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

Recommended Citation:

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Forum to address telecommunication concerns

By Kay Harris
kay.harris@gafinews.com

VALDOSTA — Representatives from the city of Valdosta and area telecommunication companies will be the featured speakers Thursday at the third annual Technology Forum at the Valdosta-Lowndes County Conference Center.

The purpose of the forum, "Technology is the Key," is to provide the public and members of the business community with information concerning the status of the area's current communications infrastructure. The focus will be on the city of Valdosta's interest in entering the telecommunications business as well as on what area companies are now offering, from high speed internet access to cable television options, and their plans for future growth and new services.

Sponsored by the Valdosta-Lowndes County Chamber of Commerce and the Valdosta-Lowndes County Conference Center and Tourism Authority, the forum will be held at the Conference Center from 9:30 a.m. until noon.

Featured speakers include Larry Hanson, Valdosta city manager; Phil Jacobs, president of BellSouth Operations in Georgia; Merrill Guice of Sprint PCS; Donald Zagorski, regional vice president of MediaCom and Sally Bloom, director of area operations for MediaCom.

"The goal of the Third Annual Telecommunications forum is essentially the same as those that came before it. It started as a way of increasing the communication between those companies offering telecommunication and internet services in our area and the

city and county officials who are contemplating whether to become 'wired' communities similar to Tifton and Thomasville," said Randy Cox, vice president of marketing for Park Avenue Bank and chairman of the Chamber's Technology Resources Committee.

The city has cited issues with the lack of competition, high rates in the cable marketplace and poor service based on complaints from area residents, as well as the perception that Valdosta is not keeping up with Thomasville and Tifton in providing the connectivity needed to capture business or industry that will only consider areas where they are assured of high-speed connectivity.

Cox said that prior to the first forum two years ago, there was no DSL (digital subscriber line) service available in this market, and according to Bell-

South the Valdosta-Lowndes County area was far down the list of priorities in implementing this service. However, in that time, the company accelerated its plans and is now offering the service in parts of the county.

"At this point in time, I would estimate that BellSouth now offers DSL to just over 50 percent of the total Lowndes County area it serves and has somewhere over 3,000 households signed up," he said.

At the second telecommunication forum held last year, the Georgia Technology Authority's initiative to provide a single source and contract for all government related agencies and school systems for everything from high-speed internet access to computer hardware and software was discussed.

"We invited Sondra Rhodes

Johnson from the Technology Authority to speak and discuss what new plans and services they were offering, and whether the state's plans would assist or deter the city from its discussion of providing cable, Internet access and potentially several other businesses, such as home security monitoring or even local phone service," said Cox.

Johnson's speech was primarily a request for the city and county officials to wait on the state's initiative because it would provide them with the connectivity they desired. However, the state initiative stalled when one of only two bidders for the contract, WorldCom, made its financial problems public earlier this year.

At this time, the city is going forward with its proposal and has appointed a committee of area business and communi-

ty leaders to review the proposed telecommunications and cable initiative and to make a recommendation.

"This third forum will be a review of what has taken place, and what else is planned in infrastructure improvements by the primary companies offering these services. Sprint PCS was invited because of the availability of their new 'wireless web' network and to open the discussion to how this affects Internet access," said Cox.

Members of the audience will have the opportunity to ask questions following the presentations.

The forum is free and open to the public. For more information, call the Chamber at 247-8100.

To contact Business Editor Kay Harris, please call 244-3400, ext. 280.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Crop insurance deadline nears

With much of Georgia suffering from the effects of this summer's drought, growers of eight of the state's crops are facing Fall deadlines to sign up for federally subsidized crop insurance.

Winter wheat, oats, canola, and barley all share a September 30 deadline.

Depending on the county, winter wheat is insurable under three different kinds of crop insurance policies—the standard Actual Production History (APH), Group Risk Protection (GRP), and Crop Revenue Coverage (CRC).

November 20 is the deadline for blueberries, peaches, apples, and pecans.

Any farmer who wants to sign up for crop insurance for these crops, or to make changes to any existing policies, must contact a private crop insurance agent before the sales closing date.

Seminar scheduled for potential entrepreneurs

For anyone who has ever considered starting a new business, the Valdosta State University Small Business Development Center is an invaluable resource for information.

Representatives from the center are teaching "Entrepreneurship 101: Unlocking the Door to Small Business Success," a three-part seminar series, beginning next Tuesday.

The first class, "How to Start: Learning the Basics,"

will be held from 6 to 8:30 p.m. on September 17. The cost for the class is \$40 per person, with a discount if you sign up for all three classes. Call the SBDC at (229) 245-3738 for more details or to register. Space is limited, so if you are interested, call soon.

At A Glance...

The Valdosta-Lowndes County Chamber of Commerce has scheduled the following ribbon cuttings:

- Jan's Hallmark, Valdosta Mall, 10 a.m. on Sept. 12
- Courtyard by Marriott, 1564 Baytree Rd., noon on Sept. 12

If you have news about your business, please contact Business Editor Kay Harris at 244-3400, ext. 280.

