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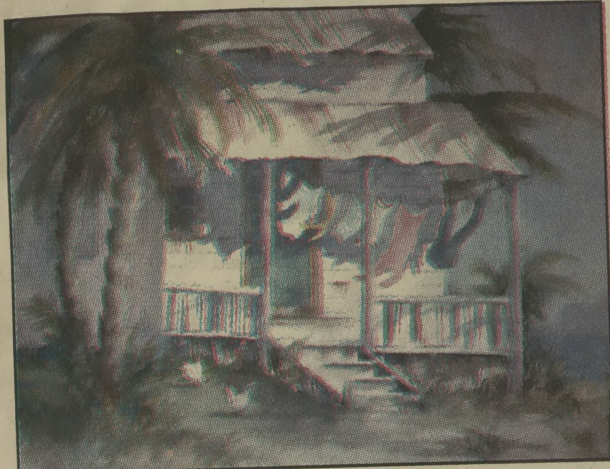
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Watercolor, sculpture exhibit



'Fisherman's House' by Mary Borshard



'Lily Pond' by Mary Borshard



'Nantucket Summer' by Mary Borshard

This month, the Lowndes/Valdosta Arts Center will host a watercolor exhibit in the main gallery by Mary Borshard of Fernandina Beach, Fla., and a sculpture exhibit by Hollis Barnett in the hall gallery.

A reception, free and open to the public, will be held from 5-7 p.m. Monday, and the show will stay up until Feb. 21.

Talented, hard-working and dedicated, Ms. Borshard understands that the creation of art is a life-long learning experience that encourages an appreciation of nature. As a watercolorist, Ms. Borshard has been fortunate to study with the late Edgar Whitney who not only helped mold her foundation as an artist but also inspired her with his philosophy of life: "Take care of the big pieces, and the little ones will fall into place."

Prizes and awards are a large part of the life of this soft-spoken artist. She has captured top awards at the Jacksonville Watercolor Show and the first juried Hilton Head Art League Show. Corporations such as AT&T, Allied Chemical and Seton Hall University have sponsored or collected exhibitions of Ms. Borshard's art.

Like every successful artist, she is constantly looking for new avenues of creative expression. Lately, stone lithography is offering her a chance to share her artistic vision in an old, traditional medium. She also teaches numerous classes in drawing, oil painting and watercolor in New Jersey as well as Florida.

Local sculptor Barnett, professor of art at Valdosta State University since 1985, has had numerous exhibits and has won many awards for his various works in wood, metal and stone. Barnett, a gifted teacher, has commissioned work in Temple Israel and VSU. He has taken the first place award twice at the Waycross Heritage Center. Barnett's work in many instances uses the human form, a smooth combination of flowing lines to express a sensuous appreciation of the textures of whatever medium he uses. Opal or mother-of-pearl spheres in place of faces gives an enigmatic quality to the work.



'Venus in White-Face' by Hollis Barnett



'House and Garden' by Mary Borshard

LVAC Arts Center is open
 Monday-Friday
 from 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Saturday
 from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. and Sunday
 from 2-4 p.m.

TUESDAY
 January 31, 1995

Cleland optimistic about city's growth

By LOWELL VICKERS JR.
 Times Staff Writer

VALDOSTA — Georgia Secretary of State Max Cleland called Valdosta the "capital city of South Georgia" Monday and predicted the community's continued growth as a center of education and business.

Cleland was keynote speaker at the 82nd Annual Dinner Meeting of the Valdosta and Lowndes County Chamber of Commerce, held at Mathis Auditorium. He shared the mike with Peggy Stokes Nielson, an Albany communications consultant also asked to speak at the invitation-only function for chamber members.

Both described the community as "a special place." They spoke of the achievements enjoyed in recent years and cautioned of the social and economic challenges to come.

Cleland, during a presentation liberally sprinkled with wit and anecdotes, sparked laughter when he quoted late Georgia author Lewis Grizzard to make a point about the importance of leadership. Grizzard once compared leadership to a dog sled team.

"He said, 'If you ain't the lead dog, the scenery never changes,'" Cleland said.

Cleland lauded Valdosta for having a strong sense of community

and success. One asset a community belief and courage "be who you are."

Among the communities, Cleland and M. University status for Georgia community, retaining Force Base during last round of base for a National Hig Hall of Fame; eco new areas, includi discount malls; growth at a time v Georgia commun to remain constan

But the commur lenges that must success is to conti said. Cleland sp also experienced cities, such as hig nancy rates, large school dropouts a

Mrs. Nielson ur al involvement in ills. While Valdost economically, th behind the state respects, such births, she said.

Too many child single-parent fam poverty or near p "Children are Nielson said. "Ou children, not just names we know, greatest resourc nightmare."

TUESDAY
 January 17, 1995

Valdosta's Daniels makes commitment to Ga. Tech — Page 8-A

The Valdosta Daily Times

50 cents

Valdosta, Georgia

Vol. 90 — No. 94

Hanson attending Clinton meeting

By LOWELL VICKERS JR.
 Times Staff Writer

VALDOSTA — Larry Hanson, Valdosta's director of Parks, Recreation and Community Development, has been selected as one of 11 Georgia delegates to Washington for an October meeting at the White House.

LeAnn Barnes, special events coordinator, said Hanson was nominated about six months ago to compete for the "county official" slot. He ran against nine others from cities within the Plantation Trace Travel Region, a multi-county tourism district in south Georgia.

Notification of his selection came late last week. Hanson will attend the National White House Conference on Travel and Tourism, the first such meeting

called at the White House. The president has called similar conferences in the past to promote small business, aging and the disabled, but this is the first to target a specific industry, Mrs. Barnes said.

About 1,700 representatives from municipalities, travel agencies, tourism groups, motels and restaurants are set to attend the two-day conference on Oct. 30-31.

"I'm very excited," Hanson said. "The majority going are from metropolitan areas, and it was certainly an honor to be selected to represent South Georgia, which is often neglected."

All of the plans have not been announced. Hanson said a meeting is to be scheduled in a few weeks to advise delegates of travel plans and an agenda for the meeting. Hanson said the conference is to help estab-

lish public policy regarding travel and tourism for the next 20 years.

Hanson said he stands in good company. Other delegates include some of the top people in their fields.

"Hanson's selection speaks highly of Valdosta and Lowndes County's reputation with travel professionals throughout Georgia," said Bill Cowart, chairman of the Valdosta/Lowndes County

Convention and Visitor's Bureau. Although Hanson is a city employee, the guidelines for the categories were flexible enough for him to be appointed a county official.

Other categories for the meeting include food service, city official, convention and visitors bureau, chamber of commerce, lodging, attraction, travel agency, multicultural, tour operator and media.

COLUMBUS LEDGER ENQUIRER
 SUNDAY 1/29/95

Bank president paints

Former Columbusite **Eddie Norris** currently has an exhibit of watercolor paintings at the Cultural Arts Center in Valdosta, Ga., through Feb. 11. Norris and wife **Ann** moved to Valdosta in 1984, where he is president of Synovus affiliate First State Bank & Trust.

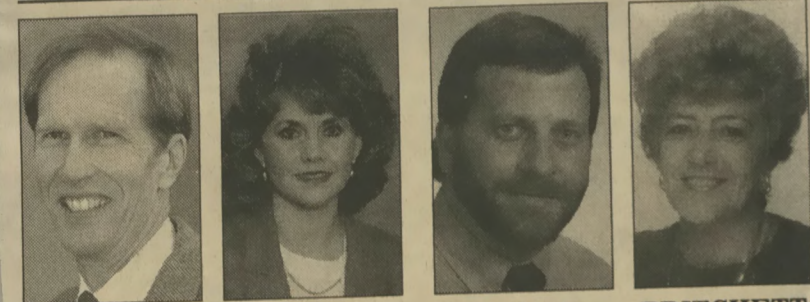
Norris started painting seriously about 25 years ago, and for the past six years has attended workshops throughout the south. He says his subject matter ranges from flowers to bird dogs, mountain streams and children.

He has 34 paintings in the exhibit and sold 15 on opening night, Jan. 6. After that, he and Ann spent 10 days in England, and when they returned, five more paintings had been purchased.

Norris was distressed when he learned that artist/friend **Mote Andrews Jr.** had driven to Valdosta to see the exhibit and had not let Norris know he was in town. Norris wants any of his other friends who come to the exhibit to call him. The Norrises plan to join **Pat** and **Dexter Jordan** in March at the 26th

The Valdosta Daily Times
 Sunday, January 29, 1995

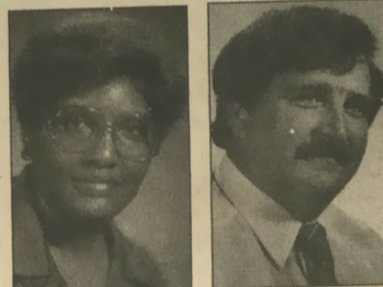
B



SINEATH GUESS COOPER PRITCHETT

The Valdosta Board of Realtors installed new officers for the 1995 term at its regular monthly luncheon meeting held January 3 at the Holiday Inn.

Installed by Nancy Stasins, regional vice president of the Georgia Association of Realtors, the officers are Bill Sineath, president; Ann Guess, President-Elect; Jeff Cooper, vice president; Dollette Pritchett, treasurer; Erma Baker, Secretary; and Emmett Pinkston, MLS chairman.



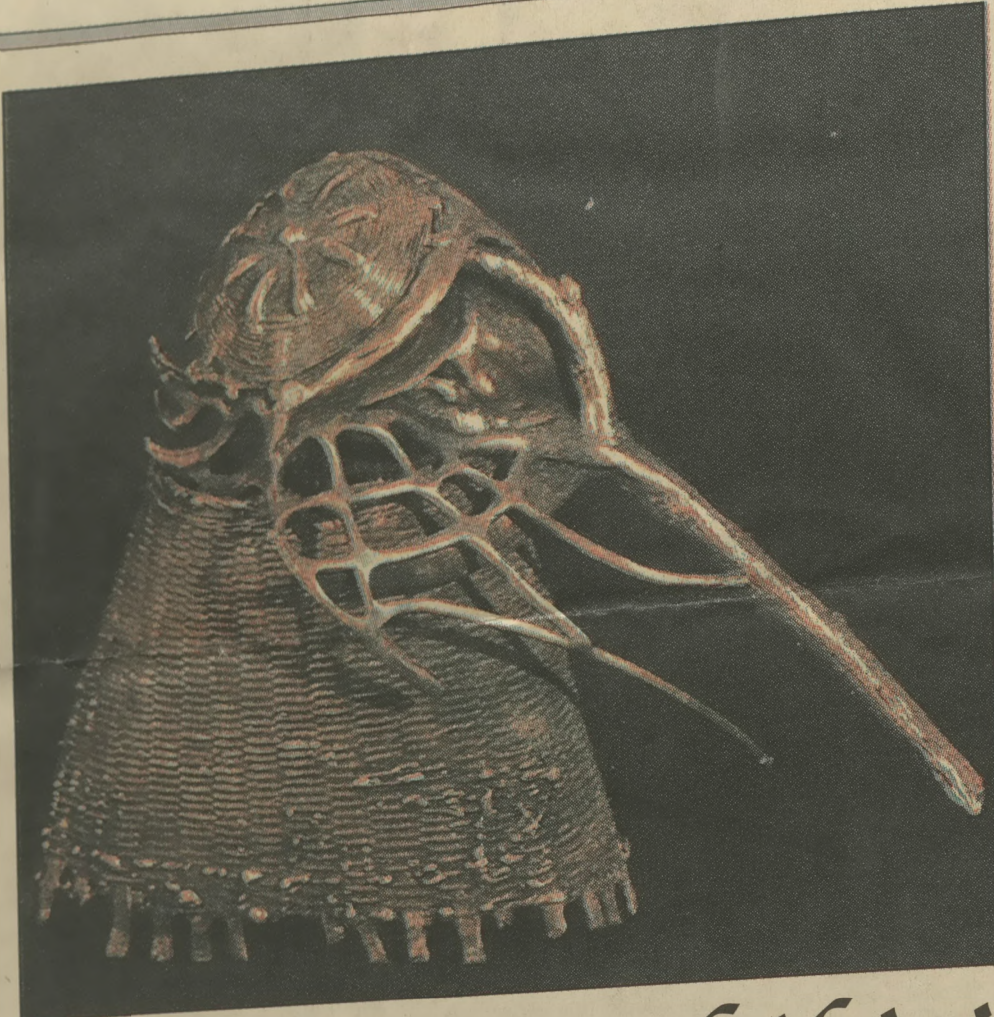
BAKER PINKSTON

Laurie Boutwell serves as the board's executive officer.



'Manx,' lead, steel, brass, stainless, light sculpture, by Deborah LaGrasse

The Cultural Arts Center hours are 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday; 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday and 2-4 p.m. Sunday.



'Involution,' cast bronze sculpture, by Deborah LaGrasse

LVAC exhibiting metal sculptures

Metal sculptures by Deborah LaGrasse and Charles Hook of Tallahassee, Fla., are on display in an exhibit titled "Light, Water, and Molten Metal" at the Cultural Arts Center, 1204 N. Patterson St.

Tall and slender, with long brown hair, a little 5-year-old daughter trailing in her wake, Deborah LaGrasse hardly looks like a person who would do large metal sculptures, but that has been her life's work since she started college in Gainesville, Fla., in 1976, said Roberta George, executive director of the Lowndes/Valdosta Arts Commission.

"Now, working as an assistant professor in the Department of Architecture at Florida A&M University, Ms. LaGrasse has exhibited her work in most of the

main galleries in the Southeast, receiving many awards and purchase prizes," said Mrs. George.

"The pieces on display at the Center are detailed and witty, cast iron works adding humor and insight into the meaning of the sculpture."

Charles Hook, head of sculpture at Florida State University since 1980, also has a display of heavy abstract metal pieces at the Center. His career started in Kent, Ohio, in 1970, and his work has been exhibited in many galleries east of the Mississippi, said Mrs. George.

"His pieces, some as large as 10 feet, are twisted and flowing, painted and left to natural rust, and make a complimentary contrast to his wife's work," said Mrs. George.

"It is unusual to see a married couple sharing the same artistic vocation, but the Center has had two such pairings in the last two months: Pat and Bill Alexander who are fiber artists and now LaGrasse and Hook showing their talents in metal.

"This past year Ms. LaGrasse was a visiting artist for the Glasgow School of Art in Glasgow, Scotland, and Mr. Hook conducted workshops and lectures for the Royal College of Art, in London, England. Their work will be on display through Feb. 12."

Also at the Center are watercolors by Eddie Norris of Valdosta, Shirley Robinson of England and Carol Gumm of Albany, and wood-carvings by George King of Valdosta.



'Formal Object 1982,' steel sculpture, by Charles Hook



'Counter Sieve,' painted steel, lights by Charles Hook

TUESDAY
January 24, 1995

PAGE 5-A: Child's illness brings family together

The Valdosta Daily Times

Vol. 90 — No. 101

Valdosta, Georgia

50 cents

Cleland to speak at chamber banquet

By LOWELL VICKERS JR.
Times Staff Writer

VALDOSTA — Georgia Secretary of State Max Cleland will speak at the Valdosta and Lowndes County Chamber of Commerce's annual banquet next week.

Cleland, who has held the office for 12 years, will be the keynote speaker for the 82nd Annual Dinner Meeting, set for 7:30 p.m. Monday at Mathis Auditorium. He will share the podium with Peggy Stokes Nielson, an Albany communications consultant and author.

The event is an invitation-only function for chamber members, and seating is limited to 400. This is the first year the event has boasted two speakers. Organizers gave both speakers creative freedom in their presentations, although they are expected to center on business-related issues.

"We had the opportunity to have both of them come," said Jeanette Coody, a member of the banquet planning committee. "She's proud to be on the same program as Max Cleland."

Mrs. Coody said Mrs. Nielson is a good friend of Cleland, and indicated she probably would coordinate with Cleland on a speaking topic.

Other organizers said the committee planned for a "back to basics" approach this year.

"This is our annual meeting, so we need to talk about business," said Lena Bosch. "Max is the state watchdog over corporations and business."

Mrs. Bosch called Cleland "a super, super person" and a charismatic speaker.

Likewise, Mrs. Coody said Mrs. Nielson is an inspirational speaker who "swept us off our feet" when she spoke in Valdosta a few years ago to Women in the Know, a chamber-affiliated function for women in business.

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Valdosta, Georgia

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Valdosta Daily Times

WEDNESDAY
February 8, 1995

Valdostans volunteer for Olympics

By LOWELL VICKERS JR.
Times Staff Writer

VALDOSTA — Most of the 40,000 volunteers needed to put on the 1996 Olympic Games are expected to come from cities that are hosting events, but the Atlanta Committee for the Olympic Games also is receiving applicants from Valdosta and other South Georgia communities.

Charles London, director of Volunteer Services for the ACOG, was in town Tuesday to help local coordinators process applications at the Lowndes/Valdosta Cultural Arts Center. While there was no great rush, several prospective volunteers walked in throughout the day.

One, 62-year-old retiree Howard Bell, said Olympic participation has been a longtime wish. He moved here in March from Nebraska with his wife, Lynn Bell, a Valdosta State University instructor.

The move to Georgia provided an opportunity to pursue his own Olympic dream.

"I've got time on my hands, and I've always wanted to participate in the Olympics," Bell said. "This worked out perfect for us."

Bell, who is retired from the Air Force after 25 years, said he's interested in filling any positions needed by Olympic organizers. He said his wife, who has a doctorate in nutrition and teaches in the university's school of nursing, also may apply.

Volunteers will be needed for the games in Atlanta for a variety of jobs, ranging from drivers and ticket takers, to professionals such as emergency medical technicians. Most probably will come from the Atlanta area because of the long hours required of volunteers, London said.

A minimum requirement is that volunteers must be available to work at least eight hours a day for 14 consecutive days between July 5 and Aug. 6, 1996.

"They've got to have the flexibility to get off from work, and they'll also need someone to stay with in the area," London said. "It takes a lot of planning."

That's why most volunteers are expected from the "venue cities," London said. While most of the events are scheduled near Atlanta, other sports will be held in Athens and Savannah. London said an application drive also is underway in Cleveland, Tenn., which is near the site of kayaking and white water canoeing.

Other communities designated as ACOG application sites include Columbus, Gainesville, Macon, Athens and Conyers, which already have been visited, and Rome, Augusta and Savannah, which are next on the list.

People interested in working as volunteers who missed Tuesday's visit may still apply by mail. Applications are available through Valdosta's Parks and Recreation Department, or can be requested from the ACOG.

London said requests for applications should be mailed to ACOG Volunteer Processing Center, P.O. Box 105276, Atlanta, GA 30348. The request must include a 9-by-12-inch envelope and 78 cents postage. Requests for more than one application require additional postage.

