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CONTACT US: Features Editor Dean Poling and Lifestyles Editor Elizabeth Butler would like to hear your comments about The Valdosta Daily Times "Living" section. They also welcome story ideas. Call Dean at 244-3400, ext. 258, or e-mail him at dean.poling@gafnews.com; Call Elizabeth at 244-3400, ext. 256, or e-mail her at elizabeth.butler@gafnews.com



Contributed photos
PUCK dances under the light of the moon in a scene from Shakespeare's 'A Midsummer Night's Dream,' scheduled to play locally, Feb. 4. Though this is an abridged version of the play, Shakespeare's full text contains 28 mentions of the moon to enliven the story's magical seduction.

a Midsummer Night's Dream

Arts center hosts professional Shakespeare play

By Dean Poling
dean.poling@gafnews.com

VALDOSTA

“What fools these mortals be,” Puck notes of young lovers and the world in general in William Shakespeare’s fantasy, “A Midsummer Night’s Dream.”

Luckily, Lowndes/Valdosta Arts Commission gives local schools the opportunity to prove Puck wrong.

Early next month, LVAC hosts two abridged performances of “A Midsummer Night’s Dream” for area school students. The shows are presented by Georgia Mountain Theater, a professional touring company which has participated in LVAC’s young theater program for several years, and the shows are offered to regional school classrooms at discounted ticket prices. Making “A Midsummer Night’s Dream” a wise choice, indeed.

These performances provide something more than just a field trip away from the classroom for students. Seeing Shakespeare, nay, hearing Shakespeare, performed correctly by professional actors for even an hour can make more sense of the Bard and his words than two weeks worth of reading his lines in a classroom.

Shakespeare wrote plays to be performed. Analyzing his works, line by line, came many years later. There is nothing wrong with studying his works, though. Shakespeare penned some of the best lines in the history of the human language as well as some of the most used and familiar phrases in the English lexicon as well. But hearing these lines performed brings increased understanding to reading Shakespeare’s words.

Especially, with the magic, romance and humor of the beloved “A Midsummer Night’s Dream.”

This is a tale of mischief and misunderstandings, magic and mirth. Theseus, duke of Athens, and Hippolyta, the Amazon queen, are to be married, while a quartet of confused lovers roam the forests in a mistakenly charmed daze. Throughout the play, sprites and fairies as well as rustic rubes cavort through the enchanted woods. Overseeing all of this cavort-

ing, misunderstandings, marriage plans, etc., are the tempestuous king and queen of fairies Oberon and Titania. And let us not forget

Oberon’s satyrish servant, the impish Puck. This a great play, which was masterfully performed in its entirety by Valdosta State



OBERON AND TITANIA in a scene from Shakespeare’s ‘A Midsummer Night’s Dream,’ presented by the professional Georgia Mountain Theatre Productions and sponsored by the arts center’s Lowndes/Valdosta Arts Commission.

SHOWTIME

LVAC’s sponsoring of GMT Productions’ presentation of William Shakespeare’s “A Midsummer Night’s Dream” is scheduled to play 9:15 a.m. and again 10:45 a.m., Feb. 4, Mathis City Auditorium, 2300 N. Ashley St.

These performances are for regional school classes and are offered at a discounted rate of \$4 per ticket. The 9:15 a.m. show is adapted for young children of elementary and middle-school age, running 50 minutes. The 10:45 a.m. show is suggested for high school juniors and seniors and runs approximately an hour.

More information, reservations: Call the arts center, 247-2787.

University Theatre a few years ago. Georgia Mountain Theatre is presenting an edited version of the work, though how one goes about editing Shakespeare ...? Yet, GMT has done so in the past and does so with a smooth touch, as it did with a visiting production of Shakespeare’s “Romeo and Juliet” a few years ago.

As for LVAC, it is the parent organization of the Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts. For several years, it has sponsored two to four plays suitable for various ages of students per school year. Each show is a GMT production, which usually includes one Shakespeare work per season.

Mardi Gras to benefit VSU Music scholarships

VALDOSTA — The Mardi Gras Dinner Dance, sponsored by Music Scholarship Alliance to benefit music scholarships at Valdosta State University, returns early next month with an evening of fun, music and benefits for VSU Music students.

The event includes a cocktail reception, raffle, silent auction, tarot reading and other entertainments, glamorous masks available, a dinner featuring a sumptuous Louisiana menu, a parade among the tables during dinner featuring costumed VSU students and a mini-jazz band, a dance with music by local musician Ed Barr’s Big Band Orchestra, spectacular Mardi Gras decorations with favors for all attending, tables for eight with accommodations for singles or couples, says Martha Gibson, director of ArtSouth, which is coordinating the event.

This is the fourth year the Music Scholarship Alliance has presented the Mardi Gras celebration in Valdosta. Each time groups of friends who do not dance have reserved tables and attend to enjoy all the festivities including the great band music, Gibson says.

Annual sponsors for this benefit for VSU music students are Georgia Gulf Sulfur Corporation, McCall and Associates, Inc., South Georgia Pecan Company, and a Friend of MSA.

VSU Music Mardi Gras Dinner Dance is scheduled for 6:30 to midnight, Feb. 5, Valdosta Country Club, 3500 Country Club Road. Reservations: \$50 per person. More information: Call ArtSouth, 333-2149.

Air Force Band plays tonight

VALDOSTA — Band of the United States Air Force Reserve is scheduled to play tonight as part of a concert sponsored by Valdosta State University.