BUSINESS HIGHLIGHTS

AOL Time Warner reduces its outlook

NEW YORK — (AP) AOL Time Warner reduced its outlook for its America Online division on Monday, citing continued weakness in online advertising, but reaffirmed its forecast for the overall company.

The media conglomerate said America Online's full-year revenues for advertising and commerce are expected to be \$1.7 billion, but indicated the figure could be as much as 5 percent lower.

Earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization, or EBITDA, are expected to be \$1.7 billion to \$1.8 billion.

Previously the company had estimated that both figures would come in at the low end of a range of \$1.8 billion to \$2.2 billion.

Laid-off workers ask WorldCom for millions

NEW YORK — Laid-off WorldCom Inc. employees demanded Monday that the bankrupt telecommunications giant cough up tens of millions of dollars in severance and health benefits that were promised but not paid.

With legal help funded by the AFL-CIO, more than 40 ex-WorldCom workers from

around the country asked the U.S. Bankruptcy Court in Manhattan to require the severance payments to at least 4,000 employees and possibly thousands more.

John Sweeney, the AFL-CIO's president, sent letters to the heads of AOL Time Warner Inc. and Metropolitan Life Insurance Co., two of WorldCom's biggest creditors, asking them not to stand in the way of the severance request.

With WorldCom in Chapter 11 bankruptcy proceedings the court must approve virtually every dollar the company spends and hear objections from creditors.

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Dedication

Meet the New Executive Director, Paula Brown

Paula M. Brown has been named executive director of the Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts. Brown will oversee operations in the five galleries as well as the many programs in the visual, performing, and literary arts. She will work with the Board to lead the Turner Center forward, while continuing long-standing traditions.

Brown comes to the Turner Center from the Valdosta-Lowndes County Chamber of Commerce, where she served as the Membership Development Coordinator and as the Community Affairs Coordinator. Prior to moving to Valdosta, she planned the Festival of Flight in Fayetteville, NC, a \$3 million centennial celebration of the Wright Brothers first powered flight. Paula also has experience in hotel management, conference, sales, and event planning.



A graduate of the University of Mississippi, Paula is married to Marty Brown, executive director of the Valdosta-Lowndes County Conference Center & Tourism Authority. Brown is a member of the Valdosta Sunrise Rotary Club, the Valdosta Junior Woman's Club, and the Knights of Columbus Ladies Auxiliary.

Brown's future plans for the Turner Center include plans to expand Visual Arts classes and begin Culinary Arts classes in the new state-of-the-art kitchen. Culinary classes begin January 27. Brown looks forward to working with other area organizations to enhance the quality of life in Valdosta-Lowndes County and surrounding areas for residents and newcomers.

The Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts, located at 527 North Patterson Street, is open to the public seven days a week with no cost for admission. Brown stated, "The Turner Center is the community's art organization. New exhibits are featured in our galleries every six weeks. I encourage everyone to visit the Center and to take advantage of the programs offered."

(Please find the schedule of upcoming Turner Center events inserted in the program.)

The Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts would like to offer special thanks to two dear friends friends who have provided extraordinary support by making the public aware of our offerings in the performing, visual, and litary arts.

We salute....
The Valdosta Daily Times
and
Valdosta Magazine

PROGRAM



TITANIC The Musical

ACT ONE

Prologue: "In Every Age"	Thomas Andrews
"How Did They Build Titanic?"	Barrett
"There She Is"	Barrett, Bride, and Fleet
"Loading Inventory"	Smith, Stevedores and Ship's Personnel
"The Largest Moving Object"	Ismay, Smith and Andrews
"I Must Get On That Ship"	Pitman, 2nd, 3rd Class Passengers
"The First Class Roster"	Pitman, Mrs. Beane
"Godspeed Titanic"	The Company
"Barrett's Song"	Barrett
"What a Remarkable Age This Is"	Etches Staff, and 1st Class Diners
"To Be A Captain"	Officer Murdoch
"Lady's Maid"	The Kates and Steerage
"The Proposal"	Barrett
"The Night Was Alive"	Bride
"A Hymn"	The Company
"Doing The Latest Rag"	Hartley and the Company
"No Moon"	Fleet and the Company
"Autumn"	Hartley

ACT TWO

"Wake Up, Wake Up!"	Etches, the Stewards, and the Company
"Dressed in Your Pyjamas in the Grand Saloon"	The Company
"The Staircase"	The Kates and Farrell
"The Blame"	Ismay, Andrews, and Smith
"Getting the Lifeboat"	Mr. & Mrs. Thayer
"I Must Get On That Ship" (Reprise)	Murdoch, Lightholler, Steward
"Ladies Maid" (Reprise)	Bellboy, Passengers
"Canons"	Jim Farrell
"The Proposal" (Reprise)	Company
"The Night Was Alive" (Reprise)	Barrett
"We'll Meet Tomorrow"	Barrett, Bride, Charles Clarke & Company
"Still"	Isador and Ida Straus
"To Be A Captain" (Reprise)	Etches
"Mr. Andrew's Vision"	Thomas Andrews
"In Every Age" (Reprise)	The Company
Finale	The Company

TITANIC — THE MUSICAL *Synopsis*

Rich and poor, young and old, they came from the four corners of the earth to board the modern wonder of the world. The jeweled and the jaded, the aesthetes and the athletes, the maids and the millionaires, the anonymous and the infamous, the down-at-heel and the upper crust, all of

them destined for a landmark crossing. They traveled faster than man had ever traveled before, from one continent to another, surrounded by such opulence as to make Versailles blush, spurred by a tycoon determined to break the record for speed, captained by a trusted veteran of the high seas. Every one of them hoped they were bound not just for America, but for history. They were.