There is no deadline for applications, but the available positions will be filled as qualified candidates are identified, London said.

"They're encouraged to go ahead and send them in," he said.

Valdosta put on Italy's short list

By LOWELL VICKERS JR.
Times Staff Writer

VALDOSTA — Valdosta is officially designated by the Italian National Olympic Committee as one of two potential training sites for the 1996 Olympics in Atlanta, a local coordinator has learned.

Larry Hanson, director of the city's Parks and Recreation Department, was in Atlanta Tuesday to help coordinate plans with officials of the Atlanta Committee for the Olympic Games. While there, he met with representatives of countries that have expressed interest in coming to Valdosta.

Hanson also has represented the city in ongoing negotiations with the Italian teams. Valdosta previously has been categorized as a likely training site, and only recently was listed as a recommended site, he said.

"John Franco Camelli, the program director, wrote a letter to all of their federations," Hanson said. "He said of all the places they visited, they are recommending training in one of two places: Winston Salem, N.C., or Valdosta."

Hanson said each Olympic event in which Italy will compete is represented by a sports federation. The federations are funded by the Italian government but each retains some autonomy in making decisions, he said.

The decision on where to train is now "up to the federations," he said.

One positive sign is the announcement of another inspection of Valdosta's facilities by Italian coaches. Italian delegates toured Valdosta in October to check school gymnasiums, tracks and other sports facilities, as well as living quarters that would be provided for athletes.

"The Italian Judo and Wrestling Federation will visit between Feb. 10-16," Hanson said. "That's encouraging because we just found out we're one of the two finalists."

Tuesday, Hanson had his first meeting with a representative of the Slovenian Olympic organization. The country is a former province of Yugoslavia, and is located near Italy.

Hanson was told the country is very interested in training in the United States prior to the games. They will field at least 40 athletes.

They have arranged a visit to Valdosta during the same period as the Italian federation officials. Hanson said the tours were scheduled during the time frame of an Atlanta meeting with the ACOG.

"They wanted more information about us, and I'm mailing that right away," Hanson said. "They would be a good counterpart to the Italians, since they've said they'd like another European team to train with."

Hanson said negotiations continue with Hungary's representative and, surprisingly, Spain. Last month, the Spanish team was said to have made a decision to train at home rather than in the U.S.

The Spanish teams may be reconsidering, Hanson said.

Another possibility is Soviet Georgia. However, Hanson said wooing the Georgians to Valdosta probably would require financial assistance, so more information is needed before the city actively courts them.

"We don't know if they need a subsidy of 10 percent, say, or if it's 100 percent," Hanson said. "We're interested in talking with them."



City now volunteer location

By LOWELL VICKERS JR.
Times Staff Writer

VALDOSTA — Regardless of whether foreign teams train in Valdosta, the community is guaranteed involvement in the 1996 Olympic Games with its designation as a volunteer application site.

Larry Hanson, director of Valdosta's Parks and Recreation department, met with officials of the Atlanta Committee for the Olympic Games Tuesday to finalize the community's role in registering volunteers.

The Olympic organization will depend on about 40,000 volunteers, including professionals such as paramedics, to provide services and coordinate events. People are needed for duties ranging from repairing costumes to taking tickets at sports arenas.

Hanson has about 200 applications on hand. He said hopefuls from across South Georgia will come to Valdosta for interviews with ACOG officials.

"Valdosta is the only site south of Macon designated as a volunteer application site," Hanson said. "We'll be using the Lowndes-Valdosta Cultural Arts Center."

Applications will be distributed at the center between noon and 7 p.m. on Feb. 7. Applicants may interview with ACOG officials at that time.

The ACOG expects to select volunteers by May 1. Some will be asked to travel to Atlanta for training.

The organization is interested in retirees, and Hanson said he knows of many businessmen and corporate officials who are "saving up their vacation time to take advantage of this once-in-a-lifetime experience."

Requirements for selection include a record of prior public volunteer service. Applicants must be at least 18 years old on July 1, 1996, and must be available to work a minimum of eight hours a day for 14 consecutive days between July 5 and Aug. 6, 1996. — See VOLUNTEERS, Page 2-A

Volunteers

From Page 1-A
and Aug. 6, 1996.

Interested applicants may contact Hanson at the Parks and Recreation department for further information. The state headquarters may be reached at (404) 744-

1996.
Requests for applications may also be made in writing, with a self-addressed, 9-by-12-inch envelope and 78 cents postage, to ACOG Volunteer Processing Center, P.O. Box 105276, Atlanta, GA 30348.

6-B Thursday, February 2, 1995

The Valdosta Daily Times



Quilt for the Olympics

Withlacoochee Quilters Guild members Anna Taormina, Darthula Henderson, Bobbie White and Carla Jolman look over a quilt that will be on display at the Valdosta-Lowndes County Convention and Visitors Bureau until April. The quilt is the second crafted by them to be on display at the Atlanta History Center with 400 other quilts during the 1996 Olympic Games. It was presented to the Visitors Bureau Wednesday morning. The new quilt was designed by Jolman and White with each block representing a certain region or theme in Georgia and was crafted by the 62 guild members. — Times Photo by Paul Leavy

The Valdosta Daily Times

Wednesday, February 1, 1995 A-3



Browsing through history

Georgia Secretary of State Max Cleland looks over the renovations nearing completion in the basement of the Lowndes County Historical Society during a visit Tuesday morning. Showing the changes to Cleland are Louie White, president of the society and Harold Bennett, chairman of the building and grounds committee for the society. The highlights of the tour included the new elevator making the museum handicapped-accessible, with Cleland making the first official use of the elevator. — Times Photo by Paul Leavy

2-C Wednesday, February 8, 1995 The Valdosta Daily Times

Engagements

Kelly-Loud

Vanessa D. Kelly of Valdosta and Sammy Lee Loud of Dawson, son of Solomon and Julia Loud of Dawson, announce their engagement.

The future bride is the daughter of the late Mary and George Kelly of Boston, Mass.

The wedding is set for 2 p.m. Feb. 18 at New Covenant Church, Tifton Hwy., 319 North, in Moultrie.

The future bride is the granddaughter of Henry and Rosalee Moore of Montgomery, Ala., and Wilbur and Sally Kelly of West Palm Beach, Fla.

She is a graduate of Acton High School in Acton, Mass., and Arnold's International School of



Vanessa Kelly

cosmetologist and owner of The Crown of Glory Salon in Valdosta. The future groom is a graduate of Dawson High School in Daw-

LifeTimes

College Beat ... Page 2-C
Bombeck ... Page 3-C

Cultural Arts Center features Shute exhibit of husband, two wives

VALDOSTA — The Lowndes/Valdosta Cultural Arts Center is hosting a most unusual exhibit of three artists: Ben, Nell and Keenan Shute, through the end of March.

"Ben Shute left Eau Claire, Wis., in 1922 to study art at the Chicago Fine Art Institute," said Roberta George, executive director of the Lowndes/Valdosta Arts Commission. "Sixty-three years later, he was a pillar of the Atlanta world, having been the co-founder in 1928 of the Atlanta College of Art and thus responsible for teaching, training and encouraging hundreds upon hundreds of budding artists."

"Nell Shute, the first wife of Ben, was a prominent Southern artist who exhibited paintings in most of the major cities throughout the United States during the

last 30 years of her life. She had an exhibition of Knickerbocker Artists at the National Arts Club in New York and won '1st Raines Prize' there for an oil painting of a young woman titled 'Meditation.'

"Keenan Shute, the second wife of Ben, received her formal education from the University of Tennessee at Knoxville. Her work has been accepted in many juried competitions where it has won numerous honors and awards. Her paintings are part of private, public and corporate collections throughout the Southeast including the Columbus Museum."

The Cultural Arts Center is located at 1204 N. Patterson St. Its hours are 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on weekdays, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday and 2-4 p.m. on Sunday.



'Wheat and Meadows,' mixed media, by Keenan Shute

WATERCOLOR...

Watercolor is an artist's medium. It is capable of brief, spontaneous expression in the hands of a painter with convictions.

The comments can be electric and telegraphic — saying a great deal in the fewest brush strokes.

It is fluid, light, airy, and the impact and message must be resolved in this fluid state.

There is no backing up once committed and there are no tolerable watercolors — there are either good or bad.

Ben Shute



10 a.m.-6 p.m.
weekdays
10 a.m.-4 p.m.
Saturday
2-4 p.m.
Sunday

'Spanish Fishing Boat,' left, by Ben Shute



'Low Country,' pictured above, watercolor, by Ben Shute; at left, 'Goodies (Spain),' watercolor, by Nell Choate Shute

WEDNESDAY
February 15, 1995

Italian wrestlers coming to Valdosta

By LOWELL VICKERS JR.
Times Staff Writer

VALDOSTA — The latest tour of Valdosta by an Italian sports official ended with a "handshake deal" and a promise to bring wrestling teams to the community to train for the 1996 Olympics in Atlanta.

Tuesday's visit by Francesco Scuderi, technical director of Italy's National Association of Wrestling, came as a bit of a surprise. Local officials knew Italian representatives might come down while visiting Atlanta, but nothing definite was scheduled.

Larry Hanson, director of the city's Parks and Recreation Department, said he was contacted late Monday. Atlanta Olympic officials had called Friday to arrange

for a Valdosta representative to visit with Scuderi during his trip to Atlanta.

Hanson said Mayor James Rainwater had already scheduled a trip there on city business, and met with him Monday.

"The mayor called and told me they were coming down for a visit, so we arranged everything," Hanson said. "We showed him the university's PE facility and he was very excited."

Valdosta State University's Physical Education Complex is the designated training site for wrestling and other indoors sports.

Following the tour, Hanson said Scuderi said he was ready to review a contract, which will be prepared with the assistance of Atlanta

Olympic officials. Hanson said Scuderi made a verbal commitment to come here.

Local businessman Giovanni Panizzi joined Hanson on the tour as a translator and representative of the Italian-American community. He said Scuderi told him, "this is where I want to train."

"I think we finally have one in the bag," Panizzi said. "He said he didn't see why he wouldn't be here next year."

What's more, Hanson said the wrestling team could train here as soon as July. He said Scuderi announced a plan to bring the team over for about three weeks this summer, and to return in 1996 to train about 20 days prior to the Olympic games.

Scuderi's commitment is expected to bring in teams from at least four other countries as well. Hanson said Scuderi has the authority to negotiate for the Polish team, and also has strong ties to the French and Hungarian teams. A former USSR republic also would likely train here if the Italians come to Valdosta, he said.

"Where one group goes, you get two or three more to follow," Panizzi agreed. "They like to train together."

Scuderi also represents the Italian judo and weight-lifting federations. Other Italian Olympic officials may pop into town for brief visits in coming weeks.

Each Italian Olympic sport is See OLYMPICS, Page 3-A



Larry Hanson, left, chairman of the Valdosta Olympic Committee, leads Francesco Scuderia, second from right, executive director of the Italian Olympic wrestling team, on a tour through the Valdosta State University P.E. Complex of Valdosta and Kim Adler of the Georgia Olympic Training Alliance. — Times Photo by Mike Tanner

Bank president/CEO exhibiting art at Cultural Arts Center

By KRISTINE HARNAGE
Times Staff Writer

He started painting at age 6 when he took his first art class but, up until recently, really considered himself a self-taught artist. Eddie Norris, president and chief executive officer of First State Bank here, has 34 of his latest watercolor paintings on exhibit at the Lowndes/Valdosta Cultural Arts Center, 1204 N. Patterson St., through Feb. 12. Norris' exhibit is part of the Center's exhibit titled, "Light, Water, and Molten Metal," which also features the metal sculptures of Dr. Charles Hook and Deborah LeGrasse of Tallahassee, Fla.

Norris taught himself to paint but has been taking watercolor classes under some prominent artists for almost six years now. The first workshop he took was in Cedar Key, Fla., but 1995 will be his fifth year in a row attending the Grand Strand Watercolor Workshop in Myrtle Beach, S.C.

"I like painting with watercolors because I'm kind of impatient and oil takes so long to dry," said Norris during an interview at his bank office Tuesday morning. "Painting watercolors takes about 80 percent planning and 20 percent actual painting."

"Once I've finished planning a painting, I can usually do it from start to finish in about one to two hours. I may spend two to three hours planning it, though. It takes so long because, in watercolor, once it's there, it's there; there's no changing it like when painting with oil."

Norris' favorite things to paint are still life, wild life, landscapes and seascapes. The 34 paintings in the exhibit, which were produced by him between March and December 1994, include all of his favorite things to paint plus a few other things.

"I also like to paint street scenes," said Norris. "I prefer painting still life, wild life and landscapes to people because I find people harder to paint. I love the outdoors, love to hunt and fish, and I paint from photographs I take during my trips. I also sometimes paint from photographs in books or magazines, or I paint on location."

"I have a studio in my house and try to paint every night when I get home from work, which isn't always possible. I average painting two to three nights a week and occasionally on weekends."

Norris, a native of Columbus, graduated from Columbus High School in 1958, from Emory University in Atlanta with a bachelor degree in business in 1962 and attended the Stonier Graduate School of Banking at Rutgers University in New Brunswick, N.J., in the 1970s. He and his wife, Ann, have three grown children: Eddie Norris III, 34, and Tracy Shirley, 31, both of Columbus, and Charlton Norris, 30, of Atlanta; and four grandchildren.

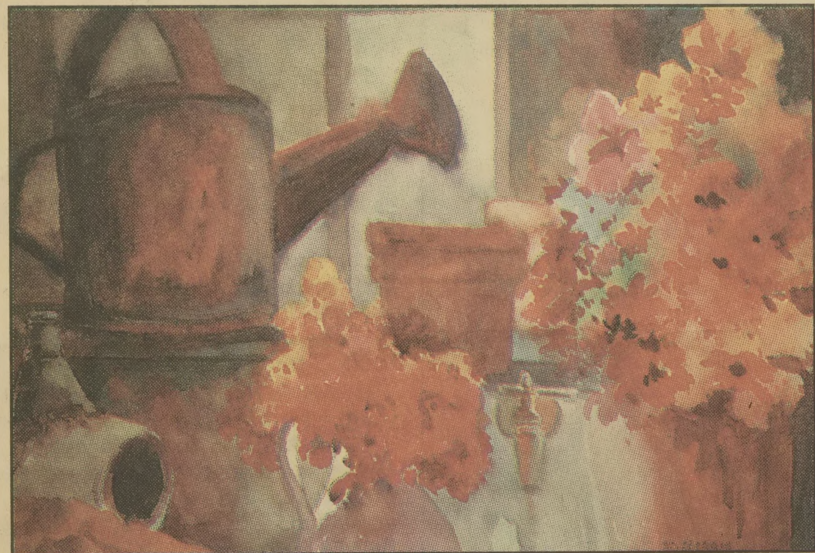
Norris and his wife moved to Valdosta in 1982 but still have a farm in Columbus and return to it often to spend time with their children and grandchildren. Other than enjoying the outdoors, traveling and spending time with their family, Norris said he and his wife are also avid art collectors. They have more than 20 paintings by other artists on display in their home in addition to the 30 paintings by Norris.

"Ann doesn't paint but is an excellent critic," said Norris. "She's really developed an eye for art."

"I plan to paint the rest of my life; it will be a second career when I retire from the bank. I want to continue to improve, always want to grow in my art and never stop learning. I really enjoy painting. It's a good hobby."



"Girl in Sunflowers"



"Flowers - Still Life VII"



"Tarpon Fishing - Florida Keys"



"Pointers - South Georgia"

Lowndes artists awarded grants

ATLANTA — The Georgia Council for the Arts (GCA) has awarded individual artist grants totaling \$125,000 to 81 Georgia artists, including two from Lowndes County, for the 1996 state fiscal year.

Receiving visual arts grants were Harry Ally, \$1,500, and Arthur Blake Pearce, \$800.

The grants, which took effect July 1, are considered a contract with the artist to create new work and present it to the public. The artists were selected for funding from 288 applicants, all of whom are creative artists. Each artist and his or her work were reviewed by a panel of art professionals, who worked from anonymous applications.

Scene & Heard:

Art Show & License Woes

SCENE
LVAC will display the work of artist Paul Harmon and sculptor Wilby Coleman August 21-September 28.

I am honored to be the curator for this unique show of the works of two friends and talented artists. Paul Harmon has a home and studio in Nashville, Tennessee, as well as a home and studio in Paris, France. Since he divides his time between the two, his work has both American and European influences. It's big, bold and highly colorful. Wilby gave up a successful law career to pursue full time his love of creating unusual objects of metal. His work is sometimes whimsical - always entertaining. You will enjoy this very different display of paintings and sculpts. SPECIAL THANKS to Wright Turner who donated one of his trucks and driver to travel to Mr. Harmon's studio in Tennessee and pick up the artwork. This was a major gift to the arts center, and we are especially grateful for the generous gift from the Turners.

regular driver's license IF you are an organ donor. If for whatever reason, personal, moral, religious, you choose not to donate your organs, then you get to pay \$15 - cash only please. I agree that the organ donor program is important and means life for other people, but since when can a state agency penalize the public who happens not to choose to donate their organs. That decision is a personal one and should have nothing to do with the right to pass a test and get a driver's license. I'd appreciate one of you lawyers out there explaining to me why this practice isn't discriminatory.

HEARD
Dr. Matt Mathis, Dr. Jason Meadors, and Mr. Jack Sullivan planning their annual joint birthday celebration. I did not know you could get birthday cake and ice cream at a golf course! Never mind the balloon!

SCENE
Chris Buescher, Scott Nichols, and a blonde hovering above Don Murphy's FirstLine Corporation doing aerial photo shots. Everything was going fine until the trio realized they are in the landing pattern for the airport runway, and General Tim out at Moody had obviously sent his airfield on a "touch and go" mission. All I can say is the next time I see a C-130, I will be on the ground and hopefully twenty miles away.

HEARD
That the Georgia Driver's Licensing Bureau charges \$8 for a

Finally figured out how one tells when the seasons are changing here since the weather is not much help. It's when Laura Dasher and Ann Schutt or Pam Elkins call you for the trunk showing of Carlisle and Madeleine clothes for the next season. When they say it's fall, I wear fall clothes. Just that simple.



JOYCE L. BENTLEY



RYTA BUMGARNER



WANDA CUSSEAUX



REBECCA N. COLSON



ROSETTA COYNE



SHERRI GREGORY

Nine vie for Valdosta Woman of the Year

By KRISTINE HARNAGE
Times Staff Writer

VALDOSTA — Nine area women have been nominated for the Valdosta Junior Woman's Club's 1995 Woman of the Year competition.

The winner will be announced by Mayor James H. Rainwater at the annual luncheon banquet, which will be held at noon April 1 at the Valdosta Country Club. This year's theme is "Seven Dwarfs," and there will be musical entertainment.