Tickets are free but one must call ArtSouth in advance to secure a reservation.

This band is the longest continuously serving band in the Air Force’s history. The band will play an evening of various tunes from several musical genres.

Band of the United States Air Force Reserve plays 7:30 p.m. today, Whitehead Auditorium, first floor, Valdosta State University Fine Arts Building, corner of Oak and Brookwood. Admission: Free, though advanced reservations strongly suggested. More information: Call ArtSouth, 333-2150.

Color Photography Exhibit
By
Amanda Greer Caracciolo

December 6, 2004-January 6, 2005

Careless Consolation

Lowndes/Valdosta Arts Commission Gallery
Opening Reception: December 6, 2004, 5:00 - 7:00 p.m

Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts
527 North Patterson Street
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31. Mingling in May	\$100.00
32. Untitled	\$100.00
33. Untitled	\$100.00
34. Unclaimed	\$175.00
35. Buddies	\$100.00

Artist's Statement

Amanda has been compiling her collection for the past four years. Her various travel experiences, combined with her perspective of the world around her, equal this vibrant collection of images. Her photography experience coincides with a time in her life when she first gained her independence and learned the most about herself.

In her opinion, it is not enough to just take a photograph. The image must reveal a bit of the artist's personality and outlook on life while connecting with the audience. Amanda truly has a fascination with the beauty and simplicity that exists in the world around us.

It is Amanda's desire that "Careless Consolation" be the first of many opportunities to share her unique perspective on life through her photography. It is her first professional exhibit, and she is thrilled to share her work with everyone.

Amanda is a Valdosta native.



'Crabbing,' watercolor, artist Eluster Richardson.

Capturing the Moment

Exhibit captures artist's best

By Dean Poling
dean.poling@gafnews.com

VALDOSTA

Eluster Richardson captures so many moods, expressions, scenes and tones with his watercolors on exhibit at the Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts, it is almost impossible deciding where to start.

There are the young faces filled with a child's wonder, defiance, uncertainty, skepticism and sheer wonder. There are the slightly perturbed waters in the serene but no less powerful figures of "Crabbing." There are the juxtapositions of white shirts and brown faces, white railing and somber shadows in "After the Wedding." There is the impossibly caught splash of water within the hues of watercolors of the young swimmer in "Wave." There are the wrinkled hands, skins and faces of older subjects, whose eyes retain the energy of Richardson's children, whose eyes are given to a certain wisdom often shared by the very young and the very old.

Each wall, each painting, of this exhibit contains a new excitement in both image and the quality of Richardson's skills. He is a master of watercolors with a masterful eye for detail, subject and composition.

A Tallahassee, Fla.-based artist, Richardson has a way of capturing his subjects that is uplifting, thought provoking, and most of all vitally inspiring.

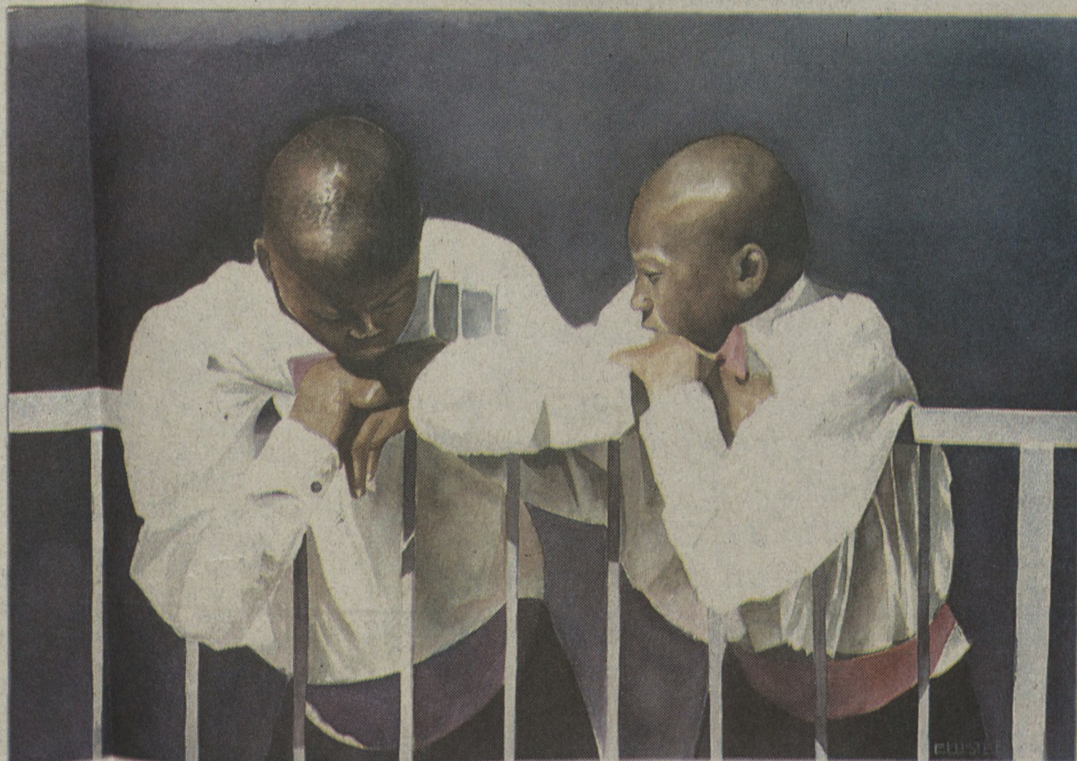
"My work primarily encompasses people and their expressions so I may reflect their emotion through my painting," Richardson notes in an artistic expression. "... While I may not always reproduce an image, an exact likeness of someone, I paint what I see, what I feel, believe that person feels, their adornment around their eyes, who they are."



