

COMING FRIDAY IN BREAK: Women celebrate their strength as 'Steel Magnolias' NEXT SUNDAY IN ARTS &amp; BOOKS: Gaston Dancers hit the road

## HAPPENINGS

## Art

## Student work

Art students will exhibit their work 1-5 p.m. May 28 at Stowe Manor in Belmont.

The show, "The Dutch Masters," will have about 300 works, including charcoal, pencil, oils and acrylics. The students have been studying the works of Dutch artists this year.

The manor is at 217 S. Central Ave.

## Winners

"Pensive," a watercolor by Shirley Brutko of Kings Mountain, won The People's Choice Award at the current Southern Arts Society Show.

"I AM WOMAN" will be on display at the Kings Mountain Art Center through June 9.

Sponsor awards went to Shirley Calhoun Williams of Gastonia for "Mother," Joyce Netzler of Rock Hill for "Finishing Touches," Lynn B. Roe of Shelby for "Maiden, Mother, Crone," Lori Lytle of Shelby for "Pink Figure" and Jewel Baldwin of Charlotte for "At Momma's Knee."

## Show couple

An artistic couple will have their first joint exhibition at the Dalton Gallery in Rock Hill, S.C., beginning Monday.

"Floating/Grounded" is a mixed media exhibit by Tom and Kathe Rice Stanley. It will be on display through June 26.

Tom Stanley is director of Winthrop University Galleries and Kathe Rice Stanley is art educator at Richmond Drive Elementary School.

## Museums

## Toys and games

A new exhibit at the Kings Mountain Historical Museum will feature early 20<sup>th</sup> century toys and games.

Items on display include metal trucks, cars and planes, wind-up toys, tea sets, board games and books. The exhibit will be up through September.

The museum also will work with the Mauney Memorial Library this summer on "Paws, Claws, Scales and Tales." The program of games with animal names will be at 11 a.m. on Tuesdays at the museum.

Summer hours are 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Tuesday through Friday.

## For volunteers

The Gaston County Museum will hold a training session Tuesday for people who would like to volunteer there.

The museum has exhibits and programs on history and art. It also holds an outdoor concert series during the summer months.

Volunteers are needed to greet visitors, work in the gift shop or office, guide school groups and help with collections and archives.

The training session will be held at the museum 10 a.m.-11 a.m. For more information, contact Jeff Pruett, program coordinator at (704) 922-7681, extension 105.

## Literature

## Poetry reading

Gaston College will host a poetry reading by Sallie Nixon and Wayne Lundquist on June 7. The free reading will be at 10:30 a.m. at Morris Library on the Dallas campus.

Nixon will read from "A Kind of Peace" while Lundquist will read from "Poetry of Faith" and "She's the Well that I Drink From."

## BEST SELLERS

Fiction best sellers for the week, according to Publishers Weekly:

- 1 Beach Road** James Patterson, Peter de Jonge (Little, Brown)
- 2 Mother: A Cradle to Hold Me** Maya Angelou (Random House)
- 3 Two Little Girls in Blue** Mary Higgins Clark (Simon & Schuster)
- 4 Digging in America** Anne Tyler (Knopf)
- 5 Promise Me** Harlan Coben (Dutton)

Non-fiction best sellers for the week, according to Publishers Weekly:

- 1 Marley and Me** John Grogan (Morrow)
- 2 Mayflower** Nathaniel Philbrick (Viking)
- 3 You: The Owner's Manual** M. Roizen, M. Oz (HarperCollins)
- 4 Don't Make a Black Woman ...** Tyler Perry (Riverhead)
- 5 Burnt Toast** Teri Hatcher (Hyperion)



# Accidental artist

Hickory artist didn't mean to paint for a living, but he's doing it

By NANCY MOORE  
Gazette Staff Reporter

Kent Paulette began painting in high school in Hickory, never thinking it could lead to a career as an artist.