The nominees, the one of their achievements and memberships follow:

Joyce L. Bentley has been nominated by Quota International of Valdosta, where she has served on the board of directors. She is employed as payroll supervisor at South Georgia Medical Center.

Ms. Bentley is president-elect of the American Cancer Society, where she has been active in all the society's projects and has co-chaired Relay for Life, Jail and Bail and Most Wanted, and she is an active member of First Baptist.

Rita Bumgarner has been nominated by the Lowndes County

Historical Society. She is employed as executive director of the Valdosta Lowndes County

Business and Visitors Bureau. Mrs. Bumgarner was selected as Travel Leader of the year for the State of Georgia. In 1994, she hosted 22 four-hour tours in the state and to help promote the area for the 1996 Olympics, she served as official host for members of the Italian Olympic delegation.

Wanda Cousseaux has been nominated by the Valdosta Business and Profession Women. She is employed as an accountant with the Genesis Management Group in Valdosta.

Mrs. Cousseaux is recording secretary for Quota International of Valdosta, a member of Valdosta Project Change, a Community Banking Coalition and is an active member of the Valdosta Ballroom Dance Club and Park Avenue United Methodist Church.

Rebecca Norman Colson has been nominated by the Lowndes County Chapter of the Georgia Council on Child Abuse, where she serves as vice president. She is employed as family services coordinator for the Lake Park

Elementary School Pre-K's Program.

Mrs. Colson is a member of the Lowndes Valdosta Commission for Children and Youth, Georgians for Literacy, Valdosta Literate Community Council, the Professional Association of Georgia Educators, the Lake Park PTO (parent-teacher organization) and the Valdosta Lake Park United Methodist Church.

Rosetta Coyne has been nominated by the Valdosta Chapter of the American Red Cross, where she works in the summer as a certified swimming instructor for infants and senior citizens. She is employed as a teacher at Brooks

Ms. Coyne was named one of the 1994 Top Four Teachers of the Year in Georgia and is an active member of the Atlanta American Club of Valdosta, where she is helping facilitate the housing of the 1996 Italian Olympic Team in Valdosta, the Valdosta International Club and St. John Catholic Church.

Sherrri Gregory has been nominated by the Valdosta Club of the Arts Department. She is employed as bookkeeper and office manager for J. Glenn Gregory &



DR. CATHERINE PRICE



DR. RICHARDSON-BLAKE



JANICE WHITTLE

Associate Architects:

Mrs. Gregory works in the nursery, is a member of the properties committee and assists the financial committee at Greenwood Baptist Church; is a member of the Lowndes County Historical Society; is co-chairman of the Parent Advisory Board of Lowndes High School and volunteers with the American Red Cross.

Dr. Catherine Price has been nominated by the General James Jackson Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, where she serves as historian. She is an associate professor in the Secondary Education Department at Valdosta State University.

Dr. Price is a member of the Association for Educational

Communications and Technology:

is on the governing board for the Georgia Council of Media Organizations; is president of the Georgia Association for Instructional Technology; and is on the advisory board of the Georgia Coalition for Math, Science and Technology in Education.

Dr. Beverly Richardson-Blake has been nominated by the Valdosta Chapter of the American Association of University Women. She is an assistant professor and assistant director of Affirmative Action/Minority Affairs at Valdosta State University.

Dr. Richardson-Blake was named 1994 Woman of Achievement by the Valdosta BPAW, was a 1994 nominee for Outstanding Woman of the Year

In Higher Education:

is president of the Southside board of directors, a mentor in the Big Brothers/Big Sisters Program and is the NSU Mentoring Program director.

Janice Whittle has been nominated by the Azalea City Woman's Club, where she is serving as president and is on the Eighth District executive board of the Georgia Federation of Women's Clubs.

She is on the Budget & Allocations Committee of the United Way of Lowndes County, a member of the South Georgia Labor Council; is a volunteer tutor with the Basic Education Learning program at Levi Strauss & Co., and is a volunteer at The Haven — a home for battered women and children in Valdosta.

The Valdosta Daily Times

Friday, April 21, 1995 A-9



Doug Cloud and County Line Bluegrass is among the groups performing in the 16th annual Great Hahira Pick-in April 28-29 in Hahira's Pick-in-Park. — Contributed photo

Hahira Pick-in April 28-29

By KRISTINE HARNAGE
Times Staff Writer

HAHIRA — The 16th annual Great Hahira Pick-in will be held April 28-29 in Pick-in Park near Downtown Hahira.

Performances start at 7 p.m. April 28 and noon April 29 with groups from West Virginia to Florida performing in the two-day festival.

"For the 16th straight year, the Cross Creek Choppers, backed-up by the Washburns band, and the Pick-in and president of Hahira Bluegrass, the best musical group of Florida to perform. They're the best there is."

Some of the other performers returning this year are Patent Pending, an excellent group from West Virginia, Tim Lee, a local band headed by Andy Patterson, Endless Highway, a five-piece string band from Gainesville, Fla., featuring a group led by local music teacher, a group which performs Civil War songs in Civil War uniforms, and our group, Hahira Bluegrass.

Additional performers include Doug Cloud and County Line Bluegrass of Orlando, Fla., who performs almost all original material and will perform the finale April 29. Clean Break of Orange Park, Fla., which is making its first appearance at the festival, and Charlie Cline & The Lowndes Pine Picklers.

All of the groups will be performing three times each during the two-day festival except Hahira Bluegrass and the Rednecks, who perform only once on Saturday night, and Hahira Bluegrass will do only one set late Saturday afternoon.

"This group consists of my children — Miss Willy, Wolfson and Andy Patterson, Reed Odom and myself."

Ticket prices are \$8 at the gate April 28 and \$11 at the gate April 29. An advance special weekend ticket for \$16 is available at Sandy Campbell Music and the Cultural Arts Center, 1208 N. Patton St., in Valdosta and 1st American Drugs in Hahira a paid adult.

For more information, call the Cultural Arts Center at (912) 247-2387.

The Valdosta Daily Times

Friday, April 21, 1995 3-A

Multi-culturalism idea important, Portch says

By MARTHA H. SHAD
Times Staff Writer

VALDOSTA — Multiculturalism is a good idea, but there's still a long way to go, according to Georgia Board of Regents Chancellor Stephen Portch.

"Multiculturalism is a good idea, but we're not there yet—we have a ways to go before we can sleep," Portch said.

Thursday, Portch addressed about 200 faculty members and students from across Georgia who are attending the 11th annual Minority Recruiting Programs and Minority Recruitment Officers Conference at Valdosta State University. MAP/RO addresses recruitment and retention problems surrounding minority students.

"Your work has never been more important in our society," Portch said.

Portch's speech centered around the "four things that matter" in Georgia's universities: leadership, results, climate and partnership.

"Without leadership, change will not occur," Portch said. "Leaders have a powerful bully pulpit and they must use it with courage and without fear. Without conflict, as long as it is constructive and cre-

ative, we can't move forward." Results are the final stop and they must be measurable. However, results and process are often confused, Portch said.

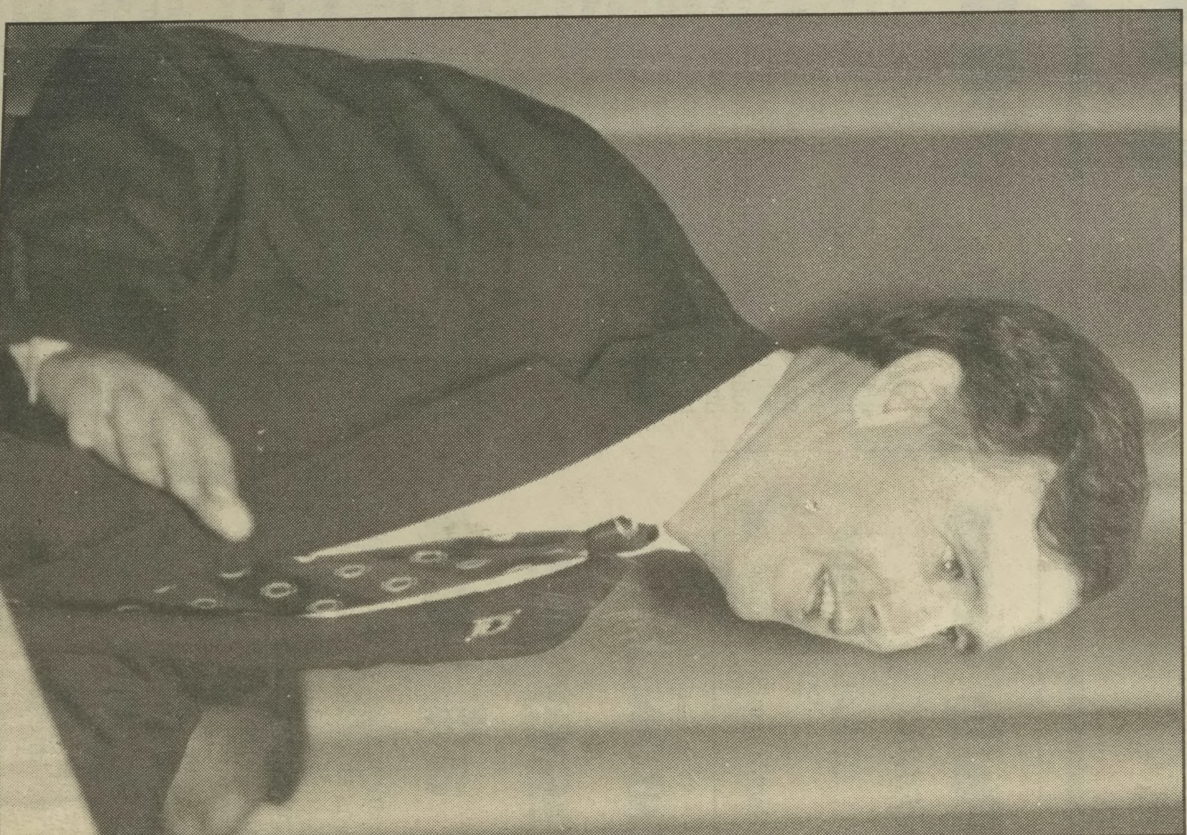
To drive home his point, Portch told the story of the minister and the taxicab driver who went to heaven. When the minister arrived at the gate, St. Peter told him he'd have to wait. When the taxi cab driver arrived, St. Peter told him to go in.

"The minister asked 'Why is it he gets to go in and I have to wait?' St. Peter said, 'When you pray, people sleep. When he drives, people pray.' That's results," Portch said.

Results also mean empowering leadership groups, such as the people attending the conference, and holding them accountable, Portch said.

Partnership and climate work together, Portch said.

"We have to re-think what we are doing and how we are doing it," Portch said. "We have to re-think how courses are taught. We have to consider the differences in learning styles — which have a big impact on what you do — and we have to consider differences in creative ability."




Dr. Stephen Portch, Chancellor of the Georgia Board of Regents, speaks to the crowd at the general session of the Minority Advising Programs and Minority Recruitment Officers conference Thursday afternoon at Valdosta State University. — Times Photo by Paul Leavy

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OKLAHOMA! • SOMETHING LIKE A STAR

Dogwood Festival in full swing in Nashville

NASHVILLE — Excitement is in the air as Nashville hosts its first annual Dogwood Festival through Saturday.

According to Dogwood Festival Chairman Marge Morris, the festival which was organized by the Nashville Woman's Club offers many fun-filled activities for people of all ages.

"The Woman's Club wanted to provide our community with a festival," Mrs. Morris said. "Our club has sold dogwood trees throughout the years as an incentive to our citizens to beautify Nashville and since Nashville is 'The City of Dogwoods,' the Dogwood Festival was born."

The talent of several well-known local and regional artists, as well as members of the Southern Artists League is being showcased through today at the Perry Memorial Library. Dogwood Art Exhibit Chairman, Patsy Hickox, is very excited about the exhibit which includes about 40 paintings.

Mrs. Hickox, a soft pastel artist, also has paintings in the exhibit. She is a member of the Southern Artist League and Southern Pastel Society. Her work has been exhibited in several LVAC art shows in Valdosta. Two of her paintings are on display at First State Bank in Valdosta.

Interest in art began for Hickox as a teen-ager when she began taking art lessons from Bill Hendrix of St. Simons. She has also taken lessons in pastels from Ann Odum of Duluth. She has painted a number of Nashville/Berrien County landmarks and specializes in still life and landscapes. She has also been commissioned to do several paintings of homes.

"I am so excited about the exhibit of such talented artists for our community and hope that everyone will visit the library to view these paintings," Mrs. Hickox said.

The exhibit is open to the public during the library's hours 9:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m. today.

An attractive display of handmade quilts is also on exhibit through today at the Nashville Branch of the Bank of Alapaha.

The United Banking Company will be the site of the Dogwood Flower Show from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. today.

A host of "cuties and beauties" will vie for the coveted crown of Miss Dogwood during the Male Beauty Pageant to be held at 7:30 p.m. tonight at the Berrien County Middle School.



Dogwood Art Exhibit Chairman Pat Hickox shows her pastel acrylic painting, one of about 40 by different artists on display in the Perry Memorial Library in Nashville. — Times staff photo by Mike Tanner

Saturday will be the big day for the Festival with events planned for the entire day and evening. The day will begin at 8:30 a.m. at the Berrien County Agricultural Center with the Dogwood Walk/Run. The Berrien County Saddle Club will sponsor a "Practice" Point Show at the club's arena located behind the Ag Center beginning at 9 a.m. with all proceeds going to St. Jude's Children's Hospital.

The Ag Center will also be the site of the Dogwood Arts, Crafts and Antique Show from 9 a.m.-6 p.m. with artists, craftsmen and

antique dealers from Georgia, Alabama and Florida participating in the show. Show coordinator Janet Studstill said in addition to a wide selection of quality crafts and outstanding art, a variety of entertainment has been scheduled throughout the day on the Ag Center grounds from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. including several clogging and line dancing groups and singers from throughout the community.

Studstill said the children will be thoroughly entertained with pony and fire truck rides, clowns, face painting, games and photo opportu-

nities with the red, white and pink Rangers and other favorite cartoon characters.

Other activities scheduled throughout the day and city include an Antique Car Show, Men's Softball Tournament, Tennis Tournament, Youth Softball and Little League Tournaments, Dogwood Dessert Contest and Homemade Ice Cream taste-off.

Festival activities will conclude Saturday with a gospel sing sponsored by the BHS Band Boosters at 7:30 p.m. at the Berrien County Middle School Cafeteria.

THURSDAY
April 27, 1995

Wildcats fall, Lowndes wins in season finales — Page 1-D

The Valdosta Daily Times

50 cents

Valdosta, Georgia

Vol. 90 — No. 193

Hahira gears up for Pick-In

By DEAN POLING
Times Staff Writer

HAHIRA — It's Wednesday afternoon and more than 48 hours before the first note of live bluegrass music will twang from the Mountain Stage across this green field. Yet already tents dot the campgrounds of the 16th Annual Great Hahira Pick-In.

For some fans of this Lowndes County town's annual bluegrass festival getting here early is part of the tradition.

Daniel Loveless has been on the grounds since Monday. A couple of the tents were raised Sunday.

"We've been to about every one," Loveless says. "We just like to get here a few days early is all."

The early arrivals put a jumpstart on the neighborly spirit which usually spreads across the Pick-In crowd every year. People invite strangers into their campsites, swapping food and talk, with the sounds of bluegrass music filtering through it all.

This Wednesday, Loveless sits at a picnic table with Bill Lewis, Bill Brannon and Marie Holbrook. Food sizzles on a nearby grill. A cold drink is nurtured from a can. The air is comfortably warm and the skies are blue.

And the conversation is laid back and funny — a perfect tone for this



Hahira Pick-In campers Daniel Loveless, Bill Lewis, Bill Brannon, and Mari Holbrook relax Wednesday afternoon in the campground site in Hahira where the Pick-In will be start Friday evening. — Times Photo by Paul Leavy

weekend's Pick-In.

Meanwhile, Pick-In organizers are experiencing anything but a laid-back time right now. There are too many last minute details to see come together, but one of the organizers and original founders, Wilby Coleman, says things are piecing themselves together nicely.

He's already picked up the guitar from Sandy Campbell Music, which is given away every year. Poison ivy plants have been killed off. A portion of the lawn in front of the stage still needs a trim. Volunteer workers on the entrance gates have been selected.

And most importantly — the bands should be on their way, coming from West Virginia, Florida, Georgia and locally. It's a good thing too, because the music

is what the Pick-In is all about.

From 7 p.m. until late Friday and from noon Saturday until midnight or after, bluegrass music will fill this Hahira glade, which is just a little ways down from Interstate 75's Exit 7.

Banjoes, dulcimers, fiddles and guitars, with an upright bass or two thrown in for good measure, will strum out some fine music from the hills.

For the 16th year, the Cross Creek Cloggers will work their flat-footing magic across the stage backed by the Wacahooters band. Patent Pending is coming in from West Virginia; the local boys of Thin Ice will set feet a tapping. Endless Highway is making a stop here. The Rebelairs will perform Civil War-era tunes. Smokin' Grass from Atlanta is back, and Clean Break of Florida is making

its debut performance this year.

Charlie Cline & The Lonesome Pine Fiddlers.

The renowned Doug Cloud and County Line Bluegrass are coming up from Orlando, with their instruments tuned and ready to go.

And last but not least, there is Hahira Bluegrass — the host band made up of the Pick-In's organizers.

Tickets are \$8 at the gate for Friday night's show, and \$11 for Saturday's extended performances. An advance full weekend ticket is available at Sandy Campbell Music, the Cultural Arts Center in Valdosta and 1st American Drugs in Hahira for \$16. Kids under 12 get in free when accompanied by an adult.



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Football history is main course at Heritage dinner

By BRIAN LAWSON
Times Staff Writer

Valdosta area football fans celebrated the region's love affair with the sport Thursday at the Lowndes County Historical Society's 20th Annual Heritage 100 Dinner.

David Waller, vice-chairman of the National High School Football Hall of Fame Foundation, told the audience of 250 that progress was being made in establishing the High School Hall of Fame. He said a major announcement will be made April 15.

"A lot of things have happened since we introduced the idea of the Hall of Fame last year during Super Bowl week," Waller said. "We have 3.75 acres of land donated between Exits 4 and 5, a commitment of \$500,000 of infrastructure work by Valdosta and Lowndes County, we have secured national media sponsorship from USA Today and Turner Broadcasting and we are currently seeking to raise \$15 million for the project."

Waller said the construction of the Hall of Fame is expected to cost \$12 million, the additional \$3 million would be used as an endowment to cover operating problems that might arise at a later date.

Dr. Noah Langdale, a former football standout at VHS, was the banquet's keynote speaker.

Langdale, who captained the 1937 Wildcats, drew hearty laughter from the crowd for his speech describing football's origins.