'Contemplation,' watercolor, artist Eluster Richardson.



'Grandma Hands,' watercolor, artist Eluster Richardson.



'After the Wedding,' watercolor, artist Eluster Richardson.

GALLERY

"Capture the Moment," an exhibit of artist Eluster Richardson's watercolors, is on display now through Feb. 25, Sallie and Harmon Boyette Gallery, Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts, 527 N. Patterson St. Also on exhibit are "Oodles of Options" with artists Mary Braukman, Mary Elizabeth Fisher and Mary Ann Staples, Price-Campbell Gallery; "Natural Abstractions: Color Prints from the Tree Series," artist Kathryn Kolb's photography, Lowndes/Valdosta Arts Commission Gallery; students of Cook High School art teacher David Rowswell, Roberta George Children's Gallery. Gallery hours: 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Tuesdays through Thursdays; 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays; 1-4 p.m. Sundays; closed Mondays. Admission: Free. More information: Call 247-2787.



'Mime Dancer,' watercolor, artist Eluster Richardson.

Fall 2005
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Valdosta

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Volume 9, No. 3

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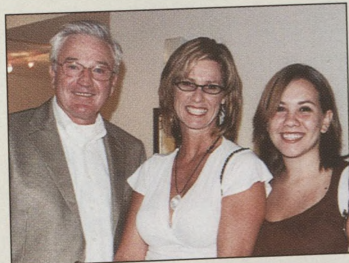
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Zaccari, & Barbara
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Brenda Thrasher



Dr. Zaccari

Enters a new Era of Design

By Nancy DeRuyter Warren

The artistic energy of one man dominated and electrified the Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts during a recent exhibit opening. That man is none other than Valdosta State University President, Dr. Ronald Zaccari. Zaccari's exhibit, sponsored by Advanced Hearing Care in the Turner Center's Price-Campbell Foundation Gallery, features an amazing abundance of art – more than 60 pieces that have been in production for eighteen months.

Utilizing diverse materials and artistic processes, Zaccari includes casting, cut-paper, computer imaging, drawing and carving to create an exhibit that appeals to many audiences.

This is Zaccari's last one man show. "I'm remaining steadfast on my decision to discontinue one-person exhibits," he explained. "My current schedule at VSU is too demanding."

Many attendees were drawn to Zaccari's stunning steel and bronze pieces, capturing the artist's vision of birds, horses and the female figure.

Others were attracted to the stunning cut paper works, bursting with color and energy. Zaccari is transitioning from metals to cut paper as his primary medium.

"... all new works will be large cut-paper designs and most will be shipped to northeast galleries that represent my works," he said. "I thoroughly enjoy the sweeping flow of cut paper, a process employed so wondrously by cubists such as Braque, Picasso and Papart," Zaccari explains in his artist's statement.

The Turner Center reception also highlighted the bold and colorful paintings of Julie Bowland, the exquisite watercolors and drawings of Barbara Moore, and the works of Valdosta Middle School students. **VM**

THE TURNER CENTER PRESENTS...

By Nancy DeRuyter Warren

"Cats," the longest running Broadway musical and touring show, headlines the Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts Presenter Series for 2005-06.

"Cats," which purrs into Valdosta on Monday, January 23, 2006, is flanked by three additional shows, each bearing its own claim to fame. "Barbra & Frank, the Show that Never Was" plays Thursday, October 20; "Motown Magic" plays Tuesday, February 14, 2006; and "Suds, the Rockin' Sixties Musical" plays Monday, March 20, 2006. All shows begin at 7:30 p.m. at Mathis Auditorium.

"This is a great offering of different performances, with four professional nationally touring shows that will be enjoyed by longtime patrons as well as newcomers," noted Paula Brown, executive director of the Turner Center. Season tickets for all four shows are on sale now at the Turner Center, 527 Patterson Street, Valdosta, 247-2787. The four-show package costs \$125; tickets for individual shows are \$39 each.

"The season ticket package offers a significant savings, and guarantees consistent, reserved seats for all four shows," Brown said. Season ticket holders are also automatically invited to the pre-performance dinners sponsored by the Center for the Arts Guild in Mathis' all-purpose room. The cost for the themed catered dinners is \$20, and includes two drinks. "You can have a wonderful candlelight dinner and walk across the lobby to the show." Tickets may be purchased by visiting or calling the Turner Center, 527 North Patterson Street, 247-2787. Additional information is available on the website: turnercenter.org.

Each year, the Presenter Series Committee of the Turner Center Board researches, recruits and negotiates the season's shows. The committee includes Bruce Sumner, co-chair; Bob Harrison, former longtime committee chair; Lena Bosch, former committee chair; Mary Gooding, former Board Chair; Nancy Warren, current committee chair; and Paula Brown, executive director of the Turner Center for the Arts.

The 2005 Presenter Series is sponsored by Ambling Companies, Georgia Power, South Georgia Pecan, the families of Dr. James Sinnott and Dr. Edward Fricker, and the Valdosta Daily Times. "We are indeed grateful to our sponsors, who help us bring top quality shows to Valdosta, while maintaining affordable prices," Brown said.