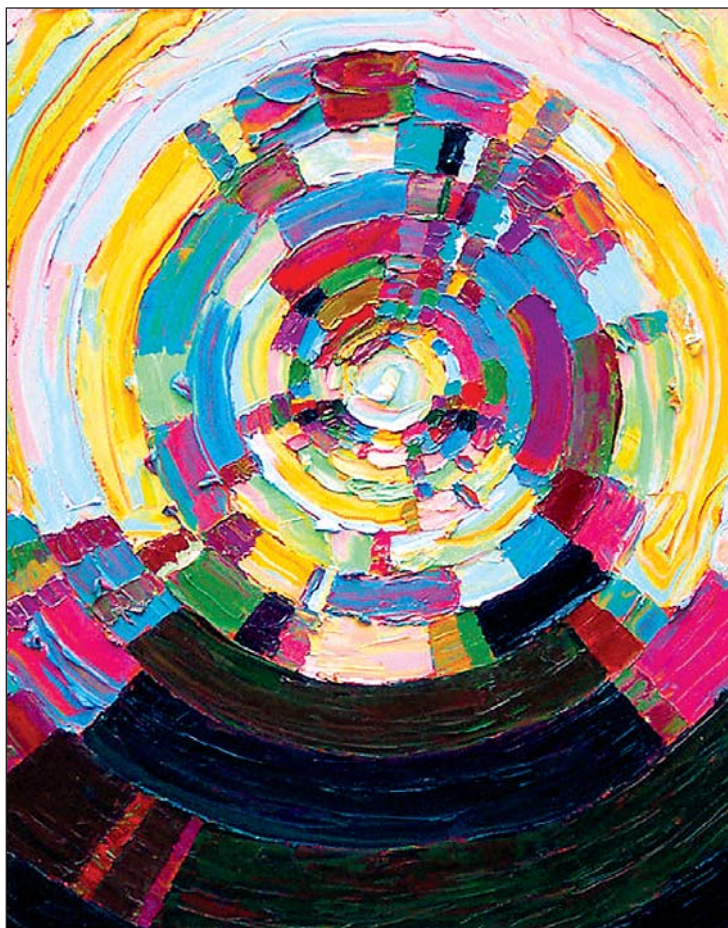
## Want to go?

Art by Derfla, Newron-Conover Civic & Performance Place, 60 W. Sixth St., through June 16. Call (828) 464-8100. Or see Derfla's work at his Web site, [www.derfla.tv](http://www.derfla.tv).

Paulette, who paints under the name Derfla, has a one-man show up at the Newton-Conover Civic and Performance Place. Derfla is "Alfred" spelled backwards, a name he adopted in a high school French class.

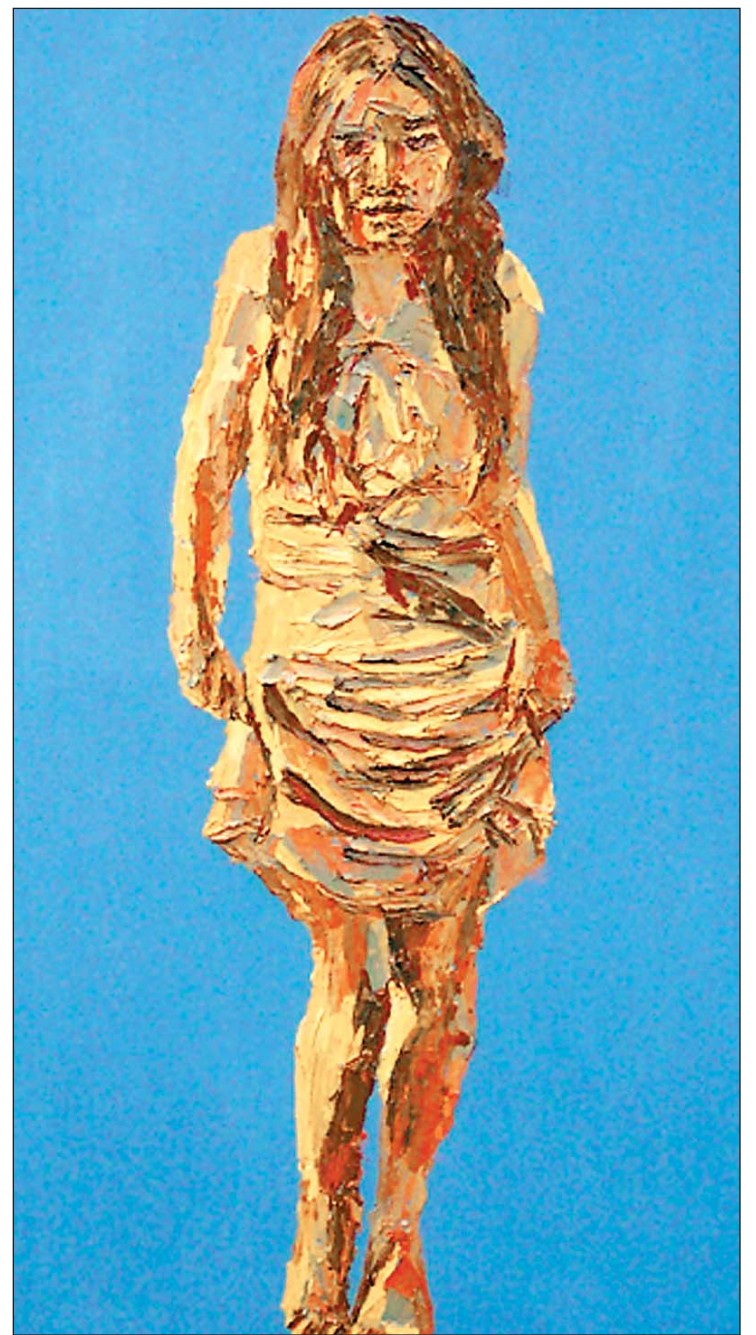
He credits his artistic leaning to his parents. "Music was a big part of our homelife," Paulette said. "We always had art."

