

Downtown Dining

Chessee's Coffee Shop

533 N. Trade Street
Phone: 703-1503
Hours: M-W 7 a.m.-8 p.m.
Thurs. and Fri. 7 a.m.-10 p.m.
Sat. 9 a.m. - 10 p.m.
Features gourmet coffees,
pastries.

Twin City Coffee

8 W. 3rd Street, Main Street
Entrance
Phone: 703-9850
Hours: M-F 7 a.m.- 3:30 p.m.
Features European desserts,
quiche, croissants, coffees, choco-
late candies.

Auction House Bar & Grill

(In the Sawtooth Building)
226 N. Marshall Street
Phone: 722-9005
Hours: M-Th. 10 a.m.-10 p.m.,
F-Sat. 10 a.m.-2 a.m.
Sunday brunch: 10 a.m.- 3 p.m.
Features gourmet deli lunches
and fine evening dining.

Ollie's Bakery

300 S. Marshall Street
Phone: 727.0404
Hours: Tu.-Fri. 7 a.m.- 5:30
p.m., Sat. 8 a.m.- 5 p.m., Sun. 8
a.m.- 4 p.m.
Features artisan breads,
fine pastries, coffee.

Tokyo Shapiro

215 W. 4th Street
Phone: 725-4141
Hours: M-Sat. 10:30 a.m.-6:30
p.m.
Features Asian foods.

Bon Appetite

101 W. 4th Street
Phone: 722-4222
Hours: M-F 7 a.m.-8 p.m.
Features breakfast, lunch
buffet, dinner.

The Bayberry at The Hawthorne Inn

420 High Street
Phone: 777-3000
Hours: M-S 6:30 a.m.-
10 p.m.
Features breakfast
standards/lunch buffet/fine dining
in evenings, Sunday brunch.

Continued on page 20

Listing information from the Downtown Westside-Salem Partnership. For more information on downtown projects and events, log onto www.dsqt.org.

Jazz is the official language at Speakeasy

BY T. KEVIN WALKER
THE CHRONICLE

Speakeasy Jazz won't turn one-year-old until October, but it has already won over a loyal fan base that not only wants – but has come to expect – some of the best music offered in these parts.

The club has settled in nicely along a stretch of Fourth Street that quirky eateries and the Stevens Center also call home.

Location:

410 W. 4th Street

Hours:

Sunday through Wednesday 5 p.m. to 11 p.m.; Thursday through Friday 5 p.m. to 2 a.m.; Saturdays 7 p.m. to 2 a.m. (There will be some extended hours during the NBTF.)

Cost:

\$5 cover charge on most nights (must be 21 or older to enter)

Phone number:

722-6555

Hypnotic notes from Speakeasy have charmed those who come downtown to watch movies featured in the Films on Fourth series or to enjoy the popular Friday outdoor concerts.

Co-owners Connie Graham and Heidi Andrew have been lifelong fans of jazz. They have been frequent guests at jazz clubs in larger cities.

"We used to go to jazz clubs all the time in California, and we knew there was nothing like that



Speakeasy owners Connie Graham and Heidi Andrew pose in their Fourth Street club.

here, and we really did not want to go back to a desk job, so we thought, 'What the heck, let's try to open one,'" Andrew said.

There is no mistake that Speakeasy is a place where jazz is played. The space has all the jazz club trimmings, from the small stage tucked into a corner, to the rows of tiny black and steel tables and chairs that expand the length of the room, to the retro-looking bar that's centered among it all.

Intimacy was a must, Graham said.

"All the big names in jazz performed in small, intimate spots, and that is what we wanted to have," she said.

Popular local jazz artists such as Joe Robinson, Cle Thompson

and Charles Greene have all called the Speakeasy stage home. The club welcomes the many styles that fall under the jazz label, and often a bit of blues is thrown into the mix.

"I think the variety of the style of jazz is refreshing to people...It is hard to wear it out," Graham said.

The two women also credit jazz for the eclectic crowds that come to Speakeasy each night.

"(Jazz) bridges all age groups, ethnicities, and financial groups," Andrew said. "That is one of the neat things about this club: We get such a cross of people in all of those categories."

Speakeasy's instant success has allowed the women to hire a

small staff. They are planning to bring on some extra help during the National Black Theatre Festival. The club also plans to expand its food menu a bit during the festival.

Speakeasy is open every night, so owners hope that night owls will stumble in after plays end.

"We want to provide something for folks who are looking for stuff to do in the late hours," Graham said.

On Aug. 8, Speakeasy will host an all-night jazz open mike jam session. The all night session will begin after a Joe Robinson concert that night. Everyone is invited to bring instruments to take part in the jam session.

Family disagreement is focus of actress Joyce Sylvester's play 'Faith on the Line'

CHRONICLE STAFF REPORT

Joyce Sylvester wore her acting hat the last time she came to the National Black Theatre Festival. She was the lady in red, Annie Talbert, in the 2001 Samm-Art Williams play "The Dance on Widow's Row."

This time around, Sylvester comes to the NBTF as director and playwright of "Faith on the Line." The play focuses on an African-American family struggling over issues that arise when the family inherits a Harlem brownstone. Disagreements about what to do with the building arise between four siblings over whether or not to sell the property or hold onto it as a symbol of the family's heritage. Gentrification of black communities is an underlying theme in

Venue:
NCSA's The Arena

Schedule:
Aug. 5 at 3 p.m. and 8 p.m.;
Aug. 6 at 3 p.m. and 8 p.m.; Aug. 7
at 3 p.m. and 8 p.m.

Price:
\$35

"Faith on the Line."

The dramatic comedy is being billed as a "battle cry" that will touch the hearts of audience members and enlighten them. The ensemble cast of "Faith on the Line" includes both veterans and newcomers. The play had a successful 10-week run at the Billie Holiday

Theatre in Brooklyn. The play is produced by Marjorie Moon, who received the Larry Leon Hamlin Producer Award at the 1999 NBTF. Moon also has produced Sylvester's other plays, "Mercedes" and "Grace in the Light," both of which were read at the NBTF.



Sylvester