The name of the vessel: TITANIC. Now a new Broadway musical about the collision of man; compromise, compliance, greed -- and naturally speed, visibility, ice -- in a tragedy so avoidable, the fact that it occurred remains mind-boggling, heart-breaking... and the stuff of legend. Written by Academy Award and Tony Award-winner Peter Stone ("1776," "Woman of the Year," "My One and Only," "Will Rogers Follies"). With music and lyrics by Tony Award-winner Maury Yeston ("Nine," "Grand Hotel").

Onstage, amidst a lavish physical production, we come to know three



ordinary Seamen -- a stoker, a lookout and a radioman. We meet three others, rather more Uncommon - the owner, the builder and the captain. We thrill to the backdrop of grandeur and glamour that made every American multi-millionaire reserve a first-class stateroom; each merchant, professional and social-climbing tourist in second-class feel part of the event of the century every emigrant in steerage enjoy, for the first time in their lives, four full days of leisure. For those four days, life was carefree, the crossing perfectly smooth, the passengers increasingly eager for their arrival in New York. Then came Sunday, April 14th.

It was a cold, crystal clear night. The stars reflected diamonds off the black Atlantic. People bundled overcoats over their evening clothes to enjoy the brisk slap of suddenly frigid air sweeping the promenade deck. Inside the first class ballroom, the crystal chandeliers bathed dancers in a golden glow as the band played on, and in the club room, the men warmed to card games and cognac, surrounded by statues of the gods, swathed in the smoke of expensive cigars. On the second and third class decks, most had retired for the night. Many were asleep, lulled by the gentle heaving of the enormous engines and boilers, as they cut their record-breaking path through the water. It was late, almost midnight, when one loan lookout saw the ice. 45 seconds later came the jolt.

If the owner hadn't determined to surprise America by arriving a night early. If the builder had designed the watertight bulkheads to rise to a higher deck. If they hadn't cut the corner on an area of ocean they knew had been dangerous before. If it had been summer instead of spring. If the lookout's binoculars hadn't been missing from the crow's nest. If only one of these things had not been the case, TITANIC would today be the very definition of luxury, romance and fortitude, of bigger-faster-stronger, of progress victorious.

Instead, 19th century civilization, with its corseted morality, its extravagant codes of honor and sacrifice, its unswerving belief that God favored the rich, plunged that night to the bottom of the sea, aboard the largest moving object on earth.

TITANIC. In 1912, it left England, bound for New York and history. This spring, it arrived.

WELCOME TO TONIGHT'S PERFORMANCE.

The Annette Howell Turner Center For The Arts is a premier regional arts center located in downtown Valdosta, Georgia, offering a wide variety of art experiences to citizens of Valdosta, Lowndes and surrounding Georgia counties, and North Florida.

The five light-filled galleries offer a diverse selection of work by regional and national artists, approximately fifty annually. One gallery is dedicated to exhibits for children. The fifth gallery houses the Center's permanent collections, including the 600 piece Jerry Tillman East African art collection. The entrance piazza with its river-rock fountains is itself a work of art.



The Annette Howell Turner Center For The Arts is dedicated to the Celebration of the Art in Life. Join our celebration today and become a member of the Lowndes Valdosta Arts Commission and our Center. Your membership contribution ensures the continuation of a myriad of art experiences offered to every segment of our community. Members receive the Center newsletter and event announcements, giving first notice of all programs and offerings. Further support the Future of Art in this area by making a contribution to our Capital Campaign & Endowment Fund. This funding assures the continuation of our programs and the expansion into new art arenas. The Turner Center For The Arts exists and continues to expand only as a direct result of the support of our community and patrons. Thank you for your kind support.

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The Cultural Arts Guild members have made it their mission to support the Turner Center with their time and fund-raising projects. Most recently they committed to a major donation for the naming of the commercial-style kitchen. From this wonderful group stems the "Art Ambassadors" who "man" the front desk of the Turner Center seven days-a-week, greeting each guest who enters the door. They answer every phone call with a smile, relieving the staff of a tremendous work load. Headed by Sylvia Ator, the Ambassadors are:

Millie Adams	Priscilla Cowart	Barbara Jenkins	Ann Schutt
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"They" Are Also...The Valdosta Junior Service League!....

