

# Valley Life

## San Luis Valley art displayed at state capitol

DENVER — On January 28 Dorothy M. Brandt, chair, San Luis Valley Museum, Mary Hoffman, executive director, Community Partnerships, Adams State, and Alamosa County Sheriff Dave Stong departed for Denver to attend a reception at the capitol with lieutenant governor.

The Valley group had worked together for more than a year to complete an art project through the Colorado Arts Council. By working together with Amy Laugesen, art program director, and with her advice and assistance, the group was able to get its unusual program before the selection committee. Two paintings were submitted and one was chosen for the show.

The project was begun by Sheriff Stong on a shoe-

string (often his) to help the inmates use their time in a way that would help them when they returned to the community. The museum put together an art show at the museum after asking the Community Partnerships to join the project.

Through them and the art department at Adams State College, the museum was able to choose the two works to be presented. This was the beginning of working to obtain instructors and students to work with the program.

The reason for the January 28 trip was to attend a reception in the office of Lt. Gov. Barbara O'Brien celebrating artists of Southern Colorado. Thirty-seven artists had been chosen including two others from this area.

In the past the museum had often referred to "the light at the end of the tunnel." However, it appeared really bright when museum representatives arrived at the capitol. They were warmly greeted by the lieutenant governor, her staff, the Colorado Arts Council and were especially pleased to be joined by the Valley's representatives, Senator Gail Schwartz and Representative Edward Vigil who happened to be in session. This gave the museum group an opportunity to spread the good grassroots work that is taking place throughout the wonderful San Luis Valley.

The artwork is expected to be returned to Alamosa in time for the Art Walk, and it will be on display at the museum.



From left are Lt. Governor Barbara O'Brien, San Luis Valley Museum Chairman Dorothy M. Brandt, Senator Gail Schwartz, ASC Community Partnerships Executive Director Mary Hoffman and Alamosa County Sheriff Dave Stong.

