Downtown Dining

Chelsee'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, chocolate 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.

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Jazz is the official language at Speakeasy

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:

Phone number

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

"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

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

The two women also credit jazz for the eelectic 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 fes-

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," Gra-

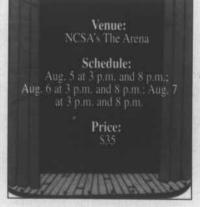
On Aug. 8. Speakeasy will host an all-night jazz open mike iam session. The all night session will begin after a Joe Robinson concert that night. Everyone is invited to bring instruments to

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

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



"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.