One of the League's main service projects is to support the Turner Center. League volunteers serve as ushers for this evenings concert, as they do for every Presenter Series Program. They also help host and serve at opening receptions at the Center. Every year they sponsor a wine-tasting event with proceeds benefitting the Center. These funds have offset the cost of the Children's Professional Touring Theatrical Programs in the school systems and in Mathis City Auditorium for our five-county area. They've provided scholarships for classes and major funds for general operations.

Funds to finance League service projects have come from the "Follies", a Flea Market, a Christmas Bazaar, a Guide to Valdosta, seven great cookbooks, the South Georgia Medical Center Coffee Corner, and the Christmas Spectacular Arts & Crafts Show. Recent League service projects include *Southern Treasures* cookbook, Coats for Kids, and the Learning Enhancement Grants program.

The Turner Center honors the Valdosta Junior Service League for the tremendous work they do for the Arts and for the community in general. Their home is the historic Converse Dalton Ferrell House. For more information, call (229) 244-8575 or check out www.VJSL.org

And Still "They" Come!!....

They are Jeanette Coody, Martha N. Lane, Virginia Elliott, Annie Roberts, Vivian J. Scott, and Mattie Windham. Through the Levi-Strauss Foundation Social Benefits Program, these dedicated, hard-working women have put in enough volunteer time stuffing envelopes, folding newsletters, sorting bulk mailings, etc., **(this year alone)** to qualify for \$3,000.00 in charitable contributions for the Turner Center.

And We're Sure to Have Missed Some....

But if you're one of those, be assured that you are loved by all of us at the Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts. You help make sure we get the job done, **and you are all our TREASURES!!!!!!!**

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The Saint Petersburg Classic Ballet

March 4th, 8:00 p.m.
Mathis City Auditorium

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PROGRAM

Classical Ballet Gala

Performed by:

Saint Petersburg Classic Ballet

ACT I

53 minutes

Pas de Trois from "Pakhita"

Music: L. Minkus
Choreography: M. Petipa
Performed by: Natalia Romanova,
Vasily Koptelov, Mayia Radchenko

Ocean and Two Pearls

From "The Little Humpbacked Horse"

Music: C. Pugni
Choreography: A. Saint-Leon
Performed by: Alexandra Fedotova,
Nikolai Blankov, Marina Medvetskaya

Russian Dance from "Swan Lake"

Music: P. Tchaikovsky
Choreography: A. Goleizovsky
Performed by: Natalia Romanova

Pas d'esclave from "Le Corsaire"

Music: R. Drigo
Choreography: M. Petipa
Performed by: Mayia Radchenko, Alexander Gavrish

Grand Pas Classique

Music: G. Obert
Choreography: A. Gzovsky
Performed by: Elena Alekseeva, Alexander Mischenko

"The Dying Swan"

From Saen Sans "Carnival of the Animals"

Music: C. Saen Sans
Choreography: M. Forkine
Performed by: Natalia Kezevadze

Gopak from "Taras Bulba"

Music: V. Soloviev-Sedoi
Choreography: B. Fenster
Performed by: Alexander Gavrish

"Passione," An Italian Romance

Music: An Italian Ballad
Choreography: D. Seiffert
Performed by: Marina Medvetskaya,
Mayia Radchenko, Valeria Guseva,
Natalia Romanova, Denis Sdvigkov

20 MINUTE INTERMISSION

ACT II

42 minutes

Beethoven — A Classical Inspiration

Inspired by Beethoven's Fifth Piano Concerto, "The Emperor."

Specially created for Marina Medvetskaya and the St. Petersburg Classic Ballet, and Dedicated to Natalia Dudinskaya

Music: L. Van Beethoven
Choreography: Prof. Peggy Willis-Aarnio
Performed by: Natalia Kezevadze, Alexander Mischenko,
Elena Alekseeva, Denis Sdvigkov,
Natalia Romanova, Vasily Koptelov, Valeria Guseva,
Nikolai Blankov, Aleksandra Fedotova, Alexander Gavrish

Saint Petersburg Classic Ballet

A Brief Company History

The Saint Petersburg Classic Ballet was formed in early 1996. The artists and staff are a cross-section of the best of the Russian tradition in Classical Ballet, in addition to actively seeking to inspire a new generation of Russian and International Choreographers to contribute repertoire.

The company Artistic Director, Marina Medvetskaya, is a disciple of the legendary Vakhtang Chaboukiani, and Prima Ballerina of the Tbilisi State Academic Opera and Ballet Theatre, where she danced all the leading roles in classical and contemporary works, as well as working with Alexander Plesetsky and Mikhael Lavrovsky. She brought her broad experience, vision and artistic standard to this new company, and it soon began to flourish. At a time of unsettling economic setbacks, she was able to attract a select group of some of the finest ballet artists from the mature companies of St. Petersburg, including the Kirov, The Maly and the St. Petersburg Ballet Theatre of Askold Makarov (Formerly "Choreographic Miniatures"). The Company's repertoire currently consists of numerous famous Classical Compositions by choreographers such as Petipa, Ivanov, Vainonen, St. Leon, Bournonville, Gorsky, Vaganova, Yakobson, and many others, and the Company has acquired new costumes and decorations (set pieces) from the craftsmen of the legendary Maryinsky Theatre Shops. In the Summer of 2002, The Company commissioned a new classical ballet work by the American Choreographer and authority on Russian Teaching Method, Prof. Peggy Willis-Aarnio, *Beethoven: A Classical Inspiration*, which will receive its North American Debut performances on their 2003 American Tour.