Barbra & Frank~ The Concert that Never Was

The first show of the season, October 20, pairs two incomparable artists: Sharon Owens as Streisand and Sebastian Anzaldo as Sinatra.

Owens, who sang on the FOX television network series "Performing As . . .," sings the lower ballads of Streisand's career, including "People," "Evergreen," and "Woman in Love." "When Sharon

Owens took the stage, I almost fell off my chair," noted Jerry Greenburg, president of Atlantic Records. "She is a dead ringer. Sharon has the look, the voice, even the nose!"

Anzaldo captures the audience with "I've Got the World on a String," "Come Fly with Me," "That's Life," and "My Way." "Sebastian Anzaldo resembles and sounds like a young, handsome Frank," said Showbiz magazine of his performance. The show promises to be a stunning opener for the Presenter Series.



Call (247-2787) or visit the Turner Center soon for season tickets.

Motown Magic

Forget reality and celebrate the 60s, 70s and 80s with the most memorable Motown stars and hits as the sounds of the Temptations, Four Tops, and Supremes rock Mathis Auditorium on February 14, 2006.

"This show has had great success in Las Vegas, and should be a memorable tribute to the stars and music of Motown," Brown said. Gurtman & Murtha of New York, who brought the popular "Legends of Rock and Rock" here in April, are producers of Motown Magic. "This show should be just as good, if not better!" predicted Sumner.

Cats

The show that revolutionized musical theatre and captured seven Tony Awards is celebrating its 25th Anniversary in Valdosta on Monday, January 23, 2006. "Troika Entertainment (producers of last season's highly successful "Fiddler on the Roof") and Cat's Eye productions are bringing "Cats" to us," explained Bruce Sumner, committee co-chair.

"Cats" has the distinction of being the longest running musical in both London and New York, as well as the longest running touring show ever! Five continents, 26 countries, over eight and a half million audience members and 25 years later, "Cats" is still America's most loved family musical.

Based on T.S. Eliot's Old Possum's Book of Practical Cats, and with music by Andrew Lloyd Webber, "Cats" won seven 1983 Tony Awards including Best Musical, Best Book of a Musical, Best Lighting and Best Costumes.

"This show has been requested over and over again," Brown said. "After a year of negotiations by the Presenter Series Committee, we are extremely proud to bring this wonderful family musical to Valdosta."





Suds

"Suds," the rockin' sixties musical, concludes the Presenter Series on March 20, 2006. "This show celebrated record crowds in Jacksonville this summer, with a week-long engagement," Brown noted.

It's the swinging sixties, "Camelot" in the White House, and the hula hoop is all the rage. Cindy, the broken-hearted girl next door, sits alone in a Laundromat, desperate to commit "suicide by speed cycle." Her hilarious attempts are thwarted by three rockin' guardian angels.

"Suds" incorporates 50 classic rock songs including "Where the Boys Are," "These Boots are Made for Walking," "Shout!" "Easier Said than Done" and "Johnny Angel."

"Suds" is a fun, light-hearted way to conclude the season," Sumner said.

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

To submit items for publication in the January-February-March 2006 issue, please email to Nancy Warren at warrennd@bellsouth.net by Tuesday, November 1, 2005.

OCTOBER

Saturday, October 1
Valdosta Symphony Orchestra presents "Winnersville Winners and Wolfgang!" VSU Whitehead Auditorium, 8 p.m. This concert features Andres Diaz's cello and Tayloe Harding's spirited overture on Valdosta themes entitled "Winning Azaleas." Call 333-2150 for more information.

Saturday, October 1 - 7
Valdosta State University (VSU) Fine Arts Gallery presents "Contemporary Sculpture by Martin Brief, Michael McFalls and Jo Stealey." Free.

Saturday, October 1-31
Wild Adventures Super Park "Phobia," an all-new Halloween Scarefest, debuts, as Wild Adventures puts a new face on fear. Dare to brave your deepest fears in the dark recesses of new haunted houses, fearsome forests, a terrifying train ride and other ghastly delights. Call 219-7080 for more information.

Monday, October 3
Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts Exhibit Openings for Karin Murray, painter; Dalene McBride, painter; Southern Artists' League, group exhibit; Lowndes High School art students. Reception open to the public, 5:30 p.m. Call 247-2787 for more information.

Thursday, October 6 - Wednesday, October 12
VSU Theatre presents "Nevermore!" (Oct. 6-8, 10-12, 7:30 p.m.; Matinee at 3 p.m. Oct. 9) Sawyer Theatre, VSU Fine Arts Building. Based on "The Raven," the play speculates about what may have happened to Edgar Allen Poe when he disappeared for five days and was discovered delirious on a Baltimore street, shortly before his death. Call 333-5973 for more information.

Friday, October 7
"First Friday" 6 - 9 p.m. Visit downtown Valdosta for something special, the first Friday of each month. The event showcases Downtown Valdosta and includes special sales, guest artists, refreshments and music. Participating businesses include Art Effects, Hildegards, Truffles, The Galleria, and many more.

Saturday, October 8
Wild Adventures Super Park "Robert Englund, AKA Freddy Krueger from Nightmare on Elm Street." 4 - 7 p.m. Englund makes a terrifying visit to the park as part of "Phobia!" For more information, call 219-7080.