Langdale said the game originated from early tribal warfare. He said the cheering crowds which are such an integral part of football's tradition drew their origin from the audience present at Lady Godiva's famous bareback ride. He also described football's darkest days, when President Theodore Roosevelt threatened to ban the sport after the death of a player. But the president reconsidered when the player's mother defended the sport.

Langdale also had kind words for the coaches who've led Valdosta's teams.

"Football stresses the team ideal. It may be thought that football gets too much glory, too much hype, too much emphasis and that's true, but it has brought Valdosta a long way,"

Langdale said. Langdale, who is president emeritus of Georgia State University, ended his speech on a cinematic note by referring to the film Citizen Kane and its pivotal mystery surrounding the word, "Rosebud."

"To every Wildcat in this room, like Charles Foster Kane's recalling the happiest time in his life, promise you will say one word when you die, to symbolize the happiest time in your life, 'Wildcat,'" Langdale said.

The event also featured cheerleaders from Valdosta High, Lowndes High, Valwood School and Valdosta State University, and Mayor James Rainwater performing a spoken rendition of the song, "700 Wins and Counting," which was written by Valdostans, Dr. Dennis Hale and Craig Ward.

"I was absolutely delighted with the evening," said Louie Peoples White, president of the Lowndes County Historical Society. "There was a lot of camaraderie and good feeling and we were honored to have Coach Wright Bazemore attend."



Wilby Coleman, right, and Emily Anderson, director of Valdosta State University, unveil 'Rah Bicca, Bah Bicca,' Coleman's foot metal sculpture of a football player running with the ball, Thursday night at the 20th Annual Heritage 100 Dinner celebrating football in Valdosta and Lowndes County. — Photo by Mike Tanner

2-C Sunday, June 18, 1995 The Valdosta Daily Times

Snake Nation and LVAC get grants

Grants totaling \$2.8 million have been awarded by the Georgia Council for the Arts to 192 nonprofit organizations statewide, including two in Lowndes County.

Lowndes/Valdosta Arts Commission received a community arts grant of \$5,500, and Snake Nation Press was awarded a \$4,500 literature grant. The grants given statewide are contracts for services with the listed organizations to provide literary arts, visual arts and performing arts programming. The grants are part of a projected \$4.1 million grant package for fiscal year 1996, beginning July 1, 1995.

The grants package is funded primarily by an appropriation from the Georgia General Assembly, with additional funding coming from the National Endowment for the Arts. Grant applications are reviewed by peer panels, which evaluate applicants based on artistic excellence, administrative capability and accessibility for multicultural populations and people with disabilities.

In announcing the grants, Governor Zell Miller commended the General Assembly for its continued support for arts funding in Georgia. "Without these funds, our state arts agency could not fulfill its mission: to encourage excellence in the arts, to support its many forms of expression, and to make the arts available to all Georgians," Miller said. "These grants to organizations around the state fund established groups such as the Savannah Symphony and emerging groups such as the Colquitt/Miller Arts Council, which produces Swamp Gravy."

Brown Bag Concert Lunch Series set next week on courthouse lawn

VALDOSTA — Valdosta Main Street is hosting its annual Brown Bag Concert Lunch Series on the Lowndes County Courthouse lawn from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. daily Monday through next Friday.

"The Lunch Concert Series boasts quality entertainment and is a great chance to get together with friends and family in a casual atmosphere," said Robin Hubbell, director of Valdosta Main Street.

The schedule of entertainment follows:
Monday — Drive-In — Chris Coleman, Luke Smith, Tim Teasley, David Hollis and Bob Miller, diverse guitar players, perform a variety of tunes from the 1960s, country and classic rock.

Tuesday — Lowndes High School Jazz Band — Conducted by Billy Martin, the band performs "Big Band" music, tunes from the 1950s and '60s, and has a female vocalist, Catherine Piland.

Wednesday — Thin Ice — A bluegrass band with the repertoire ranging from traditional bluegrass music to contemporary sounds. Featured are Scott Holton, mandolin and fiddle; Robert Byington, banjo and vocals; Andy Patterson, upright bass and vocals; and James Howe, guitar.

Thursday — Kenny Chinn & Friends — A band which performs rhythm and blues, country and more.

Next Friday — Skannyardle — Rob Evans, Joe Smothers, Tim Teasley, Al Turner and Perry Baskin play a variety of music from the 1950s to the '90s, specializing in harmonies and acoustic guitar.

The Valdosta Daily Times

Monday, May 8, 1995 3-A

Reception honors community benefactor

By ELIZABETH BUTLER
Times Lifestyles Editor

VALDOSTA — Members of Valdosta's seven garden clubs, other friends and relatives gathered Sunday at The Crescent for a reception in honor of garden club member and community benefactor Hyta Plowden Mederer.

From her maid of 47 years to John R. Sessions of the Valdosta City Council, those who spoke portrayed Mrs. Mederer as a genteel Southern lady with a deep love for her community, family and friends and praised her untiring efforts for the betterment of the community.

Sessions said Mrs. Mederer's name was synonymous with "beautification" and that no area of town from Smith Park to The Crescent to Hyta's Park had not felt her touch.

Louie Peoples White, president of the Lowndes County Historical Society, praised Mrs. Mederer's efforts, along with those of two other garden club members, to keep The Crescent from being razed and the property turned into a parking lot or filling station in the 1960s. After a successful fund-raising drive by the women, the property was purchased by the city's garden clubs and The Crescent turned into their headquarters. Years later, the Valdosta showplace was listed

on the National Register of Historic Places.

Roberta George, director of the Lowndes/Valdosta Arts Commission, presented Mrs. Mederer with a proclamation declaring her a South Georgia Art Treasure.

Calling Mrs. Mederer a true Southern peach, Rita Bumgarner, director of the Valdosta/Lowndes County Convention & Visitors Bureau, recalled an incident when Mrs. Bumgarner had only been on the job six weeks. A tour of 100 people was coming to Valdosta, and she called Mrs. Mederer to see if The Crescent could be used to host the delegation. Not only was The Crescent used, but Mrs. Mederer donned her Southern Belle dress and joined Mrs. Bumgarner in greeting the guests.

Mrs. Mederer also hosted a party in her home for the officials of the Olympic flag transfer event, which won first place in the state in the tourism competition.

The honoree was also portrayed as an encourager by Sybil Bennett of Valdosta, past president of The Garden Club of Georgia. She said Mrs. Mederer has convinced her to become president of the Town and Country Garden Club and later the Garden Center despite the fact she had never been the president of a



Roberta George, director of the Lowndes/Valdosta Arts Commission, hands a print from LVAC to Hyta Mederer during the Town and Country Garden Club's reception honoring Ms. Mederer Sunday afternoon at the Crescent. — Times Photo by Paul Leavy

single organization.

Mrs. Mederer's other work in the community was recognized when Dr. Bill Broadfoot praised her support of the Boys and Girls Club.

Claudia Severin, president of Town and Country Garden Club which hosted the reception,

summed up Mrs. Mederer's active involvement in the community as she said, "Some people come into our lives and quickly go; some stay for awhile and leave footprints on our hearts and we are never the same. You are that special person, Hyta."

'Once Upon a Mattress' opens tonight

Theatre Guild Valdosta will present "Once Upon a Mattress," with performances at 8 p.m. tonight through Saturday, 2:30 p.m. Sunday and 8 p.m. May 25-27 at Valdosta Playhouse, 122 N. Ashley St.

The director of the musical play is Keith M. Peterson. The cast includes: Winnifred, Kimberly Rexroth; Dauntless, Michael Barr; Sextimus, Rich Tomlinson; Aggrarain, Hope Ince; Larken, Debbie Parrish; Harry, Melton Bennett; Wizard, Michael Fretti; Minstrel, Rick Patrick; Jester, Brett Lane; Merrill, Jennifer Thibodeaux; Lucille, Pauline Player and Katie Coakley; Mabelle, Meredith Carter; Princess #12, Daphne Griffis; Studley, Doug Britt; Darrell, Ken Kinard; and Bruce, Rob Grimes.

Assistant director is Brenda S. Carter; producer, Jim Britt; music director, Paul Gilbeau; set designer, Jerry Ellis; scenic designer, Margo Cline; and costumes, Ansley Youmans.

"It's very exciting to work with an ensemble that is so confident and energized and works with such a professional flair," Peterson said.



The Queen insists on quiet in a scene with a group trying to sneak out of the castle while a procession of bed makers to make beds.

Valdosta Playhouse, 122 N. Ashley St.



Rick Patrick as the Minstrel and the Wizard, played by Ricardo Ipinia, make potions.

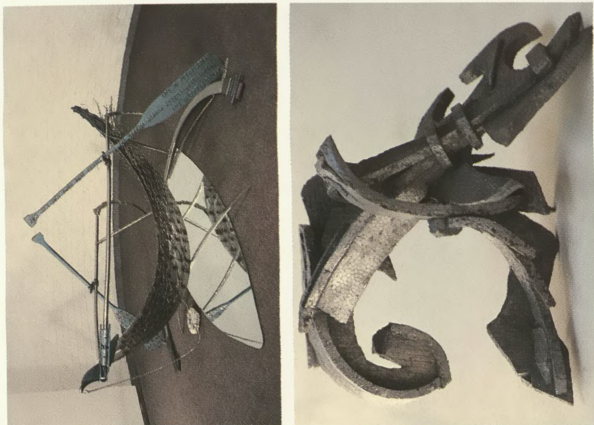


The 12th test of the princess, played by Daphne Griffis standing form, with Ricardo Ipinia as the Wizard.



Kimberly Rexroth, right, as Winnifred, with a mouth full of water after swimming the moat, with the Wizard Ricarda Ipinia, Hope Ince as the Queen, and Michael Barr as Dauntless.

Times photos by Paul Leavy



Light, Water, and Molten Metal

January 6 - February 11, 1995
Charles Hooks, sculpture • Eddie Norris, watercolor
Barbara LaGrasse, sculpture

Local museum gets its first director

By SHELBY G. SPIRES
Times Staff Writer

VALDOSTA — Local history is full of firsts. Add to that long list the Monday appointment of Bill Reeves as the first director of the Lowndes County Historical Society's Museum.

"The appointment of a director is one more step on the long road blazed by Albert Pendleton and many others toward a first class museum for Valdosta," said Louis White, president of the society.

"I saw the ad in the paper," Reeves said. "And I felt like what they were looking for was me. I have always been what you would call a 'history buff' and I feel like this will help me for this."

A native of New Haven, Conn., Reeves was exposed to several museums when he was younger, and the love for history stuck with him through the years.

"I grew up around museums and history and I have just always felt comfortable in that type of setting," he said.

Reeves' background includes

degree in history, he said.

Reeves will work closely with museum curator Albert Pendleton in guiding the society while the current museum and offices are undergoing remodeling, he said.

"With the wonderful, talented people that are there, it will prove to be a fruitful experience," Reeves said. Since 1983, Reeves has been an independent marketing consultant to the grain milling industry.

Reeves has lived in Valdosta since 1958 when he accepted a job with Southeastern Reduction Company.

The Lowndes County Historical Society was formed in 1967.

The society held the first meetings in the basement of the Carnegie Library, on West Central Avenue. After about five years, the North Patterson estate of A. Griffin was offered as a site for a historical society museum. It was moved there in 1972.

The society was located there until January of 1977, when it moved back to its present location,



William P. Reeves, left, appointed as director of the Lowndes County Historical Society

ABAC honors ... Page 2-C
Weddings ... Page 3-C

First State Bank Art Show winners

VALDOSTA — The Best of First State Bank Show Exhibit is on display at the Lowndes/Valdosta Cultural Arts Center, 1204 N. Patterson St., throughout the month of May.

Eighty selected works from the 190 pieces in the April First State Bank Show, now in its eighth year, were brought to the center, and a total of \$2,500 in prizes was awarded to area artists, according to Roberta George, executive director of LVAC.

The Best in Show prize of \$500 went to portrait painter Dargon Long of Bainbridge. "Mr. Long's painting, 'Shelby,' of a young girl on a swing shows energy and awareness of audience," said judges Mary Borshard of Fernandina Beach, Fla., and Ray Burggraf of Tallahassee, Fla., who, according to Mrs. George, spent four hours making their selections Sunday afternoon.

Mrs. George also said another frequent comment from the judges was, "The high quality of pieces is making our work too hard."

Wilby Coleman's iron sculpture of an anteatr in hot pursuit of an ant, "Travels With My Ant," was first-place winner in the three-dimensional category.

"Wilby Coleman, a resident of Valdosta, is well-known in Georgia for his humorous, insightful use of found metal objects," said Mrs. George. "He was recently awarded Best in Show and \$600 at the Camellia Invitational Show for his sculpture 'Gandy Dancer.'"

Pat Herrington of College Park was first-place winner of the two-dimensional category. Herrington, a frequent participant in the First State Bank Show, has been an artist 45 years. His abstract acrylic painting, "Time Warp No. 3" is a "very exciting" combination of forms and colors, said Mrs. George.

Other winners include:

■ **Three-dimensional**
Second Place — Barbara DeLung, "Independent Maiden"
Third Place — Earl J. Powell, "English Walnut Vase"
Fourth Place — Betty J. Smith, "Laughing Children"

■ **Two-dimensional**
Second Place — Nancy H. Moore, "Afternoon Sun"
Third Place — Linda C. Deater, "Silent Extraction"
Fourth Place — Stephen Lehr, "Zig I"

■ **Honorable Mention**
Harley D. Hall Jr., "Untitled No. 1"
Drake G. Harris, "They're Coming..."
Mardi K. Crow, "Tree Top Trophies"
Sara Bradley, "Still Life With Egg Plant"
Steve Musgrove, "The Lock"
Patsy Maddox, "Portrait of Mr. Y.B."
Margaret G. Cline, "Cathedral"
Jack L. Moore, "Afternoon Snooze"
Don Pettigrew, "Lila," and
Donald C. Penny, "Weed Bottle".

Cultural Arts Center hours are 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday and 2-4 p.m. Sunday.



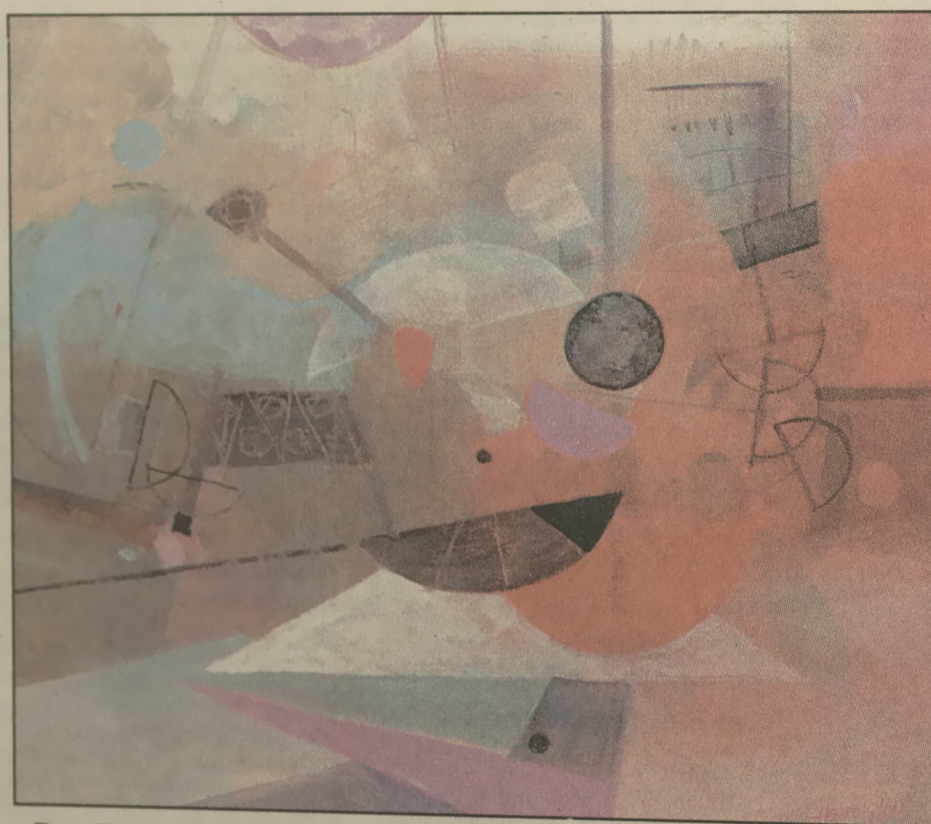
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COLEMAN

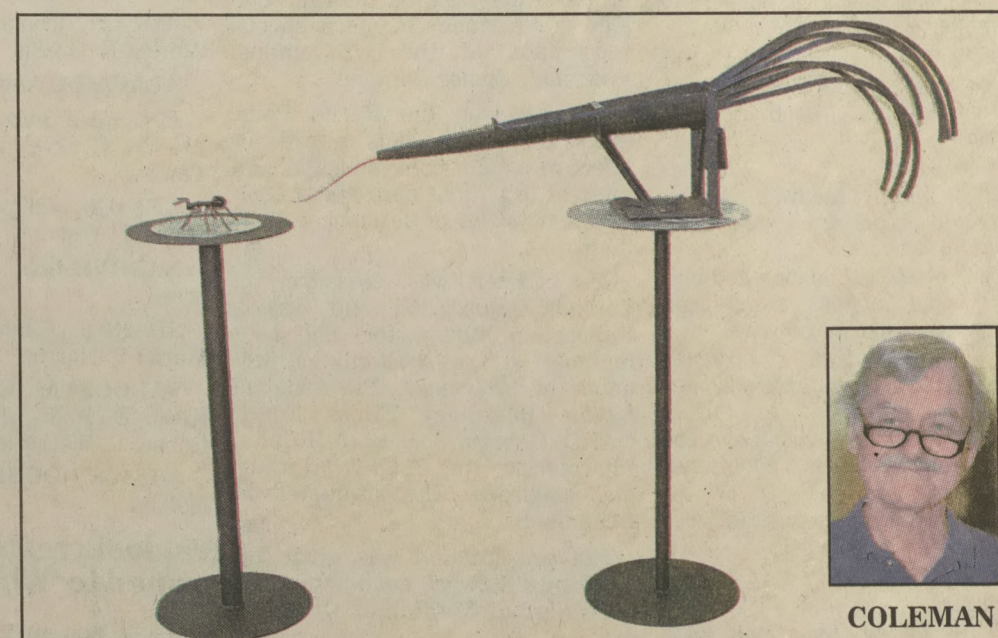


Best in Show: 'Shelby' by Dargon Long



Best Two Dimensional: 'Time Warp #3' by Pat Herrington

Times photos
by Mike Tanner



Best Three Dimensional: 'Travels with my Ant' by Wilby Coleman



Return to my Roots Earle McKey

Eighth Annual First State Bank Show
Candlelight Reception April 10, 1995

Local woman receives Levi's highest honor

By BRIAN LAWSON
Times City Editor

Jeanette Coody's selection as the winner of Levi Strauss and Co.'s highest award surprised her, but not the people she works for that matter anybody who knows her.