Almost immediately, the company began to do touring within Russia and the former states of the Soviet Union, and in 1998, they had their first Tour abroad, touring throughout Scandinavia. In 1999, the company was awarded the Gold Medal in the "Amber Necklace" International Ballet Competition in Kaliningrad. Since then, the company has split its time between touring inside the states of the former Soviet Union and Europe, and Performing during the Summer "White Nights" seasons (2000/1/2/3) at the Theatre of Musical Comedy in St. Petersburg.

The current planned tour is the Company's third touring activity in the United States and will include the world premiere performances of a new Classical Ballet created for the Company by Internationally known Teacher and Choreographer, Prof. Peggy Willis Aarnio, *Beethoven: A Classical Inspiration*.

What's Cooking at the Turner Center?

. **fabulous cuisine from around the world!**

Sponsored by the Center for the Arts Guild, a new series of culinary classes has begun with an overflow of participants, and the enthusiasm has been just great. Pat Cordova, a member of the Guild who is in charge of scheduling, said, "We expect to be buying equipment, appliances, pots, pans, and other things needed for the classes. Already the kitchen has a top of the line stove, convection oven, commercial dishwasher, ice machine, refrigerator, freezer, and other major appliances."

The first class, taught by Yousef Heidary, a native of Iran, who was here for the Persian Rug Show and Sale, featured authentic Persian recipes for chicken and salmon with special sauces. Participants listened intently as he often quoted poetry in his beautiful native language. The Turner Center Galleries offered the perfect setting for a fine dining experience complete with white tablecloths, delectable wine, soft music, a nice mix of laughter, and most intriguing conversation.



Renowned Restaurateur Massimo Pistelli, owner of Mom & Dad's Italian Restaurant, was equally as well received with his step-by-step approach to cooking and entertaining while capturing the authentic Italian style. Participants learned how to prepare pasta, chicken marsala, and tiramisu, using recipes passed on in kitchens from generation to generation. Lisa Berger and Winona Hodges did a grand presentation to another full class on vegetarian dishes February 26th.

Cordova said, "Community support has been great. So far 25 chefs have agreed to participate and classes will be for full meals or specialties such as desserts. Already we are signing up people for a possible second class for Massimo. There will be three to five classes per quarter, and students may have hands on participation in some of the classes. The cost will depend on what they are cooking. The chefs are volunteering their time, and a portion of the proceeds go toward the Turner Center."

"Some of the classes will be for children," said Cordova. "We also want to include such classes as: the basics of cooking, 30-minute meals for busy people, and cooking for two. Warren Turner is planning to hold a class aimed toward men - possibly southwestern cuisine. Greg Harbin will be cooking risotto. Sisters Marie Wood and Claire Spriggs, winners of the *Valdosta Daily Times* Cooking Contest many times, are planning a low carb class in March which will include tilapia, vegetable dishes, and no-sugar cheese cake. Paul Joseph, also a finalist in the *Valdosta Daily Times* Cooking Contest plans possibly to prepare barbecue or brisket, and Julia Dennard - Russian cuisine & breads. Brenda Woodall, accomplished cook and perennial winner of the *Valdosta Daily Times* Cooking Contest, will give instruction on how to make the best casseroles," according to Cordova. "Other classes will also include Indian cuisine, Latin American specialties, pastry making, cake decorating, and much more. Each class will include lunch or supper for all participants, or, depending on the class, a sampling of all pastries, breads, appetizers, etc., prepared in the class."

Reservations will be secured by payment in the order they are received. *Remember, all classes so far have been an overflow, and class size is limited!* Please call 247-2787 for more information.

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Turner Center Calendar of Events

Exhibits at the Turner Center February through April:

Craig Hawkins, February 9-April 8

Barbara Perrotti, March 6-April 8

Youth Art Month, March 6-April 8

Clinch County High School, March 6-April 8

Other Activities and Events at the Turner Center:

Saturday, March 6

Open Mic Night, 7 p.m. (Free & Open to the Public-Held
First Saturday of Every Month)

Sunday, March 7

Exhibit Opening (Youth Art Month, Craig Hawkins,
Barbara Perrotti) 1-3 p.m.

Monday, March 15

Spring Into Art Deadline for Artists' Entry Forms

Lunch 'N Learn - Debora Monroe, writer

Thursday, March 18

Movie Night 7 p.m. (Free Refreshments, and lively
discussion afterwards.)