Friday, October 14
Theatre Guild Valdosta presents "Ladies in Retirement." Dosta Playhouse, 122 N. Ashley St. Show runs October 14, 15, 20, 21, 22, 27, 28, 29 at 8 p.m. Matinee on Oct. 23, 2:30 p.m. Thursday evening shows include dinner; reservations are required. Call 247-8243 (24-STAGE) for more information.

Saturday, October 15 - Sunday, October 23
Center for the Arts Guild "Rug Show." Annette



By Nancy DeRuyter Warren



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Howell Turner Center for the Arts, 527 North Patterson Street. Call 247-2787 for more information.

Tuesday, October 18
 "Blues in Bennies."
 Tentatively scheduled for 6 – 9 in Bennie's Alley. Please call 259-3577 to confirm date and times. The event will feature live jazz, fabulous food by downtown restaurants and a community project.

Wednesday, October 19 - Saturday, November 5
 VSU Fine Arts Gallery presents "2-D Small Works by Randy Akers, Robert Brinkerhoff, & David English." Reception: October 24, 7 - 8:30 p.m.

Thursday, October 20
 Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts presents "Barbra & Frank . . . The Concert that Never Was!" The sounds of Sinatra and Streisand kick off the Turner Center's Presenter Series of nationally touring Broadway shows. Mathis Auditorium, 7:30 p.m. Tickets available at the Turner Center, 527 N. Patterson St., 247-2787. Season tickets for four shows, "Barbra & Frank," "Cats," "Motown Magic," and "Suds, the Rockin' Sixties Musical," are \$125; individual tickets are \$39 each; special student price, with ID, \$15. Call 247-ARTS (2787) for more information. Pre-show themed and catered dinner,

sponsored by the Center for the Arts Guild, begins at 6 p.m. Dinner and two drinks is \$20 per person, and advance reservations are necessary (247-2787). Enjoy dinner and a show!

Thursday, October 27 - Saturday, October 29
 "Discount Children's Wear Sale." James H. Rainwater Conference Center. Free. www.thechildrensoutlet.com

NOVEMBER

Friday, November 4
 "First Friday." Downtown Valdosta, 6 – 9 p.m. Join downtown businesses such as Art Effects, Hildegards,

Truffles, The Galleria and more, for special sales, guest artists, refreshments and musical performances. For more information, call 259-3577.

Saturday, November 5
 Valdosta Symphony Orchestra presents "Community Tribute" featuring pianist Valentina Lisitsa. VSU Whitehead Auditorium, 8 p.m. Call 333-2150 for more information.

Saturday, November 5
 Wild Adventures Super Park. "Casting Crowns, Building 429 and Speaker Tony Nolan" 6 p.m. Call 219-7080 for more information.



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Saturday, November 5 -
Sunday, November 6
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Sunday, November 6
 "Lofts & Lifestyles: A
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Thursday, November 10 -
Saturday, November 19
 VSU Theatre presents
 "Scrooge," a musical version
 of Dickens' "A Christmas
 Carol." (Nov. 10-12, Nov.
 14-19, 7:30 p.m.; Matinee
 at 3 p.m., Nov. 13.) Sawyer
 Theatre, VSU Fine Arts
 Building. For more infor-
 mation, call 333, 5820

Friday, November 11 -
Saturday, November 12
 "Diamond Cheer & Dance."
 James H. Rainwater
 Conference Center. For
 more information,
 904-743-3058.

Saturday, November 12
 Valdosta Symphony Guild's
 annual Symphony Ball.
 Valdosta Country Club,

6:30 p.m. Dinner and
 dancing at Valdosta's
 premier ball, supporting
 the children's programs of
 the Valdosta Symphony
 Orchestra. To receive an
 invitation or for more
 information, call 333-2150.

Sunday, November 13 -
Monday, December 5
 VSU Fine Arts Gallery
 presents "Senior
 Exhibition." Free.

Friday, November 12 -
December 30
 Wild Adventures Super
 Park "Christmas
 Wonderland." Join Wild
 Adventures during the most
 magical time of the year as
 dazzling sights, melodious
 sounds and tantalizing aro-
 mas are woven into a tapes-
 try of holiday enchantment.
 Call 219-7080 for more
 information.

Saturday, November 19 -
Sunday, November 20
 Valdosta Junior Service
 League's Arts & Crafts
 Show. James H. Rainwater
 Conference Center.
 Saturday early show hours,
 8 - 10 a.m.; regular Saturday
 hours 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.;
 Sunday 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.
www.vjsl.org/acshow.html
 for more information.

Saturday, November 19
 Wild Adventures Super
 Park "Pat Green." 2 p.m.
 Call 219-7080 for more
 information. Saturday,
 November 26 Wild
 Adventures Super Park
 "Lorrie Morgan's Christmas
 Show." 7 p.m. Call 219-
 7080 for more information.

DECEMBER

Thursday, December 1 – Saturday, December 31
Wild Adventures Super Park
"Christmas Wonderland."

This celebration captures the spirit of the season with an astounding array of more than five million brilliant lights and animated displays, captivating shows and attractions, and holiday culinary delights.

Friday, December 2
"First Friday." 6 – 9 p.m.
Join downtown for something special on the Friday of each month. First Friday includes special exhibits, guest artists, refreshments, and musical performances. Participants include The Effects, Hildegards, Truffles, The Galleria and many more! Call the Main Street office at 259-3577 for more information.