Coody, who works in the human resources department as a benefit specialist at Levi Strauss Co.'s Valdosta plant, has been employed there since 1963.

The honor she recently received, the Koshland Award, represents the "highest level of performance for a Levi Strauss and Co. employee."

Only eight of Levi's 32,000 employees were selected for the award and Coody was flown to San Francisco for an all-expenses-paid trip and a banquet at the Ritz-Carlton honoring the recipients, where she received a \$2,500 check.

Coody has received numerous civic honors for her years of devotion to community service, including being named the first woman to

serve as grand marshal of the Valdosta Christmas Parade.

Terri Harrell, human resources manager at the Valdosta plant nominated Coody for the award and made it her personal mission to see she won it.

"Jeannette is definitely deserving, not just for the past year, but in my six years here. She is one of a kind at work, at her church and she is exciting to be around and makes everyone around her share in the excitement. She has so much energy."

That commitment to helping others through her work in Levi's "Red Tab Foundation," which helps employees and retirees through difficult financial periods and numerous other efforts to improve the lives of workers at the Valdosta plant, led to Coody's being praised by Levi's top officials.

"You have set yourself apart as a leader and a role model," wrote John L. Ermatinger, vice-president of operations and sourcing for Levi Strauss North America. "Levi

Strauss and Co. truly believes in the spirit of helping the community and its workers, but rarely have I seen someone who not only believes in or speaks of it, but exemplifies it." We are truly lucky to have someone of your humanitarian quality."

Coody said a lifetime's worth of good friends and broad experiences has convinced her of God's control of her life. That security allows her, at 72, to declare, "Life is always exciting to me. I'm not involved in something I don't enjoy and I have a high energy level. I'm able to keep

working and enjoying myself because of my relationship with God and with man and good positive living and thinking."

Coody said when it is time to retire from work, she'll know, but that will have no impact on her activity level, which includes 51 years of perfect Sunday school attendance. She intends to continue to paint and write and will likely learn a foreign language or two and take music classes.

"I believe the service we give is the rent we pay for the space we occupy," Coody said.



Jeanette Coody, right, receives a copy of a \$2,500 check from Terri Harrell, human resources manager at Levi Strauss and Co.'s Valdosta plant, during a recent ceremony honoring her receipt of an international award. Coody received the check as part of her being named to Levi's highest honor, the Koshland Award, which is given for the highest level of performance by a company employee. — Times photo by Mike Tanner



'Geranium Basket' by Mary Ann Cox



Pictured above is 'I'll Fly Away' by Vincent Keesee; at right is a portrait by Kippy Hammond.



Photos by Mike Tanner

Cultural Arts Center features five Tifton artists

By NANCY ZEIGLER
For The Valdosta Daily Times

VALDOSTA — Lowndes/Valdosta Arts Commission at 1204 N. Patterson St. is playing host to five Tifton artists for its June-July exhibition.

Featured are Thad Brewer — raku pottery; Mary Ann Cox — watercolors and mixed media; Kippy Hammond — soft pastels; Vincent Keesee — oils; and Lisa Lindsey Kent — fiber, paper and weaving.

With work as varied as the artists themselves, the large gallery will be a potpourri of different styles and perceptions. Also in the small gallery will be the work of Valdosta State University's Dr. Lanny Milbrant and Dr. Stephen Lahr. The exhibit opened with a reception Monday, and the art will stay up until July 20.

Mary Ann Cox is a native Georgia artist who paints in Tifton where she lives with her husband. She received a gift of a box of

pastels from her grandmother at age 7 and has been painting ever since. Ms. Cox studied art privately in Atlanta where she was reared, and later, she studied with well-known Atlanta artist, Elsie Dresch. She has won numerous awards for watercolors and pastels and is finishing a degree in art education at VSU. She has her master's in special education and has taught school for 16 years.

Dr. Vincent A. Keesee was born and reared in Virginia in the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains. He received his bachelor of fine arts at Virginia Commonwealth University. He went on to finish his master of fine arts and doctorate at the University of Georgia. For 25 years, he has headed the art program at Abraham Baldwin College in Tifton. He has done numerous one-man shows as well as claiming many awards for his work. "My paintings are visual comments on various experiences I've had ...," he said. His

work relates to the rural South where he grew up. His paintings are "narrative, genre scenes filtered through the artist's memory."

Thad Brewer came to Georgia in 1976 from his home town of Clarksdale, Miss. He attended Delta State University where he received a minor in art. He's always had a passion for pottery and was highly inspired by one of his professors in college. He has participated in Tifton's Love Affair for the past six years and has claimed Best of Show and other awards from a variety of exhibits. He is an investment consultant in Tifton and president of the Atlantic Coastline Artists Guild, an organization which he and wife helped found.

Lisa Lindsey Kent is a native Georgian. She received her bachelor of fine arts in fabric design at UGA. She has participated in many exhibits where she has won several awards for her work. She attributes her interest in fabric to her grandmothers. Ms.

Kent said she is fascinated with the idea that fiber can be created out of hardly anything at all. She says that fiber tells a story through its color, its materials and how it is used. Fiber art can preserve history from one generation to the next. She has worked to create three-dimensional fiber art as opposed to two-dimensional. "There is history all through it!"

Kippy Hammond resides in Tifton with her husband and two sons. She completed her bachelor of fine arts degree from the UGA in 1973. She began at UGA as an interior decorator. She took drawing classes in her junior year and learned that drawing was a teachable skill, which changed her major. It was a dream of hers to be able to do a portrait like John Singer Sargeant. In 1985, she built her studio and taught art until she developed enough to enter shows. She enjoys the process of working with pastels and oils.



Day At the Races Mary Ann Cox

Next Door Neighbors - Five Tifton Artists
Mixed Media June 12 - July 20, 1995
Cultural Arts Center Valdosta, Georgia

July 1995

"Women of the 90's"

Bosch picks up reins of family business

By REX GAMBILL
Times Staff Writer

VALDOSTA — When her husband died, Lena Bosch was told she couldn't run the auto dealership he had built. She was told she didn't know enough about the car business.

Eleven years later, the naysayers have long since disappeared.

Ms. Bosch picked up the reins of the family business, Bosch Oldsmobile-Buick-GMC-Isuzu, after her husband John died in 1984. She's never looked back.

"I've always thought life was made up of chapters," Ms. Bosch said. "When John died, I had a feeling a whole novel had been written. But I never took the book back to the library. We keep writing in new chapters."

She found herself at a turning point in her life, where she could either sell the dealership and live off the proceeds or she could risk taking over.

So, she bought herself a new white business suit and went down to Florida to meet with the Oldsmobile zone manager. She told him she intended to take over the dealership, despite her lack of experience in automotive retail. The dealership had been John's business since 1962, and Ms. Bosch had had her hands full raising their son, Bart.

"I was an inexperienced female in a male-oriented field," she said.

Soon after she was granted the dealership, Ms. Bosch found it difficult to find people who wanted to work for her. Few people had enough confidence in her to risk working for her.

Another hurdle facing her was the vast difference between her management style and that of her



BOSCH

late husband's. Ms. Bosch said she "inherited" 35 employees when she took over Bosch Olds, and soon found she would have to develop her own staff, her own crew. Little by little, she said, she built a staff she could work with and trust.

"I try to get people who are enthusiastic about their potential and then turn them loose," Ms. Bosch said. She believes the worst managers are those who so lack confidence in their employees to the point of trying to do it all themselves.

"You've got to put trust in people and let them do their jobs," she said.

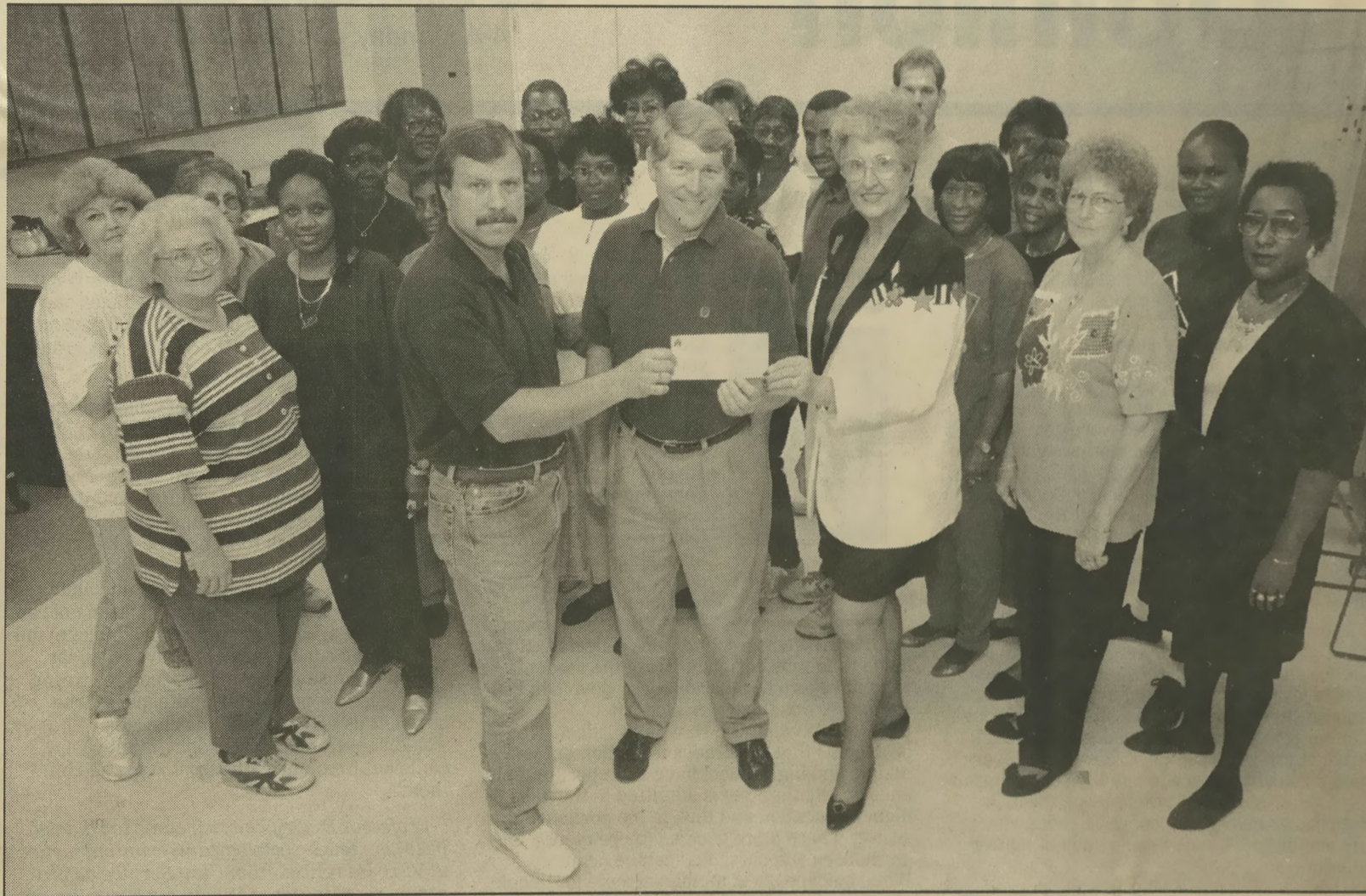
The art of delegation is one Ms. Bosch feels she excels at, and her gift gives her the opportunity to get involved in the community.

Not only is she a member of the Valdosta-North Rotary Club, but she is vice-chair of the Chamber of Commerce and chair of the Lowndes-Valdosta Arts Commission. Ms. Bosch feels strongly about volunteerism and community loyalty — she doesn't see any reason why Valdosta shouldn't strive to be the best in everything.

"I want Valdosta to be the greatest place in the world," Ms. Bosch said.

The Valdosta Daily Times

Monday June 5, 1995 3-A



Donation made

Paul Reynolds, plant manager at Levis Strauss, watches as Robert Soper, executive director of the Boys and Girls Club, accepts a check for \$24,000 from Jeanette Coody, chairman for the Levis Strauss Community Involvement Team, while members of the Community Involvement Team look on. The check was from the Levis Strauss Foundation, and was given to the Boys and Girls Club so that a new program targeted for young girls could be started, and hiring a girls director. — Times Photo by Paul Leavy

Peanut plan 'safety net' for farmers

Dear Abby ... Page 2-C
Way Back When ... Page 4-C

Colson Printing Co. has selected the winning pieces of art for its 1996 calendar. The calendar features local and national artists' work, representing some of the best art Colson has seen during the year.

The works can be seen at the Cultural Arts Center at 1204 N. Patterson St., Valdosta, through Aug. 19. The cover for the 1996 Calendar will feature Don Pettigrew's water color painting of a fishing boat heading for deeper waters under a magnificent sky, entitled "Heading Out."

Other works in the show are:

- "Green Eyes" by Valdosta High School art teacher Teresa Rozier
- "Turtle Kraals" by Tifton artist Mary Ann Cox
- "Brazilian Beauty" by Valdosta artist Earle McKey
- "Porch" by Hahira artist Marlene McCartha
- "Spring Bouquet" by Valdosta artist Latrelle Ulrich
- "Cathedral" by Valdosta artist Margo Cline
- "Quail Country" by Valdosta artist Eddie Norris
- "Okefenokee Whitetail" by Valdosta artist Marcia Plateau
- "Wood Duck" by Lake Park artist Margie Bates
- "Ruffled Elegance" by Madison, Fla. artist Nancy Moore
- "Posted" by Hahira artist Lillian Brooks
- "Pecking Order" by Valdosta artist Leon Colvin

Also included in the show will be wood, stone and Georgia clay sculptures by Dr. Manuel Tovar, Randy Anthony and Betty Smith. The show is hosted by the Southern Artists League.



"Heading Out", Don Pettigrew's water color painting of a fishing boat under a magnificent sky, is the cover picture for Colson Printing's 1996 calendar.

Colson Calendar



"Cathedral", by Margo Cline, Valdosta



"Turtle Kraals", by Mary Ann Cox, Tifton

Page 8B - VALDOSTA EDITION, April 19, 1995 • THE MAILBOX POST

Cinderella Story At Art Show

By GEORGE MATHIS

Mailbox Post Staff Writer

"I felt like Cinderella at the ball," said Christina Hagood, after she sold both of her paintings at the 8th Annual Lowndes-Valdosta Art Commission Art Exhibit and Sale.

Hagood, a senior at Valdosta High School, entered two paintings, "Harmony," and "Perfect

View" in the sale. They were purchased by South Georgia Medical Center and Scruggs Concrete Company, respectively.

"I want to thank my VHS art teacher Teresa Rozier for the inspiration and my grandfather Ben S. Moody for framing my work and paying my entry fee," she said.

"I wouldn't be here without them."

Hagood, who has been painting since she was 12, will be pursuing an Art degree at Valdosta State University this fall.

Roberta George, Executive Director of the Lowndes-Valdosta Art Center and organizer of the event was also pleased. "The community support for the show was outstanding," she said.

This year, the art show displayed 190 pieces, up from a mere 25 at the show's inception.

"Eddie Norris, President of 1st State Bank and Trust, has been instrumental to the continuing success of the art show," said George. "It's become a wonderful outlet for an extremely talented group of artists."

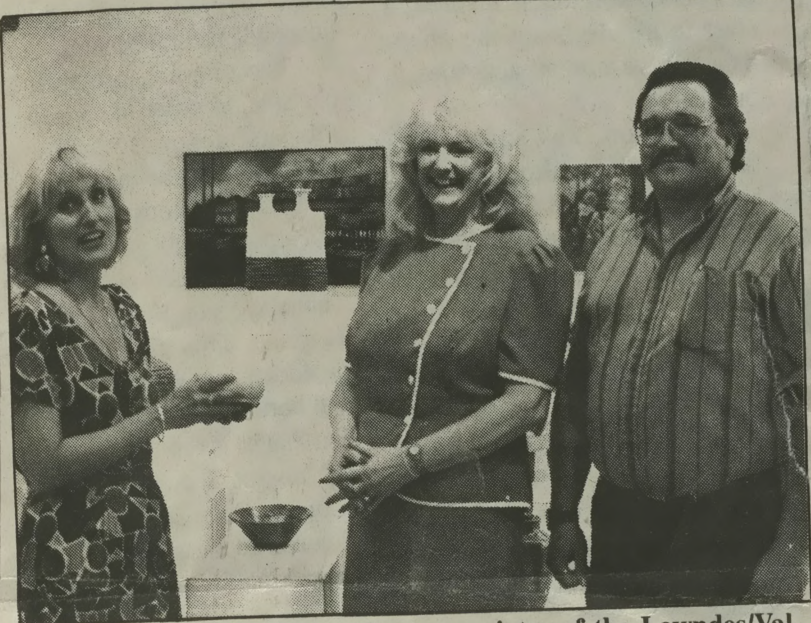
Sales from the art show totaled over \$12,000, almost double the previous year's record.

The art will remain on display at 1st State Bank until April 27.



Christina Hagood poses with her painting "Harmony", purchased by Scruggs Concrete.

SUMMERTIME! HAPPY 4TH OF JULY



Roberta George, Elaine Kent, associates of the Lowndes/Valdosta Art Commission are pictured with local Greenville Artist Marshal Norris. (CARRIER Photo by Tommy Greene)

Cultural Arts Center Features Five Tifton Artists

Lowndes/Valdosta Arts Commission at 1204 N. Patterson St. is playing host to five Tifton artists for its June-July exhibition.

Featured are Thad Brewer - raku pottery; Mary Ann Cox - watercolors and mixed media; Kippy Hammond - soft pastels; Vincent Keesee - oils; and Lisa Lindsey Kent - fiber: paper and weaving.

With work as varied as the artists themselves, the large gallery will be a potpourri of different styles and perceptions. Also in the small gallery will be the work of Valdosta State University's Dr. Lanny Milbrant and Dr. Stephen Lahr. The exhibit opened with a reception Monday, and the art will stay up until July 20.

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studio and taught art until she developed enough to enter shows. She enjoys the process of working with pastels and oils.

Dosta Theatre celebrates reopening

By JOE DUNLOP
Times Staff Writer

VALDOSTA — Glowing in the light of a 1941 searchlight, the front of the newly refurbished Dosta Playhouse Theatre welcomed the first patrons for the 1995 season Saturday night.

Theatre Guild Valdosta President Sandra Dickson addressed a crowd of elegantly dressed benefactors gathered in Ashley Street, which police had closed to traffic for the gala opening celebration.

Ms. Dickson invited patrons to update a guestbook that had been used at a previous opening. That had been a beer and pretzels event, she told the crowd, this event would include champagne and caviar.