Saturday, April 3

Open Mic Night, 7 p.m. (Free & Open to the Public)

Monday, April 5

Singin' in the Rain: Mathis Auditorium, Dinner at 6:30 p.m.,
Performance at 8 p.m.

Wednesday, April 7 and Thursday, April 8

Spring Into Art Delivery Dates

Monday, April 12

Spring Into Art Reception, 6-9 p.m. (Tickets Will Be
Available The Turner Center. The Exhibit Thereafter Will
Be Free)

Thursday, April 15

Movie Night, 7 p.m.

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Candlewood and Mainstage present

Singin' in the Rain

Coming Monday, April 5, 2004
Sponsored by Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts
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Thank You For Your Kind Support!

The Annette Howell Turner Center For The Arts is a premier regional arts center located in downtown Valdosta, Georgia, offering a wide variety of art experiences to citizens of Valdosta, Lowndes and surrounding Georgia counties, and North Florida.

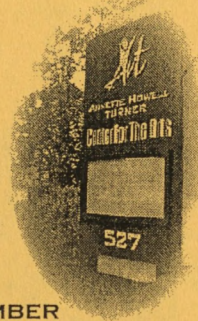
The five light-filled galleries offer a diverse selection of work by regional and national artists, approximately fifty annually. One gallery is dedicated to exhibits for children. The fifth gallery houses the Center's permanent collections, including the 600 piece Jerry Tillman East African art collection. The entrance piazza with its river-rock fountains is itself a work of art.



The Annette Howell Turner Center For The Arts is dedicated to the Celebration of the Art in Life. Join our celebration today and become a member of the Lowndes Valdosta Arts Commission and our Center. Your membership contribution ensures the continuation of a myriad of art experiences offered to every segment of our community. Members receive the Center newsletter and event announcements, giving first notice of all programs and offerings. Further support the Future of Art in this area by making a contribution to our Capital Campaign & Endowment Fund. This funding assures the continuation of our programs and the expansion into new art arenas. The Turner Center For The Arts exists and continues to expand only as a direct result of the support of our community and patrons. Thank you for your kind support.



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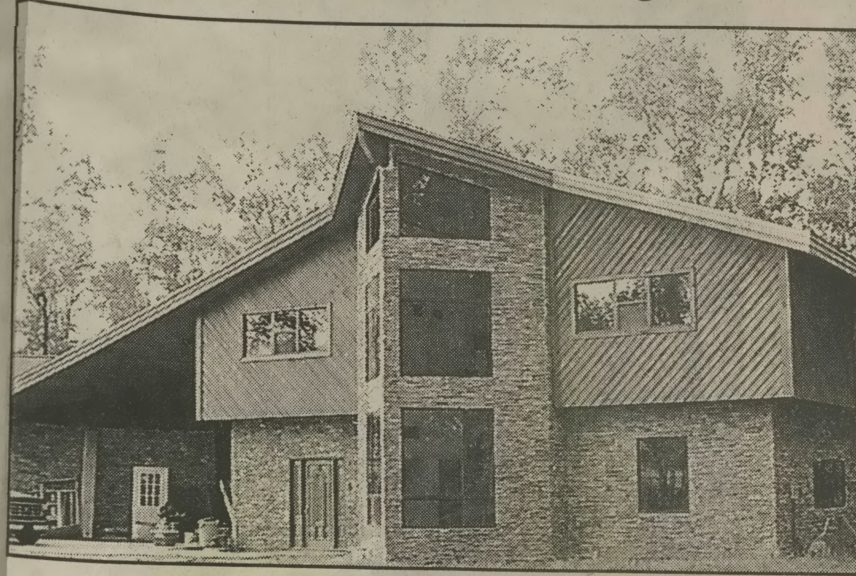
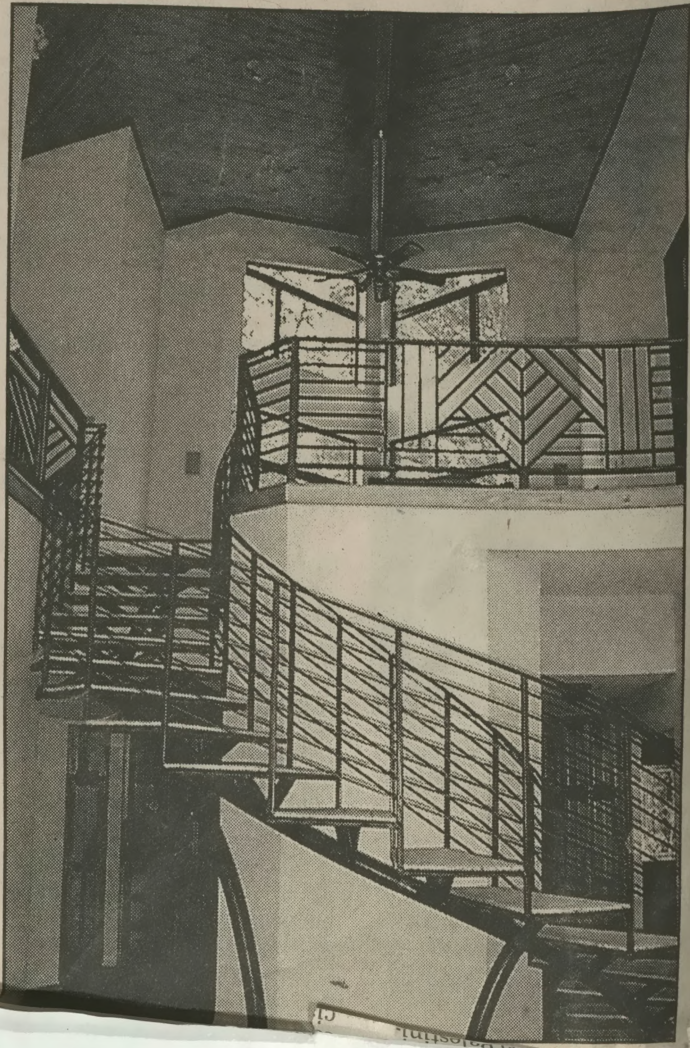
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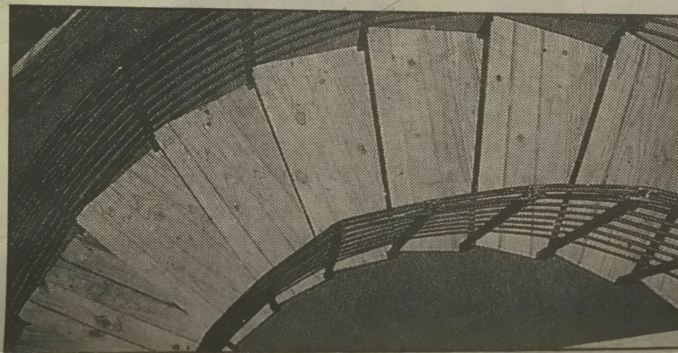
Growing With Our Community

