

## MEET CYNDI PERRY

### Featured Artist for the Art Exhibit at City Hall



A country gal at heart, Cyndi has fond memories of living and working in the Rico Community in the early 1980s. Her family home bordered Capps Ferry and Whiteside Roads before Fulton County bought the land for South Fulton Parkway, her backyard was a pasture framed by tall pines and a barbwire fence she built which still stands today.

Cyndi was one of the lucky few who found their dream jobs right in their own backyards. She worked at Chabboquasset Farm for a while, breaking horses and then later working as the barn manager. When Fulton County repurposed the vacant Rico Elementary School (now Chatt Hills city hall) and opened it as the Rico Recreation Center in 1982, Cyndi was hired as the assistant director and later promoted to director. The 10 years Cyndi spent at the Rico Recreation Center fulfilled her two passions: working with the community and sharing her artistic creativity with others.

#### PAINTING STYLE – BOLD, LOUD, AND WHIMSICAL

Cyndi is a self-taught artist who has been painting for as long as she can remember. When asked to describe her artistic style she said, “It’s bold and loud, just like me. I use lots of bold colors because they make me happy. As for being loud, that comes from my years of speaking up to be heard over the children at the Recreation Center. In that same way, my paintings seem to say, ‘Attention! Looky here.’”

While Cyndi does paint more realistic images, she is quick to say her preference is whimsical art, her inspiration comes from her family and rural life.

“We currently live on a rural property just outside of Chattahoochee Hills. It has a modest home, a large pond, and 10-acres for roaming. My morning walks are filled with peace and quiet, afternoons are spent fishing in the pond or working the vegetable garden – my husband Dennis and I are both master gardeners. My adult children, Shane England and Amber McElwaney, visit often and volunteer with the Rico Park ball league with Lila Rhyne.

While this sounds more tame than bold, Cyndi also said she’s truly a country girl. “I’m not scared to get muddy or dirty – and not afraid of snakes either. I love animals – all kinds of them. One of my friends calls me ‘the pig whisperer’ after I helped him round up his baby pigs and then took several of them back to my place to raise.”

#### ABOUT CYNDI’S EXHIBIT

When Cyndi was invited to exhibit at city hall, we asked if she might display paintings that spoke to the rural heritage of the area. Cyndi said it was an honor – and a dream – to exhibit her work, especially in the beloved Rico Community where she once lived and worked.

Her exhibit includes a series of rural buildings including the old barn and store at Cackle Corner and the Cochran Mill, plus a variety of whimsical farm animals, and a few more realistic paintings.

All of Cyndi’s paintings are available for sale, and she accepts commissions as well.

**To purchase or commission a painting, contact Cyndi: [cynthiaperry2889@att.net](mailto:cynthiaperry2889@att.net).**