Friday, December 2
"TERRY MACALMON in Concert, an Evening of Praise and Worship." James H. Rainwater Conference Center. Admission \$12.

Saturday, December 3
"WinterFest: A Magical Holiday Experience & Parade." Downtown kicks off the holiday season with this festive celebration, running from 10 a.m. – 5 p.m., with the Parade beginning at 5 p.m. Downtown activities include craft and food vendors, horse drawn carriage rides, trolley rides, live entertainment, children's activities, and visits with Santa! For more information, call 259-3577.

Saturday, December 3
Valdosta Symphony Orchestra presents "Pops Go the Holidays." VSU Whitehead Auditorium, 8 p.m. Call 333-2150 for more information.

Sunday, December 4
Valdosta Symphony Orchestra presents the "Family Experience Concert." VSU Whitehead Auditorium, 3 p.m. This shorter family-friendly version of "Pops Go the Holidays" caters to families with young children, and special ticket prices apply. Call 333-2150 for more information.

Monday, December 5
Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts.
Opening reception for R.W. Herdon, painter; Haley Hyatt-Rosenberg and Marcia Hardin, two-person painting exhibition; the African Art Collection permanent exhibit; and the Regional High School Invitational Exhibit." Reception 5:30 – 7 p.m. Free.

Thursday, December 8 – Saturday, December 10
Theatre Guild Valdosta presents "Too Wrapped Up for Christmas." Children's Play. Dosta Playhouse, 122 N. Ashley Street. Call 24-STAGE for more information.

Sunday, December 11
Lake Park Tour of Homes by Lake Park Area Historical Society. Tickets \$10.00.

Saturday, December 17
Wild Adventures Super Park "Crystal Gayle & Lee Greenwood Christmas Show." 7 p.m. Call 219-7080 for more information.

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A Listing of Local Deaths in Our Community