Wednesday, March 13, 2002

Local artist discusses his greatest work: Building his house



A GLIMPSE of Hollis Barnett's house, which he designed, contacted and built. He will discuss the challenges of building a home during a seminar later this month.



Staff Reports

VALDOSTA — Building a home takes time, money and especially knowledge: Knowing what to do when, how, etc.

Hollis Barnett, a Valdosta State University professor and a local artist, is scheduled to explain some of the challenges during a Lowndes/Valdosta Arts Commission seminar entitled "The Art of Contracting and Building Your Own Home."

Barnett "recently completed a house that he designed, contracted and built," according to LVAC. "During this time, he often thought about how much he would like to help anyone who attempted to build his or her own house. Building a house is emotionally, financially and physically difficult. It is also very rewarding."

In the seminar, Barnett offers a public presentation "about the complexities involved in contracting labor, organizing the delivery of materials, and arranging for inspections of the construction." He offers his experiences as an example to anyone planning to contract and build their own home.

As an artist, Barnett is a sculptor, and he considered his house to be the "largest work of art he has ever produced," according to LVAC. "For this reason, his home is quite different from many traditional homes. At the end of the presentation, he will show a selection of slides of his house and describe how he arrived at the final design."

The seminar is expected to last about 90 minutes. *The Art of Contracting and Building Your Own Home* is scheduled for 7 p.m., March 28, Lowndes/Valdosta Arts Center, 1204 N. Patterson St. More info: 247-2787.

THE PLATTERS

Classic '50s singing group coming to Valdosta

PLAYBILL

Lowndes/Valdosta Arts Commission Presenter Series presents The Platters in concert, 8 p.m. Tuesday, Mathis City Auditorium. Though the Presenter Series usually hosts a dinner in the auditorium's multi-purpose room prior to the show, there will be no dinner before this concert because the multi-purpose room is serving as a polling place for Tuesday's school SPLOST election. Concert tickets: \$30. More info: 247-2787.

By Dean Poling
dean.poling@gafnews.com

VALDOSTA

"Only You," "The Great Pretender," "Twilight Time," "Smoke Gets In Your Eyes," "My Prayer," "Harbor Lights."

The Platters. Their hits. Great songs from the '50s, at the birth of rock & roll, when hip-shaking songs by Elvis hit the airwaves alongside smooth harmonies and ballads by The Platters.

Next week, The Platters, featuring Buck Ram of the original group, brings the '50s to 2002 South Georgia as the concluding show in this season's Lowndes/Valdosta Arts Commission Presenter Series (see "Playbill" box on this page for details).

In The Platters golden times, the group earned 16 gold records, sent 22 consecutive songs to the Billboard charts spending 211 uninterrupted weeks on the charts.

And, according to The Platters PR, it was "the first black group to outsell their 'white covers,'" referring to a time when black musicians originally performed a song only to have record producers give the song to a white musician to record and promote into a bigger hit — The Platters' "Only



You" reached No. 5 on the charts while the white Hilltoppers' version of the song went to only No. 8.

And while most younger folks have to ask who are the Hilltoppers, it's a much safer bet that more have heard of The Platters.

But The Platters didn't just spin hits in the U.S.