Four live mannequins posed in dress from the decades since the theater was first used in 1941, and punch was sipped by ladies in formal evening gowns with glittering jewelry.

The crowd applauded as the neon 'Theatre Guild' sign was lit, and people pointed to the dancing red neon light atop the green and yellow facade.

Speakers from different community, government and business groups took turns thanking members of the community for their support of the guild since it began in 1989. They told the group they would be able to look to that night in the future and point to it as the beginning of a resurgence in downtown growth, and a vital part in the diversity of Valdosta and the surrounding area.

After the speakers said their piece, the group filed in through the bright red doors, into the comfort of another major renovation, central air conditioning.

The Theatre Guild Valdosta's 1995-96 season opens Thursday night with 'A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum.'



Sandra Dickson, right, president of Theatre Guild Valdosta, welcomes guests Saturday night during grand opening ceremonies of the Dosta Theatre on Ashley Street. — Times Photo by Mike Tanner

LifeTimes

The Valdosta Daily Times
Sunday, August 13, 1995

C



Barney man opening gallery for area artists

By JOE DUNLOP

BARNEY — Robert Ridenour knows that to make a living selling his art work, he's got to treat it as a business.

He's forming an art gallery to promote the work of artists he thinks will sell in the venues available in the area.

"I think there are more (local outlets for artists) than what most artists are able to find under normal conditions," Ridenour said from his studio at his home in Barney.

Most of the local artists Ridenour is familiar with have regular jobs and families to take care of; they simply don't have time to market their work as a full-time artist would.

That is what Ridenour wants to address with his studio. He formed Ardea Moon Studios earlier this summer to create a vehicle by which they can get their work on the market.

"The goal of this is to become a select operation," said Ridenour. "We take the approach that not all the art by all the members is acceptable, including myself."

He is looking for work that will fit into his conception of what will appeal to the people in the South Georgia area. Rural, natural stills make for excellent home and office decoration, and people prefer original work to mass-produced copies.

Wildlife makes up much of his work, but he also likes to feature old, ramshackled buildings steeped in history. Things that people have seen, that will be recognizable to them.

"Old buildings kind of fit," he said, producing an oil painting of the old peach building at U.S. 84 and Ousley Road. "Everybody that has seen this building has stories about it. That's what I want."

Ridenour got the name for his studio from his family crest, which features a large heron. Ardea is the Latin name for the bird.

"I just realized this needs to be a business. It needs to stop being a hobby; there's too much passion in it," said Ridenour, who also believes in the power of numbers to increase sales. "I feel like anybody that's selling my work would have a better chance selling something, if there were others there."

Though he does some oil paintings, Ridenour concentrates mainly on scratchboard art, etching an image onto a piece of kaolin board heavily inked with black. The white lines of the image stand in stark contrast to the background, producing a shadowy effect.

The process affords little room for error on the original, and Ridenour screens the prints carefully.

"Once it's there, it's there, you can't go back," he said. "You either learn to work with your mistakes or you start over."

One piece he hopes will sell well is entitled "Cynthia's Chickadee." He got the idea for it while in the hospital with a co-worker's daughter, Cynthia Walker. Two-year-old Cynthia has had several surgeries on her heart and has hearing problems as well. He sketched a small bird on a scrap of paper at her bedside and liked the result well enough to redo it on scratchboard.

Ridenour currently spends his days traveling and looking for inspiration, photographing new subjects, and new markets. At night he works on new material, mindful of the direction he wants his new company to take.

"I rely on my career," he said matter-of-factly. "If I'm studying a particular animal, I'll go to the Okefenokee and spend a day (photographing) alligators."

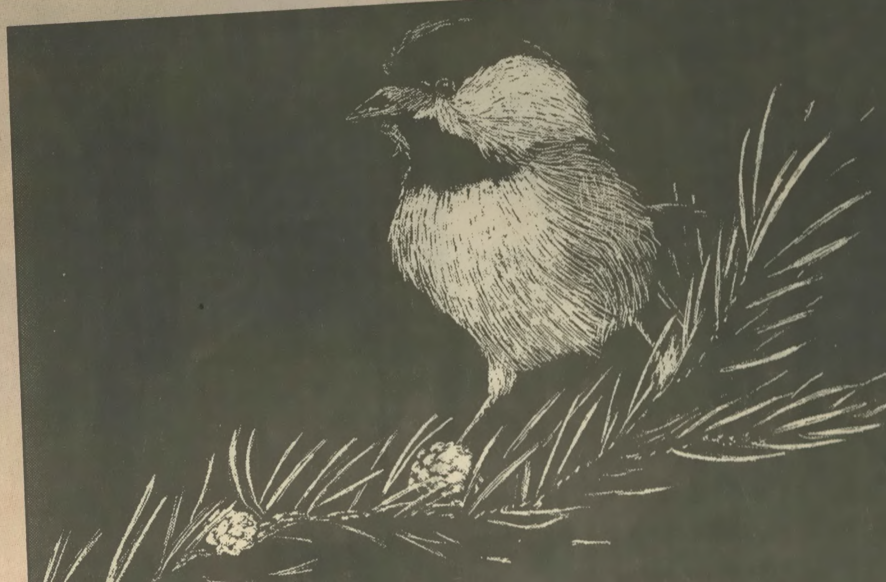
"Within the next couple of years the studio will hopefully develop to where we can get out a brochure and be recognized as part of the wildlife world," he said, referring to the broad range of artists who work in the field. Part of reaching that audience involves Ridenour's decision not to limit the studio to work from the region.

"Geography doesn't matter for the artists involved," he said. "That doesn't make good sense, from a business point. But if you don't treat it like a business, nobody else will treat it like a business."



Robert Ridenour and his art work

Photos by Mike Tanner



Lowndes / Valdosta Art Commission Art Exhibit & Sale



FIRST STATE BANK & TRUST COMPANY

April 10th - 30th, 1995

* All art marked with an "H" are pieces that South Georgia Medical Center desires to be donated for the new Pearlman Comprehensive Cancer Treatment Center. Full tax receipt will be provided. The artists may donate any or all proceeds from the sales.

Around Madison

Southern Artists League Host The Colson Calendar Competition

LifeTimes

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Page 3-B



"Tammy's Hot Pot" by Don Penny

First art show

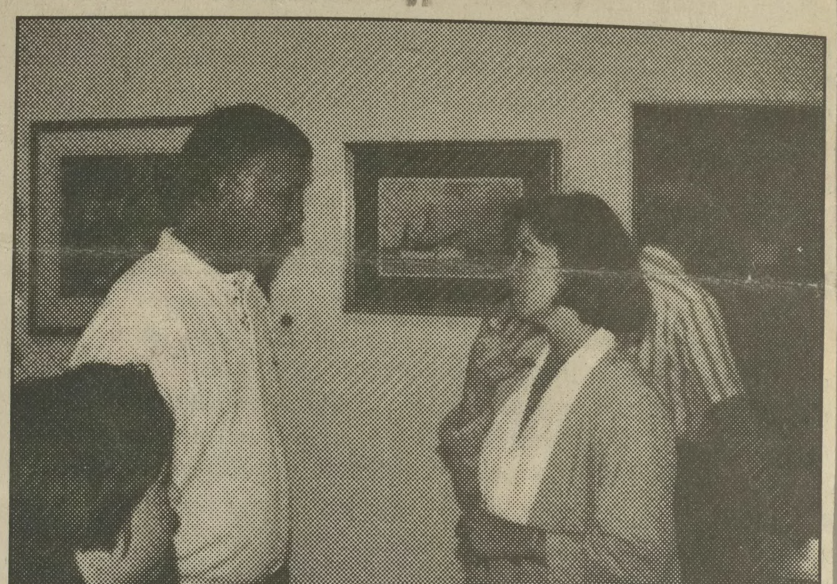
VALDOSTA — The eighth Lowndes/Valdosta Art Center's annual candlelight exhibit of mixed-media work. In addition, there will be a general admission. For the eighth year in a row, this show brings in near and far. "For the eighth year in candlelight exhibit of mixed-media work. In addition, there will be a general admission. For the eighth year in a row, this show brings in near and far. "For the eighth year in candlelight exhibit of mixed-media work. In addition, there will be a general admission. For the eighth year in a row, this show brings in near and far."



Greenville artist H. Marshall Norris is shown next to one of his two paintings to be exhibited. He also has 2 metal sculptures in the show.



Refreshments and wine were served in one of the two smaller rooms of the large gallery.



Some of the many attendees of the Colson Calendar Competition who enjoyed meeting the artists showcased at the exhibition.



"Carafe" by Ruth Kahler



"Venetian Afternoon" by Irene Dodd

In what is becoming a hot July/August tradition, the Southern Artists League hosts the Colson Calendar Competition at the Lowndes/Valdosta Arts Center, 1204 N. Patterson.

Colson printers, whose talent for turning original art work into true-color prints has gained it a national reputation and whose yearly calendar is a collectors' item, chose 13 pieces of art from area artists. This year's Calendar's cover will feature Don Pettigrew's water color painting of a fishing boat under a magnificent sky is entitled "Heading Out."

Other works to be in the calendar are:

- "Green Eyes" by Teresa Rozier, Valdosta High School art teacher
- "Turtle Kraals" by Mary Ann Cox, Tifton artist
- "Brazilian Beauty" by Earle McKey, Valdosta artist
- "Porch" by Marlene McCartha, Hahira artist
- "Spring Bouquet" by Latrelle Ulrich, Valdosta artist
- "Cathedral" by Margo Cline, Valdosta artist
- "Quail Country" by Eddie Norris, Valdosta artist

Wood, stone, and Georgia clay sculpture by Dr. Manuel Tovar, Randy Anthony, and Betty Smith is also in the show, giving a good over view of area artists' work. The exhibit will be up until August 19. Visit the Lowndes/Valdosta Arts Center and see the talent of the Southern Artists League.

Also metal sculptures from Greenville artist H. Marshall Norris is also in the show.

In the show are oil paintings by Madison artist Sidney Ashley and oil and acrylic paintings by Greenville artist H. Marshall Norris. Each are long time members of the Southern Artists League.

7-9 p.m.
April 10
Presented by
Lowndes/
Valdosta
Arts
Commission



"Pyramid # 7" by J. Stephen Lahr

Photos supplied by Cultural Arts Center

GEORGIA

The Times-Union Sunday, October 29, 1995

Lowndes/Valdosta Arts Center looks small but offers a lot

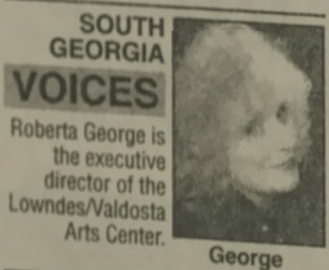
By Roberta George

Center is 17 years old, and like all teenagers, it is really coming into its own, which means more interest in the arts and artists in South Georgia and North Florida than ever before.

Until Thursday, the center housed Oil Pan Harry, a 30-foot metal dinosaur constructed by Marshall Norris of Greenville, Fla. Along with Harry was a cherry wood octopus by George King, a cedar coyote by Randy Wilby Coleman, a walnut rhinoceros beetle by Al Park, a psychedelic alligator by Lawrence Tobe and a cat gossip bench by Ouida Lampert. These pieces and 125 others, done by area artists, were a part of the center's annual Artoberfest whose theme this year was "A Walk on the Wild Side."

A theme show gives artists the chance to try something new and different, such as potter Don Penny's Parade of the Cone Creatures.

The Artoberfest is just one of



George

25 art exhibitions the center puts on every year for local, area and national artists.

Art exhibitions are just a fraction of what is going on at the center. Recently, the new Target store in Valdosta gave the center a \$2,000 grant toward its presentation of *Our Town* put on by the Georgia Mountain Theatre for middle and high school students. The Junior Service League, Hunt Construction, Georgia Power, Park Avenue Bank and Citizens & Community Bank are also supporters of this project.

The center's education director, Julianna Howard, who has successfully headed the Children's Touring Programs for the last three years, is responsible for the popular programs that earned this grant. Howard says the center's goal is to bring educational and entertaining live performances into the schools, as was done 30 years ago.

In addition to *Our Town*, this year's presentations include *Pinocchio*, *The Emperor's New Clothes*, *Twelfth Night*, *The Nightingale* and *Winnie the Pooh*.

On Nov. 6, with a reception from 5 to 7 p.m., the center will host a High School Art Exhibit for the Grassroots Area (South Georgia and North Florida), giving prizes to the top three pieces. Any high school art de-

George: Center offers plays, art and music

From Page B-1

Mathis Auditorium, the Broadway Touring Musical about the '50s and '60s musical experience of America's baby boom generation. Seven singers and musicians perform the great storytelling music of a generation. Again, it's a catered pre-concert dinner at 6:30 p.m. in the all-purpose room. The musical starts at 8 p.m. Come to one or both for a great evening. Call (912) 247-2787 for information and reservations.

On Nov. 14, its *Boomers* at Dec. 20. South Georgia and North Florida residents are encouraged to come by the center and let their Christmas gifts be original works of art.

Lowndes/Valdosta Arts Center has a jammed calendar and that's just what's going on until the end of the year. If you are interested in art, yoga or calligraphy classes, if you want to display or see art, if your school wants professional children's programs, call (912) 247-ARTS.

Arts center hours are 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on weekdays, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturdays and 4 p.m. on Sundays.

day, February 11, 1995

The Valdosta Daily Times

Back When/A Weekly Feature About Local History

Dosta Playhouse, home of Valdosta Theatre Guild

ART PENDLETON
Museum Curator

STA — The Dosta Playhouse, thriving under the ownership of the Valdosta Theatre Guild, is located at 12 N. Ashley St. Originally called the Dosta Theatre, it was opened in the early 1940s, marking the third theatre in Valdosta at that time. The Martin chain, with the Dosta Theatre, was the only one in the area.



A 1940's snapshot of the Dosta Theatre flanked by the Joe Lazarus Store and The H & S Store, both clothing establishments. — Lowndes Historical Museum photo

The theatre was constructed by J.N. Bray Co., with their contractor R.N. McEachren in charge of the work. Admissions to the movies at the Dosta were 10 and 20 cents, except on Saturday when admission was 10 and 15 cents. Cooney, the manager, began in theater work in Valdosta at the old Rex Theatre. He said, in his 23 years, he worked from janitor to manager and also managed the Palace Theatre on South Patterson Street.

It was reported that the seats in the Dosta had been brought from the almost new Liberty Theatre on Florida Avenue where the theatre closed.

If one missed a new movie at the Ritz, there was still a chance to see it later at the Dosta. In November 1955, there were the Ritz, Dosta and Palace Theatres in the downtown

Valdosta area with two drive-in theatres, the Forrest on Forrest Street and the Martin on the site now occupied by Park Avenue Bank. In February 1965, the Forrest is not listed, but in its place was the Skyway Drive-In Theatre on Bemiss Road, pretty far out.

At the Ritz that month, February 1965, playing was "Sex and the Single Girl," probably the first in that type of movie, which has gone down ever since.

Now the Dosta is a Playhouse where there are plays acted out by the local theatre group, Valdosta Theatre Guild. The members present dramas, comedies and musicals. It's the place to go for good live entertainment. See you there.



Theatre Guild Valdosta's cast of 'A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum'

Theatre Guild opens its new season tonight

By JOE DUNLOP

The curtains open tonight on the stage at the Dosta Playhouse for the opening performance of the Theatre Guild Valdosta's 1995-96 season.

Sandra Dickson, guild president and director for "A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum" said the cast was holding up well as show time approached. "It's going well," she said Tuesday, after Monday's dress rehearsal. Tuesday night the cast would be under the lights again for a full dress rehearsal including make-up. "It gets a little hectic, but I think every play gets that way."

The cast for the performance is: Jerry Dickson, Mary Ann Green, Tim Fausett, Murray Weed, Ricardo Ipina, Jack Pruden, Melton Bennett, Jerry Ellis, Nichole Paulson, Kelda Lane, Jennifer Britt, Daphne Griffiths, Debra Doster, Debbie Parkhill, Jennifer Mann, Brett Lane, Jim Britt, Ken Kinard, Doug Britt and Chris Thomas.

A favorite for local theater groups, "A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum" was written by Burt Shevelove and Larry Gelbart, with music by Stephen Sondheim.

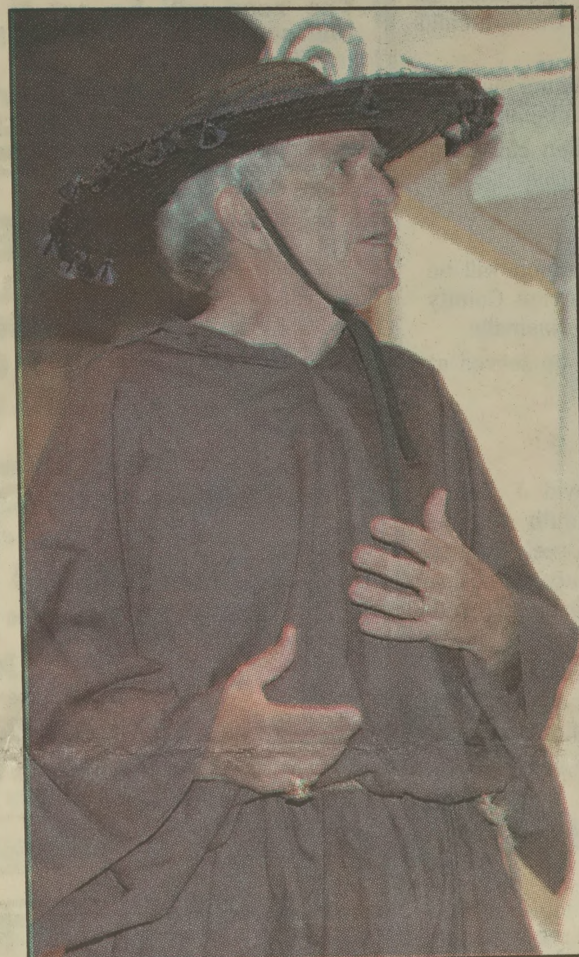
"I think every director brings to a play a vision," said Ms. Dickson. "What I want to see is a Roman comedy, vaudeville and slapstick, and that's what we've got. Not a serious moment in the show."

She said the play has two acts, each a little more than an hour long, with a 15-minute intermission between acts. Soft drinks and coffee will be available.

According to a press release from the guild, the play's protagonist is Pseudolus, a roguish slave with plans for freedom. Hero, Pseudolus' young master, is willing to cut him a deal. All Pseudolus has to do is capture Philia, a beautiful girl whom Hero has seen from his bedroom window. Mixed in with recognizable songs is a group of unsavory characters, a befuddled father with a shrewish wife, neighbors, strangers and the Roman army. The mounting confusion makes for mounting comedy.