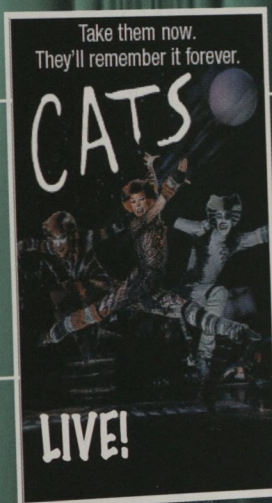
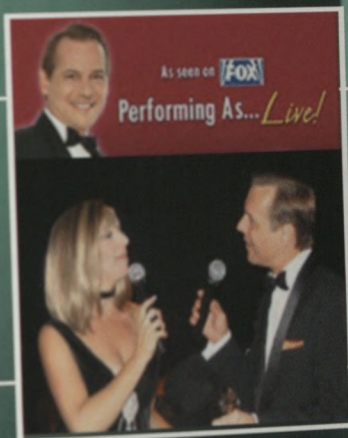
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Frances Funderburk 2/25/1926 - 4/1/2005	Z'Havion E. Prince 4/19/2005 - 4/20/2005	Cleone Hazen 5/31/1916 - 5/18/2005	Edgar 12/26/1916 - 5/18/2005	
Ira Felton Forthe 7/8/1933 - 4/1/2005	Frances 3/2/1911 - 4/22/2005	Amanda Perry 5/18/1971 - 5/18/2005	Benny 1/22/1911 - 4/22/2005	
Shirley F. Griffin 11/17/1948 - 3/30/2005	Allen Black 1/21/1947 - 4/23/2005	James B. Turner 12/8/1938 - 5/18/2005	Tracy T. 3/5/1971 - 4/23/2005	
Sammie K. Jamerson 6/2/1932 - 4/3/2005	Hollis Manning Courson 4/13/1922 - 4/24/2005	Jean R. Sheppard 6/9/1929 - 5/19/2005	Grace Evelyn Walker 12/19/1914 - 6/11/2005	Charles Edwin Cook 8/30/1938 - 4/18/2005
Jerry W. Giddens 12/22/1945 - 4/4/2005	Leon Franklin Ward 12/21/1922 - 4/25/2005	Edna Ivey 2/26/1913 - 5/19/2005	C. Howard Hall 11/3/1933 - 6/12/2005	Robert Earl Slaughter 8/20/1961 - 4/28/2005
Bryce J. Burns 4/5/2005 - 4/5/2005	Ronald L. Wentworth 5/25/1939 - 4/25/2005	Carro Nell Talley 3/10/1917 - 5/20/2005	Justin Taylor Hobdy 8/13/1983 - 6/12/2005	Donald Guess 3/31/1934 - 4/29/2005
Alice J. Jackson 11/16/1931 - 4/5/2005	Burnice (Skeeter) Hiers 10/12/1942 - 4/25/2005	Eugenia Morris 9/30/1955 - 5/21/2005	James Charles Cooper 2/8/1932 - 6/13/2005	Nina Kate Spurlock 7/10/1921 - 4/30/2005
Faye Zipperer 10/10/1934 - 4/6/2005	Elva Louise Nelson 8/15/1927 - 4/25/2005	Evelyn "Baba" Nadack 5/30/1924 - 5/25/2005	Cecil M. Pitts 10/15/1916 - 6/14/2005	Virginia T. Lewis 6/21/1925 - 5/5/2005
Edward John Eckert 11/19/1939 - 4/7/2005	Wyolene C. Nichols 9/6/1933 - 4/30/2005	Gladys C. Williams 10/11/1926 - 5/25/2005	Froylan Garcia 6/8/2005 - 6/14/2005	James "Jimmy" Parker 8/9/1938 - 5/11/2005
George A. Berry 3/18/1920 - 4/8/2005	Jerry Duncan Tillman 7/30/1917 - 4/30/2005	Philip Jay Phelps 9/28/1974 - 5/25/2005	Alyea Jean Anderson 12/12/2002 - 6/14/2005	Wilton Adams 11/17/1936 - 5/24/2005
Colleen Jo Roycroft 5/12/1970 - 4/10/2005	Juanito Cortez 4/19/1954 - 5/2/2005	Clarence W. Fomby 5/14/1911 - 5/25/2005	Randall Keith Harmon 12/17/1957 - 6/16/2005	Norvell L. Futch 10/28/1917 - 6/26/2005
Janet Warren 7/24/1961 - 4/10/2005	Belle W. Cowart 4/14/1921 - 5/2/2005	Geraldine E. Backensto 7/25/1931 - 5/28/2005	Bert "Jerry" Birbiglia Jr. 11/18/1959 - 6/17/2005	Ernest Francis Vandlandeghem 7/28/1931 - 6/27/2005
John Michael Calyore 6/7/1947 - 4/12/2005	John Terry (T.J.) Smith 5/3/1913 - 5/4/2005	Charles Harper 1/12/1933 - 5/30/2005	Roger George Atchison 9/17/1934 - 6/17/2005	Earl Grey Johnson 5/25/1925 - 6/30/2005
Thomas Preston McDade 6/20/1931 - 4/12/2005	Richard T. Lineberger 2/23/1914 - 5/5/2005	Nancy Holmes 12/4/1921 - 5/29/2005	Darenda McCool 10/17/1949 - 6/18/2005	Frank Parker Wise 3/22/1943 - 6/30/2005
Willie David Norris 8/10/1916 - 4/12/2005	Robert H. Folsom 1/2/1936 - 5/5/2005	F. G. (Tex) Eldridge 9/27/1905 - 5/30/2005	Ellsworth Riley Brown 7/14/1929 - 6/18/2005	Dixie Lightsey 11/30/1908 - 4/10/2005
Toy Alice Rowan 12/25/1928 - 4/13/2005	Eloise Nichols 3/12/1931 - 5/6/2005	William "Bill" Frierson 5/12/1933 - 6/1/2005	Forrest Smith 4/21/1910 - 6/18/2005	Stan Herring 11/5/1963 - 4/13/2005
Grace H. Brooks 1/22/1917 - 4/13/2005	Eucelle Turner 9/11/1923 - 5/6/2005	Evelyn D. Knopf 12:00:00 AM - 6/3/2005	Jodie P. Griggs 2/25/1961 - 6/19/2005	Norma Frances Delaney 8/2/1937 - 4/20/2005
Inez Dempsey 8/7/1936 - 4/13/2005	Sara Antulov 9/23/1923 - 5/8/2005	Ulmer B. McCranie 9/28/1908 - 6/4/2005	Bernard M. McDermott 8/19/1934 - 6/18/2005	Robert A. Copeland 3/2/1927 - 5/4/2005
Estelle Scruggs 1/18/1912 - 4/14/2005	Joe L. Tucker 4/13/1934 - 5/9/2005	P.C. Carter 4/26/1912 - 6/4/2005	Elmer Wilson Knowles 10/8/1928 - 6/20/2005	Nellie Mae Childs 2/13/1921 - 5/16/2005
Roberta English 1/16/1916 - 4/14/2005	Timothy E. (T.E.) Bland 12/23/1911 - 5/10/2005	Emma Lee Byrd 7/30/1921 - 6/5/2005	Carl Ray Bennett 10/17/1942 - 6/20/2005	Andy Phillips 6/11/1966 - 6/19/2005
William Nordin Reed 3/4/1924 - 4/15/2005	Louise Westbrook 2/28/1911 - 5/10/2005	Donald E. Gerlock 12/15/1918 - 6/5/2005	Jean A. Karparis 10/30/1916 - 6/21/2005	Madelyn Bentley 7/21/1922 - 6/19/2005
Katy Bell Hyde 4/4/1918 - 4/17/2005	Sara Lou Rivers 11/1/1918 - 5/12/2005	Sharon Kaye Haaland 9/22/1941 - 6/5/2005	Mildred Porter Daniell 4/14/1922 - 6/25/2005	Clara Lee Hughes 3/21/1911 - 6/25/2005
Will D. Burgsteiner 3/24/1922 - 4/18/2005	Harvey H. Chapman 10/5/1919 - 5/12/2005	Thomas Ike Carter 3/30/1924 - 6/5/2005	Peggy Thompson 2/10/1930 - 6/26/2005	
Eloise McMullen 4/28/1927 - 4/18/2005	Seleena Nicole Kinsman 5/14/2005 - 5/14/2005	Andrea Tyra McKinney 6/3/2005 - 6/3/2005	Jesse P. "Buck" Davis 8/27/1947 - 6/26/2005	
Roy L. Murphy 11/6/1932 - 4/22/2005	Elizabeth L. Darnell 6/12/1924 - 5/18/2005	Deborah Strom 9/28/1971 - 6/8/2005	Nancy Sealy Coker 4/18/1934 - 6/27/2005	

