. "It's going to be really amazing."

The upper section of the monument will be a 40-square-foot mosaic that will feature military depictions of both war and peacetime with historical images fired on ceramic tiles, according to organizers.

Also depicted will be stars and stripes as well as individual members of the military from the region.

Mathews said the piece is a way to thank veterans, military members serving now and military members who have lost their

lives.

"Art is an expression, so it's nice to see all these people (volunteers) come together and actually build this monument together to say thank you; we appreciate you; we honor you," she said.

Organizers ask that community members loan photographs or digital images of either wartime scenes or of relatives who have served in the military.

Volunteers must be at least middle-school age. Space is limited.

Turner will host workshops from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. and 6-9 p.m. daily June 4-6. Call (229) 247-2787 to register.

VSU: FinTech minor begins this fall