For ticket information, call 24-STAGE. Opening night seats are \$5.

'A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum'



Above, Jack Pruden plays "Erronius." Jerry Dickson, right, playing the role of 'Senex,' performs a solo. — Photos by Mike Tanner



'Red Eyed Tree Frog,' by R.K. Young, dye on silk

'A Walk on the Wild Side: Fur, Fins, Feathers, Hooves, Claws and Scales'

The Lowndes/Valdosta Arts Center at 1204 N. Patterson St. is holding its annual Artoberfest, a showcase for local talent.

A reception will be held from 5-7 p.m. Monday. In the past, themes for the show have included "Fishfest," "Swampfest" and "Down on the Farm."

This year's "A Walk on the Wild Side: Fur, Fins, Feathers, Hooves, Claws and Scales" has brought out some interesting responses. There's a foot-long golden dinosaur by R.K. Young and a 30-foot dinosaur by Marshall Norris; a brilliant African bird by Marcia

A sailcat and Charlotte, the spider from "Charlotte's Web," are the metal sculptures submitted by Wilby Coleman. Other works include "Seagulls" by Irene Dodd, "Spaghetti Kitty" by Sue Kingston, a cherry-root octopus by George King and a black Labrador retriever named "Robert the Bruce" by Dargan Long.

According to Roberta George, arts director for the Lowndes/Valdosta Arts Center, more than 175 pieces of art will be on display.

Music will be provided by bluegrass band Thin Ice, and barbecue will be available for \$3 per person (call 247-2787 for reservations) or hot dogs for \$1. Free



'Octopus' by George King, cherry wood



Beth Strickland, Valdosta High School senior, pencil, 'Eggs'



Every year the Lowndes/Valdosta Arts Center invites area county high schools to participate in its high school art show.

This year Valdosta, Lowndes, Brooks, Clinch, Cook and Lanier High schools responded with 125 pieces of original art.

"The skill and talent of these young people is just amazing," said VSU art professor Hollis Barnett, who helped hang the show along with Don Penny, a local potter, and Wilby Coleman, metal sculptor. All three men commented on the excellent quality of this year's exhibit.

Fifty dollar savings bonds were presented to five high school artists: Beth Strickland (Outstanding Artist) of Valdosta High School; Leo Felix (Outstanding Artist) of Lanier County High in Lakeland; Rhonda Barber of Cook High in Adel; Fiona Johnson (Outstanding Artist) and Walter Hodge, both of VHS.

Three of these students also were named Outstanding Artists because their work showed an all over high standard of performance.

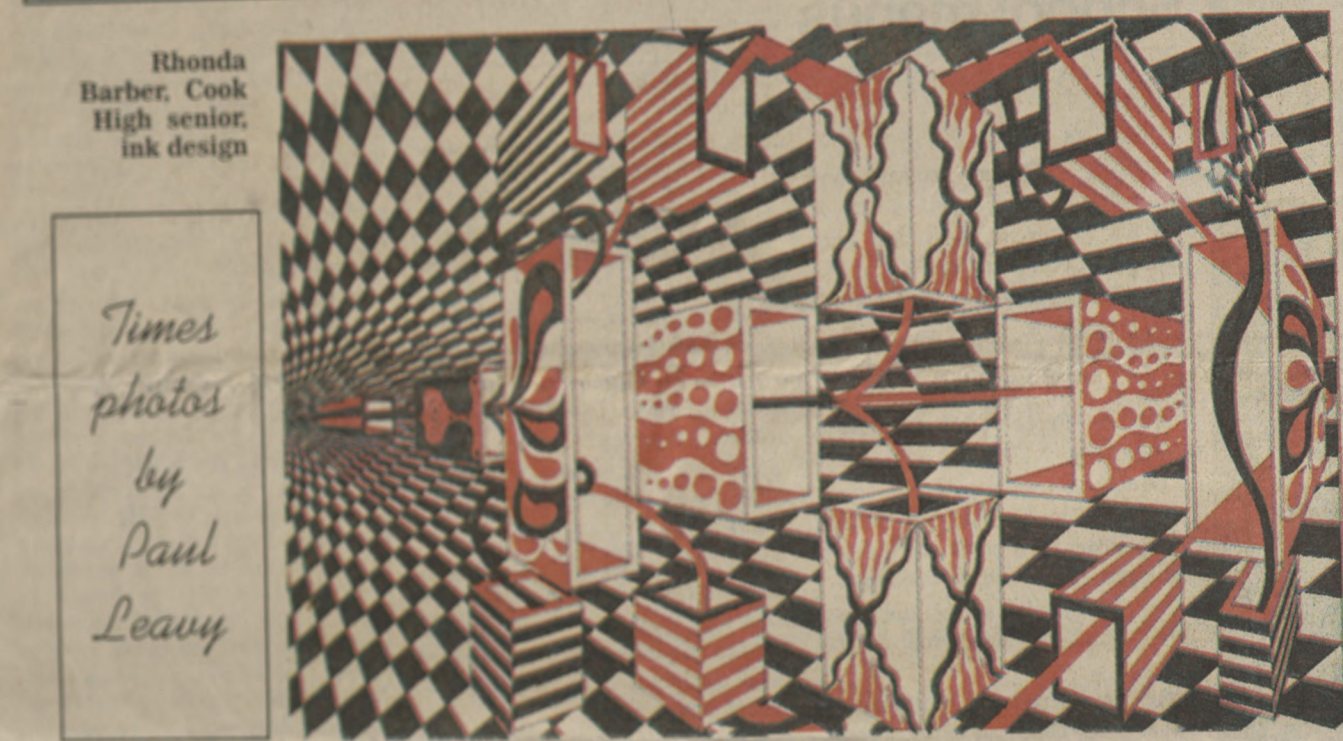
Merit Awards were given to: Derrick Franklin of Clinch High in Homerville; Donald Shackelford (two) and Nico Guiley, Bill Shenton, Molly Lewis and Jenny Sheppard of VHS; Rhonda Barber of Cook High; Fiona Jackson, Brandi J. McCaine and Leo Felix of VHS.

Walter Hodge, Valdosta High School junior, ceramics, African masks



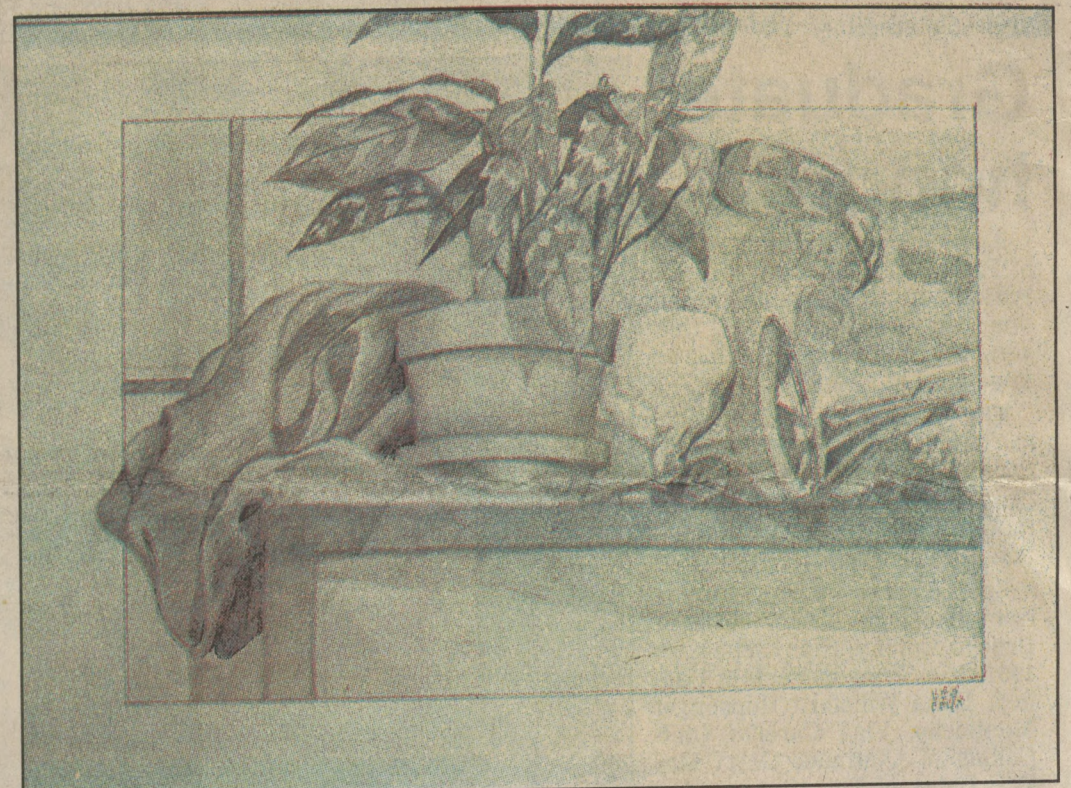
Fiona Johnson, Valdosta High School senior, watercolor, 'Inner City Rainbow'

High school art exhibit at Cultural Arts Center



Rhonda Barber, Cook High senior, ink design

Times photos by Paul Leavy



Leo Felix, Lowndes High School senior, graphite

VSU Gallery exhibiting nationally known artists

VALDOSTA — Works by two nationally recognized artists are showing at the Valdosta State University Art Gallery through Tuesday.

Among the pieces are acrylic and mixed media paintings by Dusty Benedict. He is a studio artist and a professor and chairman of the visual arts department at Warren Wilson College in Swannanoa, N.C. He has had exhibits dating back to 1977 and is interested in the ambiguity present in paintings.

"It is just paint on a flat surface, but at the same time it is also something else," he said in an artist's statement. "It forms a whole, has order, meaning, spirit and presence."

Lori Gene's sculpture is represented internationally in corporate and private collections throughout North America, Europe and central Asia. She is a studio

artist and an instructor of art at DeKalb College in Decatur. The female form figures prominently in her work, which she has said she represents as an active force, not merely an outside entity to be looked at or reckoned with.

"The experience of living is utterly profound to me, and I feel a need to express it in visual terms," her artist statement reads. "We see the world in terms of our own experience, and the human body is at once both our own most personal possession and our most public expression of who we are."

The exhibition is free and open to the public. Gallery hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday-Thursday and from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Fridays. For more information and to arrange gallery tours, call VSU Public Relations at 333-5980.

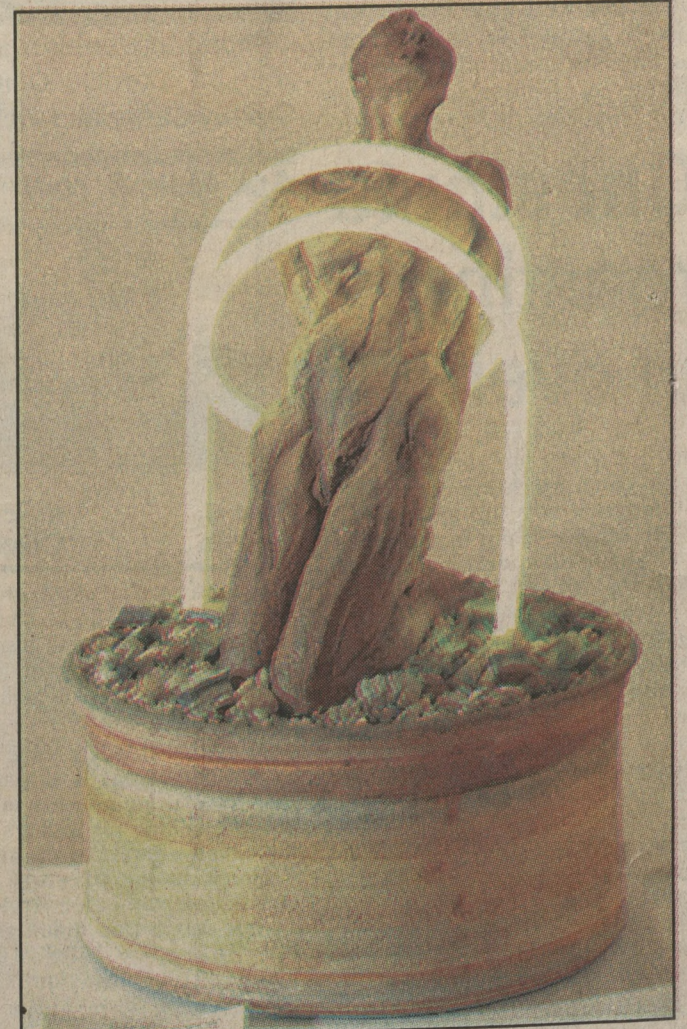


Dusty Benedict, 'Papaya Tree Farm Journal,' acrylic, canvas



Lori Gene, 'In a Sea,' terra cotta

Times photos by Paul Leavy

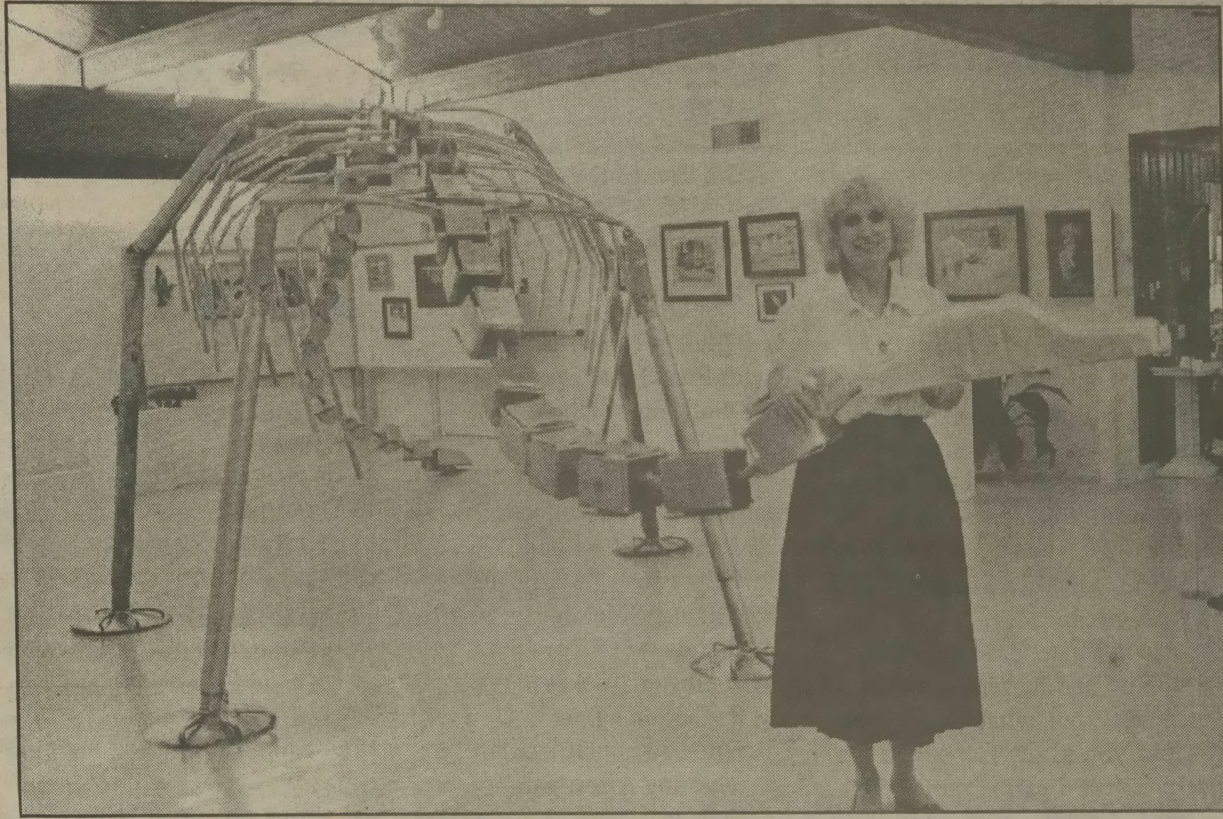


Lori Gene, 'Electricity Will Set you Free,' neon, terra cotta



Dusty Benedict, 'Life and Death of a Pear,' oil on canvas

Local Artist Takes A Walk On The Wild Side



Roberta George, Director of the Lowndes-Valdosta Art Center, is shown in front of Marshall Norris' "Oil Pan Harry". (E-R photo by Tommy Greene)

By Robbie Burnett

The works of three local artists were recently featured at the Lowndes-Valdosta Art Center in exhibits set to the theme of "A Walk on the Wild Side: furs, Fins, Feathers, Hooves, Claws, and Scales."

Beautiful paintings by Madison Countians Lu Sands and Sidney Ashley were displayed, as was a 30 foot long metal dinosaur by Hamburg-Lovett native Marshall Norris.

Some of the works displayed included Sands' "Texas Tea" oil on linen, which featured three horses grazing, while Ashley's "See No Evil, Hear No Evil" was an interesting water color of three geese with both eyes and ears covered with bows. An oil painting entitled "Wild Life Paths At Rockway" by Ashley was also



Roberta George is holding Lou Sands' "Texas Tea" painting which was on display at Lowndes-Valdosta Art Center. (E-R photo by Tommy Greene)



Lou Sands', "Texas Tea", Oil on Linen, painting was one of the many exhibits on display at the Lowndes-Valdosta Art Center recently. (E-R photo by Tommy Greene)

part of the exhibit.

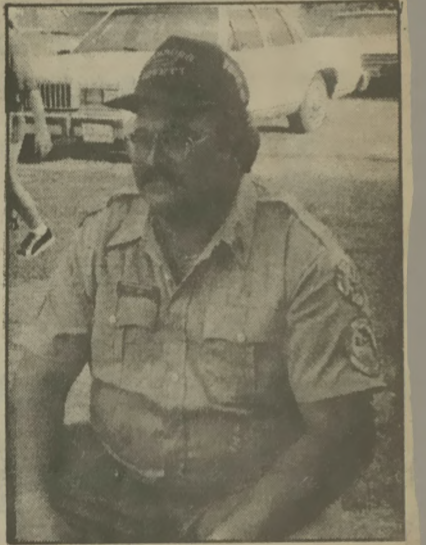
The unique and impressive dinosaur by Norris is built mostly of discarded vehicle parts.

According to Norris, the vertebra is made of sheet metal with straight pipe forming the ribs. An oil pan makes up the head while drive shafts are used for the legs and farm harrow discs for the feet. Other assorted parts such as car fans, anchors and chains were also used in Norris' creation. The dinosaur, called "Oil Pan Harry," is presently on display at the Lowndes County Historical Society.

For more information on upcoming displays at the art center, call 912-247-2787.

Fate chooses our relatives, we choose our friends.