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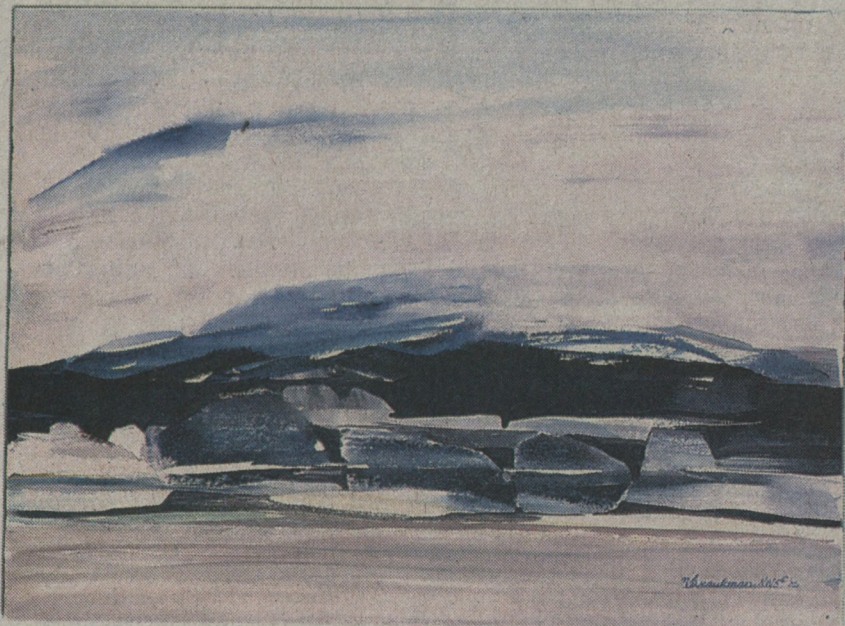
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ABOVE: 'Overflow,' watercolor/collage, artist Mary Braukman.

RIGHT: 'Friends in Coats of Many Colors,' artist Mary Braukman.

GALLERY

"Oodles of Options" is scheduled to open with a free, public reception, 5-7 p.m. Monday, Price-Campbell Gallery, Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts, 527 N. Patterson St. Show runs through Feb. 25. Also opening with a reception Monday are "Capture the Moment," Sallie and Harmon Boyette Gallery, featuring watercolors by artist Eluster Richardson; "Natural Abstractions: Color Prints from the Tree Series," Lowndes/Valdosta Arts Commission Gallery, featuring artist Kathryn Kolb's nature photography; Cook High School Student Art Exhibition, Roberta George Children's Gallery, featuring works by the students of teacher David Rowswell. Gallery hours: 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Tuesdays through Thursdays; 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays; 1-4 p.m. Sundays; closed Mondays (except on show opening dates). Admission: Free. More information: Call 247-2787.

Something About Marys

Three Marys open an expressive exhibit at arts center

By Dean Poling
dean.poling@gafnews.com

VALDOSTA

Officially, the name of this exhibit is "Oodles of Options," but it is really too tempting to keep from calling it the Three Marys, scheduled to open Monday as one of four new shows at the Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts.

The "Oodles" show features regional artists Mary Braukman, Mary Elizabeth Fisher and Mary Ann Staples. All three are painters and all three possess intriguing insights of vision for their subjects. Judging from advanced slides of their work, each Mary has a palpable grasp of color and its uses.

Yet, it is the use of these colors and the shaping of each composition which sets each Mary apart.

Staples' canvasses are peopled with interesting characters, subtly moody cartoon shapes in some cases, but the colors invest these characters with a verve of fun and thought. Staples works primarily in watercolors, showing a mastery of the form. She enjoys the "transparent versus opaque medium." She combines her knowledge of printmaking to create textures to her watercolor and pencil works. Her works seem perfect for children to view and Staples has taught children art for many years. "I enjoy watercolor as a creative and exciting medium that children can use without damage to themselves or the environment," Staples says in an artistic statement.

Braukman combines watercolor with elements of collage to create abstract expressions of color and composition. Textured works built from many levels to create varied levels of insight. One of her advanced slides includes a piece, "Friends in Coats of Many Colors," that resembles the intriguing swirls and vivid colors of something akin to a Peter Max psychedelic painting of the '60s. Yet, more fascinating is that each of Braukman's pieces, again from the advanced slides, seems to incorporate a different style and technique. "As a painter, my primary goal is to create a natural feeling of motion, dimension, and texture," Braukman says in an artistic statement. "I want to encourage the viewer ... to feel adventure in my work. Many of my ideas come from my travels as I see clouds, water, land formations and abstract forms."

Fisher's watercolors and compositions appear to almost swirl in a dance of rhythms, whether the subject matter is a series of lamps or a more abstract piece. Other pieces, such as "Sisters," are blocked and effective in capturing a somber moodiness, again, judging from previews of her advanced slides. "When I first started painting, color was an important ingredient in motivating me toward watercolors," Fisher says in an artistic statement. "Drawing and painting in an abstract or semi-realistic style, I like to complete some designs and partially complete others in my work, thereby enticing the viewer to mentally complete them and become co-creator with me. It's more challenging to me to transcend the subject matter than to report it."



'Sisters,' watercolor, artist Mary Elizabeth Fisher.



'Light Up Your Life,' watercolor, artist Mary Elizabeth Fisher.



LEFT: 'Nite to Howl,' watercolor, artist Mary Anne Staples.



RIGHT: 'Standing Tall,' watercolor, artist Mary Anne Staples.