Portraits make up a large portion of his portfolio. Some are people he knows and others he's never met, such as musicians or politicians. He also paints self-portraits.



In addition to big shows like this one, Paulette displays at small outlets, such as restaurants and coffeehouses.

He jokes he has to exhibit his paintings "to get 'em out of the house." He enjoys getting reaction to his artwork, "talking to



people about my paintings." Pursuing an artistic career can be a solitary life.

"I have a few close friends," Paulette said, "but I spend a lot of time by myself," he said.

He'll hole up in his studio, where he sometimes creates by havoc.



"My studio is very messy," Paulette said. "Sometimes, I'll stand six feet away from the canvas and just throw big gobs of paint at it."

"There's so much chance to it. I just let go and let it happen."

You can reach Nancy Moore at (704) 869-1829.

## Gaston artists appear in Shelby sculpture show

Two Gaston County artists have work on display at the Cleveland County Arts Center in Shelby.

"I use the circle form as a base to work from," said sculptor Jan Craft of Gastonia.

"Its simplicity lends itself to be used freely without being intrusive on images contained within. It is a basic shape which has been used in many cultures to symbolize similar ideas."

## Want to go?

"Imagination Taking Form," Cleveland County Arts Center, 111 E. Washington St., Shelby, through June 8. Free.

Rudisill uses acid to tone

down the sheen of his sculptures.

"It's almost instant aging," he said.

"You brush it on with a paint brush but you use protective clothing and a respirator."

Other artists with works in the show include Bill Brown of Linville Falls, Dan Millsbaugh of Asheville, Bonnie Price of Shelby, Harry Seng of Morganton and Bob Trotman of Casar.



Works by Gastonia artists Rudy Rudisill (left) and Jan Craft (above).

# Library offers summer programs for kids

When area youth begin their summer vacation in early June, kids and parents will be looking for fun activities to fill those out-of-

school days. One of the most-popular resources for children's summer events is local Gaston-

Lincoln Regional Library locations.

Summer children's events include a variety of happenings for all ages, including weekly Toddler Time and Story Time programs, guest artist performances featuring story-



CAROL REINHARDT  
At the Library

telling, music and puppetry, hands-on crafts and arts sessions, book-based film showings and games, as well as presentations by community helpers such as veterinarians, firefighters, park rangers, trained dogs and animal rescue volunteers and local pet suppliers.

Each of our 13 public library locations has planned a special

## Next week

Meet Jeri Fitzgerald Board author of "The Bed She Was Born In."

from preschool through elementary-school age participatory opportunities that mix fun, creativity, and learning experiences while emphasizing the importance of books and recreational reading.

Through such events, chil-

dren and their parents will learn more about the surrounding world as well as explore the inner world of imagination.

From a facts-and-fun program about reptiles at the Stanley Branch Library on June 15, to learning about pet care and safety on June 21 at the Bessemer City Branch Library, kids can meet and interact with both wild and domesticated animals of all kinds.

Gaston-Lincoln Regional Library branches are located in Belmont, Bessemer City, Cherryville, Dallas, Denver, Lincanton, Lowell, Mount Holly, Stanly, Vale, in Gastonia on

Garrison Boulevard and Union Road, and at the Erwin Recreation Center.

Please note that, due to space limitations, pre-registration is required for some events. Pre-registration is also required for organized groups.

For more information about children's summer library activities, visit your local Gaston-Lincoln Regional Library location, call (704) 868-2164, extension 3 or visit [www.glr.lib.nc.us](http://www.glr.lib.nc.us).

Carol Reinhardt is program coordinator for The Gaston County Public Library.