—Jacques DeLille



Marshall Norris

Having problems with your hearing aids?
Call 1-800-216-8775
NU-EAR Hearing Hotline

A WALK ON THE WILDSIDE:

FUR, FINS,

FEATHERS,

HOOVES,

CLAWS,

& SCALES



Friday, November 17, 1995

The Valdosta Daily Times



Flower power

Mary Strong, right, civic beautification chair for the Town and Country Garden Club, is seen with Lloyd Donaldson and Willie McGee in the planting of pansies in front of the administration building at Georgia Christian School. Also giving their time are Mary Strong, left, youth garden club chairman, and Claudia Severin, president of the local garden club. Along with the landscaping project, the garden club has overseen the installation of an irrigation system. — Times photo by Mike Tanner



Thanksgiving came a little early

Community Involvement Team volunteer Jeanette Coody serves Odel Smith a slice of peanut butter pie at a Thanksgiving dinner for senior citizens at Mathis City Auditorium Thursday evening. The team's volunteers are retired and current employees of Levi Strauss who organized the meal for the 250 people, with line dancing before the meal and bingo afterwards. — Times Photo by Paul Leavy

Saturday November 18, 1995 7-C



Careful with those scissors!

Robert Soper, center, executive director of the Boys and Girls Club of Valdosta, cuts the ribbon marking the official grand opening of the Taco Bell on St. Augustine Road Friday. The light-colored stripe on the ribbon is made of \$200 in greenbacks, donated by Taco Bell restaurants of Valdosta to the Boys and Girls Club. Members of the Valdosta-Lowndes County Chamber of Commerce were also on hand to celebrate the grand opening. Local Taco Bell restaurants will be collecting donations to support TEENSUPREME, an program targeting "at-risk" teens. The program provides support, job training and counseling in Boys and Girls Clubs, Inc. locally and across the country. — Contributed photo

Bambeck ... Page 2-C
Abby ... Page 2-C



'Pair,' oil on canvas, by A. Blake Pearce

VSU art faculty exhibit



'Reflection of Self-Portrait,' cedar, purple heart and bronze, by Hollis Barnett

'View from Hathank Crags: Looking North,' acrylic, by J. Stephen Lehr



Below, 'Opus 7,' ceramic and stoneware, by Lanny Milbrandt



The annual exhibition of Valdosta State University Art Faculty is on display through Dec. 8 in the VSU Fine Arts Gallery. Gallery hours are from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday-Thursday and from 10-3 p.m. on Fridays. Many of the works in the exhibition are for sale. For more information or tour arrangements, call 333-5980.

"The main reason for the exhibition is to show the community what we're doing here, that we're being productive in our own disciplines," said Gallery Director Karin Murray.

Thirty-eight recent works by 12 faculty are featured, representing a diverse approach to form and content. Paintings, ceramics, sculpture, photography and printmaking are included in the exhibition.

Professor Harry Ally's three works, oil and oil pastel and graphite are part of a continuing series entitled "Idiots and Other Figures." Besides teaching at VSU, Ally has been on the art faculty for six other colleges and universities.

Professor Stephen Andersen has four pieces in the exhibition. He uses a variety of unusual materials for his sculpture, including wood, glass, crab shells, snake tails and brick. His work can be found in collections in every state in America and 11 foreign countries.

Associate Professor Hollis Barnett has three sculptures on display, with which he tries to strike a balance between the visual and the conceptual, trying to make exciting objects that will inspire the viewer's imagination.

Associate Professor of Art History Dr. Joyce M. Davis has four two-dimensional works, including two photographs. She holds a doctorate from the University of Georgia and joined the art department at VSU in 1992 after teaching at a number of other institutions.

Professor Irene Dodd has four landscape watercolors on exhibit. She has been at VSU 28 years and has had recent exhibitions in New York, Texas and Venice, Italy.

Born, raised and largely educated in Southwest Georgia, Clyde L. Edwards received a master of fine arts in painting from the University of Cincinnati, Ohio. He has two works exhibited: one is graphite and the other is oil on canvas.

Dr. J. Stephen Lehr has four views of Hadrian's wall in northern England. Inspired by a recent trip to the region, the works show the artist's interests in shape, color, texture and contrast. He was raised and educated in the Mid-West, teaching and working as art consultant for the Nebraska Department of Education.

Dr. Lanny Milbrandt has three ceramic pieces in the show. He is the head of the art department at VSU and is interested in computer graphics and three-dimensional media including glass, jewelry and sculpture. He is currently embracing a return to clay as a material he calls "tremendously flexible and responsive."

Melody Milbrandt is a part-time faculty member at VSU and also teaches in Lowndes County Schools. Her mixed media piece is a somewhat tongue-in-cheek observation of gender bias in society entitled "They Warned Me the Flowered Dress Would Be Perceived as Very Feminine."

Gallery Director and Assistant Professor Murray has owned and operated her own art gallery, directed festivals and exhibitions and taught at Mississippi State University in Starkville, Miss. Two of her three works are mixed media on paper.

Professor Al Park has taught at VSU since 1980. His three wooden sculptures are part of a series he planned this summer utilizing multicultural symbolism and typographical elements. Wood used includes red cedar, china berry, mahogany and butternut.

Georgia native Arthur Blake Pearce, assistant professor, has four works on display inspired by his fascination with the significance of objects found in Renaissance art and the lighting and color used in the paintings of that period.

Photos by Mike Tanner

LVAC presents music of '50s and '60s tonight

Lowndes-Valdosta Arts Commission in its Evenings To Remember Series will present "Boomers," the '50s and '60s musical experience of America's Baby Boom Generation, at 8 p.m. tonight at Mathis Municipal Auditorium.

Seven singers and musicians perform in a Mac Frampton production, which takes a look (through song) at the two most paradoxical decades in the nation's history: the '50s and '60s, according to Roberta George, director of the Lowndes-Valdosta Arts Center. The Baby Boomer Generation's songs evoke nostalgia and make a powerful statement about the fading of the Age of Innocence and the dawning of the Age of Aquarius.

Through the music of Elvis, Perry Como, Little Richard, Doris Day, The Beatles, Aretha Franklin, the audience can remember the '50s when five wives on the rear of a Cadillac, when heads were adorned with racoon tails and mouse ears, and when the price of a puppy in the window had everyone whistling a tune -- and the '60s, when long hair wasn't just for girls, when tear gas and firehoses became a cop's standard equipment, when flower children and the National Guard went hand in hand.

Mrs. George said those who attend will recognize some of the talented performers from television, movies, Broadway and off-Broadway performances. "Bring your love beads and hula hoops."



Scrap-metal sculptor



Lawyer-turned-blacksmith creates artwork from piles of rusting discards, leftovers

VALDOSTA, Ga. — Wilby and Gloria Coleman have a great yard. Not a blade of grass to speak of. No real landscaping. Piles of rusting scrap metal.

It covers 2 acres in the center of town in a well-to-do subdivision, but the neighbors aren't complaining.

The Colemans have carried much of the scrap metal indoors, hundreds of pounds worth and stuck it in corners, on tables and shelves.

Hordes of curious people from miles around come to see their house and yard.

No, really, they do. The Coleman place is listed with the Lowndes County Convention and Visitors Bureau as a tourist site.

It began about seven years ago when the Coleman yard and home took on another life.

That's when Wilby Coleman started rushing outdoors at all hours of the night to this tractor barn-turned-workshop that he'd built a little way up a red clay incline behind his house. He'd get the blue-white flames of a forge going and clank among his heaps of discarded farm implements — tangles of springs, discs and cultivator blades.

"My neighbors thought I was out of my mind," Wilby Coleman said. He was, after all, an attorney with a dignified old firm in Valdosta. He had played the suit-and-tie game for more than 35 years.

At night and on weekends he became Wilby Coleman, blacksmith.

His smithing created art from the scraps, fantasy sculptures of creatures from ideas taken from nature, literature and his reservoir of humor.

Gloria Coleman kept the household going, acting as accountant and totally supporting her husband's new-found madness.

Even their backdoor neighbor, Nick Carroll, a federal probation officer, aided and abetted him by scrounging for raw material.

Most workdays at lunchtime, Carroll loosened his collar, took off his tie, donned rubber boots and



Musical instruments line one wall of the Coleman home in Valdosta, Ga.

Above: Wilby Coleman gave up studying art to become a lawyer. Then he left his law practice to become a full-time artist — working with scrap metal. Here he poses with one his many sculptures.



Right: Coleman used welding irons for this creation.

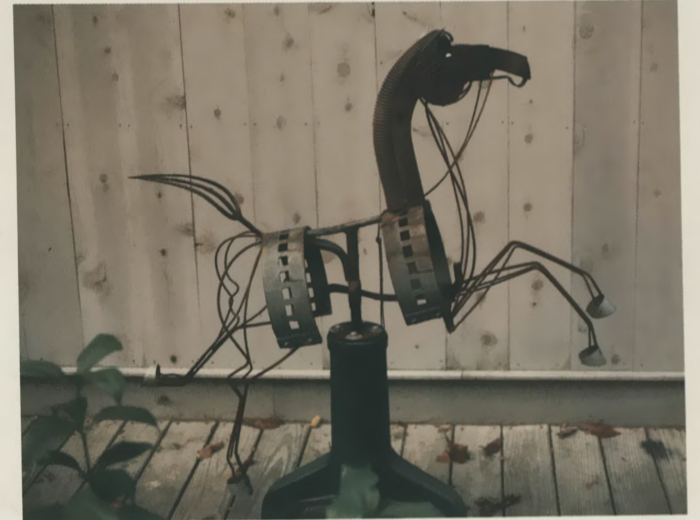


The Colemans' Jacobean walnut dining room table and chairs came from Wilby Coleman's uncle, who once owned movie houses and fell into the Hollywood fad of Jacobean furnishings and ordered himself a set.

Stories by Susan P. Respass/staff ♦ Photos by Don Burk/staff



Kisses Paul Harmon



Horse Wilby Coleman

Rust and Remembrances

Paul Harmon and Wilby Coleman

August 21 - September 28, 1995
Cultural Arts Center Valdosta, Georgia

The Valdosta Daily Times
Friday, December 8, 1995

Professional singer performing in Christmas Pops Concert Saturday

By JOE DUNLOP

Brand-new Valdostan Linda Edwards says she'll be able to return some of the favors she's received since moving from Dallas, Texas, when she sings with the Valdosta Symphony Orchestra this weekend.

She'll be performing in the VSO's first Christmas Pops Concert at 7 p.m. Saturday at the Valdosta State University PE Complex Gymnasium. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$2 for students.

For the performance, she'll be singing a variety of classical and traditional music including "Ave Maria," "Do You Hear What I Hear" and "Winter Wonderland."

Ms. Edwards has a long career in music, singing with different national symphonies and large churches. One career highlight came when Conductor Leonard Bernstein chose her to sing with the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra

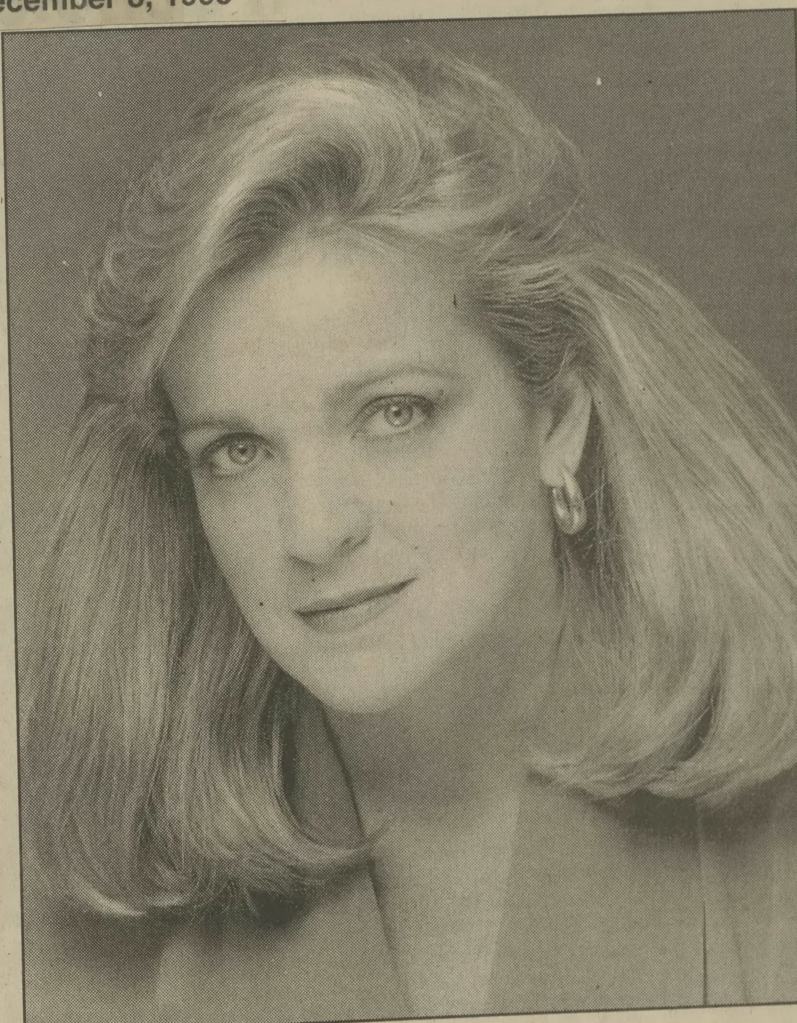
in a performance of "Candide." Having sung Bernstein's works to herself in the shower since she was a child, she said it was thrilling experience to have him congratulate her after the performance.

She moved to Valdosta this summer with her husband, Jette Campbell, vice president of The Griffin Corp.

She's looking forward to her first performance with the VSO and hopes to perform with them again, as well as other musicians at the university.

Ms. Edwards is a formally trained singer, with a music degree from Stetson University in Deland, Fla., and a master of music degree with honors in voice from Indiana University.

She has traveled extensively, singing in many musicals, including leading-lady performances in more than 30. She also has had non-musical roles, including "Steel Magnolias." She has a special love for music from the '30s, like the work of composer George Gershwin.



Linda Edwards, who has performed with national symphonies and large churches, will sing Saturday with the Valdosta Symphony Orchestra in the VSO's first Christmas Pops Concert. — Contributed photo

She's dabbled with movie roles, but prefers the stage.

"In opera, when you're performing the work of a great performer, I sometimes think to myself, if the composer were sitting out in the audience, I'd want them to be happy with what I'm doing," said Ms. Edwards.

She also keeps in mind the real members of her audience.

"I play for the person in the audience who's never been to the theater and never seen a show before," she said, adding that she wants those people to have a great time and return.

The pops format, according to Ms. Edwards, is a great way to introduce people to the symphony and theatre — "It brings people to the symphony that wouldn't ordinarily come."

Advice ... Page 2-C
Engagements ... Page 3-C

Choral Guild presents 'Singing Noel' Sunday



Valdosta Choral Guild member Rick Saeger

VALDOSTA — The Valdosta Choral Guild traditionally performs a Christmas concert and a spring concert. This year's Christmas concert, entitled "Singing Noel," will be presented at 3 p.m. Sunday at Mathis Municipal Auditorium.

Tickets are \$5 and \$3 for students. Tickets are available at the door or by calling Harriet Crum at 912-794-2155 or 247-ARTS.

The Valdosta Choral Guild is part of the Lowndes/Valdosta Arts Commission.

Dr. David Faber will conduct the performance, accompanied by pianist Doris Stanley.

Selections performed will range from J.S. Bach to Vince Guaraldi's Charlie Brown Christmas music. Solos will be performed by Faber, Babette Lamb, John Riggle and Marti Brazier.

According to Geri Backus, publicity chairman for the Valdosta Choral Guild, the support of local businesses and individuals purchasing tickets makes the Guild's hard work worthwhile.

"As a non-profit organization we couldn't continue without the monetary support of our friends, neighbors, patrons, sponsors and members," said Ms. Backus.

To raise money for the Guild, an antique dollhouse has been donated. The dollhouse is on display at the Cultural Arts Center at 1204 N. Patterson St.

The guild is looking for singers, either from the area or new to the community.

"Some of our singers drive 50 miles each way to participate in weekly rehearsals from September to spring," said Ms. Backus.



Dave Faber, seated, musical director for the Valdosta Choral Guild, works with members of the Guild for their upcoming show. — Times photos by Mike Tanner

Who has the best Christmas decorations you've seen around town? Call Joe Dunlop or Elizabeth Butler at 244-1880, and let us know. We'll be publishing a color page of decorated homes before Christmas.

6-C Sunday, December 4, 1994

The Valdosta Daily Times



Artist Lillian Brooks of Hahira, far right on the bottom row, was one of 45 artists who won prizes in the 1994 Festival of the Masters held at Walt Disney World's Disney Village Marketplace in Lake Buena Vista, Fla. — Contributed photo

Hahira artist wins in Disney World contest

By KRISTINE HARNAGE
Times Staff Writer

Hahira artist Lillian Brooks captured second prize in the Watercolor and Airbrush category at the 1994 Festival of the Masters fine art competition held at Walt Disney World's Disney Village Marketplace in Lake Buena Vista, Fla., Nov. 11-12.

Mrs. Brooks' watercolor titled "Hill-top Station" won her the second place award of \$400. This was her second year participating in the annual festival.

More than 45 artists participating in the festival competition took home \$24,000 in prize money. According to Walt Disney World, the festival draws from a rich array of artisans who have won primary awards in shows within the past three years.

Each of the nine categories carries a first-place award of \$1,200, second place of \$800 and third place of \$400. There are also 20 awards of merit of \$200 apiece. The remaining eight categories in the show included: Oils and acrylics, Graphics, Photography, Sculpture, Clay, Jewelry, Hand crafts and wood.

Mrs. Brooks also won an Award of Distinction for her watercolor painting "Double A" at the 22nd Great Gulf Coast Arts Festival in Pensacola, Fla., held the first weekend in November.

Mrs. Brooks competed in 27 art shows throughout the region this year, including many fine art shows and some arts and crafts shows.

The Valdosta Daily Times
2-A Tuesday, December 13, 1994



Bonnie Peterson, second from left, executive director for Lowndes Associated Ministries to People (LAMP), gets a tour of the Levi Strauss and Company's Valdosta facility after receiving a check for \$60,000 from the company. Escorting Peterson are, from left, Terri Harrell, human resources manager, Paul Reynolds, plant manager, and Jeanette Coody, community involvement chairperson for Levi Strauss and Company. The Levi Strauss Foundation Grant will help fund LAMP's 'New Horizons' program that concentrates on helping the homeless and a self-sufficiency program. — Times Photo by Mike Tanner



'Checkmate'

Local artist Colleen Harris will be featured in Gadsden, Fla., one of North Florida's most respected regional art shows. Slides will be retained for educational programs, and group tours are welcome. Ms. Harris' painting entitled 'Checkmate' is on display at 407 N. Adams St., Quincy, Fla., until Dec. 16, 1-5 p.m., Wednesday-Sunday. For more information call (904) 875-4665. — Contributed photo