The group's songs brought them fame in other countries such as Belgium, France, Argentina and Greece.

On the young medium of TV, The Platters were regular guests on variety shows hosted

by Ed Sullivan, Jackie Gleason, Perry Como, Dick Clark, etc., and the group was featured in five movies.

Through the decades, the membership has changed but The Platters sound has continued and now it comes live to Valdosta.

Lowndes Valdosta Arts Commission
invites you to see

GMT Productions'

The Taming of the Shrew

One of Shakespeare's funniest!
Music and songs guaranteed to delight audiences of all
ages.

Monday, November 4, 2002, 7p.m.
at

Mathis City Auditorium

For more information or for tickets, call 247-2787

LOWNDES VALDOSTA ARTS COMMISSION AND



GMT PRODUCTIONS

PRESENT SHAKESPEARE'S

The Taming of The Shrew

MATHIS AUDITORIUM, VALDOSTA, GA

NOVEMBER 4, 2002, at 7:00PM

The battle of the sexes in Shakespeare at his funniest!

*A production with music and songs guaranteed
to delight audiences of all ages.*



Take one headstrong woman who knows what she wants and who is determined to live life on her own terms, and what you have is the first liberated woman of Elizabethan times! Add a bevy of young wooers who want to see her married to anyone so they can court her younger, more docile sister. Enter the wild, handsome, wealthy Petruchio – a perfect match for the wild Kate!

TICKETS \$ 6.00

INFORMATION AND BOOKINGS call: 229-247-2787 or 1-888-464-3130 (toll-free)

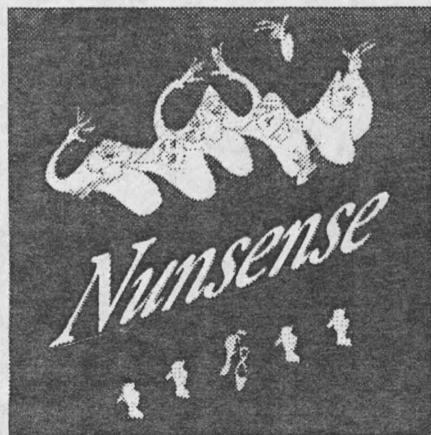
Reluctant George

GMT is on the State of Georgia Touring Roster, the South Carolina Arts Commission's Roster, the Broward County (FL) Schools Students Enrichment Roster, the Lee County (FL) Roster for Outside Agencies, and the Fulton Arts Council (GA), School Arts Program and other Arts Program Rosters throughout its touring area.



Theatre Guild Valdosta

presents



by Dan
Goggin

**Director -
Mary Helen Watson**

**Musical Direction -
Ricardo Ipina**

by Special Arrangement with Samuel French, Inc
September 5, 6, 7, 8 and 12, 13, 14
2002

***Dosta Playhouse. 122 N Ashley Street**

All Performances at 8:00 PM except Sunday,
September 8 at 2:30 PM

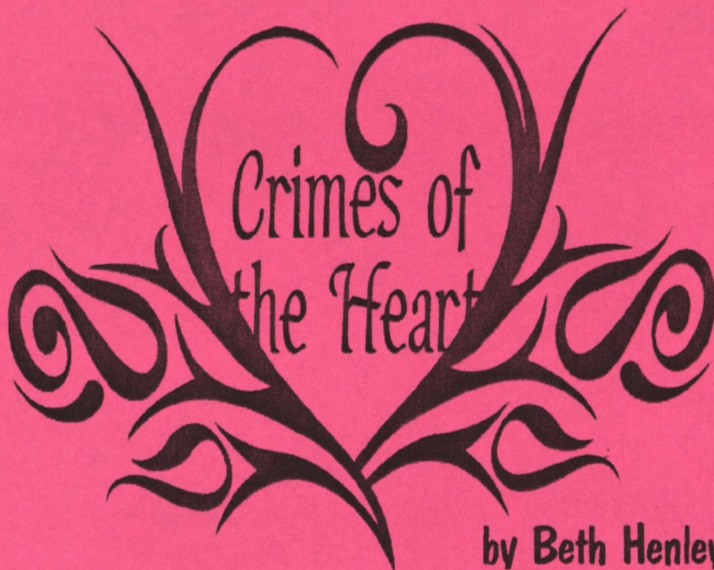
Tickets - \$12

(Dinner - Thursday, September 5 and Thursday,
September 12

at 6:45 PM - \$15 in addition to show ticket)

Reservations and Information: 24STAGE
(247-8243)

Theatre Guild Valdosta Presents



**Crimes of
the Heart**

by Beth Henley

January 24-27, 31 and February 1-2

**All shows
8:00 PM**

**Sunday matinee
2:30 PM**

**Thursday Dinner Theatre
6:30 PM**

Ticket Prices

**Regular Shows \$10.00
Dinner Theatre \$25.00
(Price includes dinner and show)**

**'Dosta Playhouse
122 N. Ashley Street
Downtown Valdosta**

For more information call (229) 24-STAGE