

ARTS & LIFESTYLE

Of Interest ...

Salsa contest making return

The Downtown Winston-Salem Farmers' Market will hold its Sixth Annual Tomato Salsa Contest on Thursday, Aug. 7 at 11 a.m.

Tomato Salsa judging will begin at 11:30 and winners will be announced at noon. To enter the salsa contest, send recipes to: Downtown Farmers' Market Salsa Contest, c/o A.S. Garland Marketing, 541-A Trade Street, Winston-Salem, NC 27101 or e-mail amy@asgarland.com. The deadline for entry is Friday, August 1. For more information call 336-724-2474.

The Downtown Winston-Salem Farmers' Market Salsa Contest has drawn entrants from across the county. From traditional to non-traditional, salsas are as diverse as the entrants themselves.

The market is open from 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. every Tuesday and Thursday through September. The vendors gather at the corner of Cherry and Sixth streets in Winston-Salem's downtown Arts District to sell fresh produce, baked goods, flowers, herbs, bedding plants and crafts. The Downtown Farmers' Market is operated by the City of Winston-Salem.

SECCA welcomes new curator

Steven Matijcio will become the new curator at the Southeastern Center for Contemporary Art (SECCA) on Aug. 1.



Matijcio

Born in Toronto, Canada and educated in New York, Matijcio has an accomplished background in the gallery and museum field. He has held positions at the National Gallery of Canada, the Art Gallery of Ontario, the Power Plant Contemporary Art Gallery and has organized projects across all media and themes. For the past three years he has worked as curator at

the Plug In Institute of Contemporary Art in Winnipeg, Manitoba, one of Canada's most respected and cutting edge institutions exhibiting contemporary art.

SECCA director Mark Leach says, "Steven's insight into international art practices will bring SECCA to the forefront of cutting-edge contemporary ideas and art-making on the global stage. His vision will provide a rich foundation for SECCA's program as we move into an exciting era in partnership with the North Carolina Museum of Art."

In December 2007, SECCA became an operating entity of the North Carolina Museum of Art and the North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources.

NCSA wins name change

The renaming of the "North Carolina School of the Arts" to "University of North Carolina School of the Arts" has been approved by the General Assembly and is expected soon to be signed into law by Gov. Mike Easley.

The name change will be effective Aug. 1. On July 9, the bill (Senate Bill 2015) passed in the House by the overwhelming margin of 115 to 1. The bill had already passed unanimously in the Senate, on June 24.

"We are excited and humbled by the support of the North Carolina General Assembly," said North Carolina School of the Arts Chancellor John Mauerci, who recently celebrated his second anniversary at the School. "This is a great time, an historic time for our School."

Jim DeCristo, the director of economic development and external affairs for the school, also applauded the vote.

"We believe the approval of our name change and the funding of our projects by the UNC Board of Governors and N.C. Legislature reflects a vote of confidence in the leadership, mission and future of our School," he said. "There is a lot of positive momentum building."

The North Carolina School of the Arts was the first state-supported, residential school of its kind in the nation. Established by the N.C. General Assembly in 1963, the School of the Arts opened in Winston-Salem in 1965 and became part of the University of North Carolina in 1972.

NBA star LeBron James donates bikes for cops

AKRON, Ohio (AP) - Akron's police department is getting some new wheels, courtesy of Cleveland Cavaliers superstar LeBron James.

He's making a donation to the force of 10 bicycles used last month in his annual "King for Kids" bike-a-thon fund-raiser.

The Cannondale brand bikes have James' name emblazoned on them. They'll be outfitted with disc brakes, shocks, lights and sirens so they can be used by police for patrolling.

Akron Police Sgt. Mike Lugenbeal says putting officers on bikes gets them in closer contact with the public.

This year's King for Kids bike-a-thon on June 21 raised money for the Akron Area YMCA, the Akron Urban League and the LeBron James Family Foundation.



James



Dr. Lavonia Allison signs a Contract of Gift to the State Archives. Next to her are Cultural Resources Deputy Secretary Jeff Crow and N.C. Central University Chancellor Charlie Nelms.

State Archives take possession of African-American documents

CHRONICLE STAFF REPORT

The State Archives has taken hold of a gift that will greatly enhance its African-American history collection.

N.C. Department of Cultural Resources Secretary Lisbeth C. "Libba" Evans applauded the donation of a priceless collection of items from Dr. Lavonia I. Allison on July 15 on the campus of N.C. Central University in Durham.

The donation includes records of the Durham Committee on the Affairs of Black People (DCABP) from 1935 to the present; records of the N.C. Black Leadership Caucus (NCBLC), circa 1977 and 1980; brochures, signs, and buttons from the campaigns of Jesse Jackson in 1984 and 1988. Items from the National Democratic campaigns of 1992, 1996, 2004 and 2008 are also included.

The donation includes about 75

years of historical items from the DCABP. Allison, a retired NCCU professor, has been the organization's chairwoman since 1997.

The nearly 3,000 private collections that have been donated over the past one hundred years to the State Archives include correspondence from every

president of the United States, and from a variety of agencies and organizations including the NAACP and the Freedman's Bureau," said Evans. "The addition of Dr. Allison's papers marks an important way to strengthen the resources available for African

American history at the State Archives."

The North Carolina Office of Archives and History will microfilm and scan the items, and provide microfilmed and scanned copies of the documents to N.C. Central University in order to make available to researchers there this important part of North Carolina history.

Founded in 1903, the State Archives is the third oldest state archival program in the nation. Throughout its 105 years of existence, the Archives have been at the forefront of preserving and providing access to North Carolina's records and collections of historical significance. The State Archives is part of the N.C. Department of Cultural Resources, a state agency dedicated to the promotion and protection of North Carolina's arts, history and culture.



Evans

Hollywood's spending more in N.C.

CHRONICLE STAFF REPORT

Entertainment production companies increased their spending in North Carolina in 2007, according to recently released state figures.

Spending by such companies was \$160.2 million in North Carolina in 2007, a 61 percent increase from 2006.

Part of the increase is attributed to the film "Leatherheads," which was filmed in Winston-Salem and several other parts of the state last year.

"Nights in Rodanthe," a film starring Diane Lane and Richard Gere, set for release in September, was also filmed in the state. The CW Network hit series, "One Tree Hill," also makes its production base in the Tarheel State.

The film impact figures were released by the N.C. Film Office, part of the state Commerce Department's Division of Tourism, Film and Sports Development.

The figures are based on information obtained directly from productions throughout the state, the state's regional film commissions and the state's film tax-credit program. It represents all direct spending, including wages, goods and services used by commercial production companies in the state.

North Carolina introduced a film incentive program in 2007 that provides a tax credit for production done in the state. A minimum of \$250,000 in-state spending qualifies productions for a 15 percent tax credit.

Other notable films shot in North Carolina in recent years include: "Last of the Mohicans;" "The Fugitive;" "Dirty Dancing;" "Patch Adams;" "The Green Mile;" and "Talladega Nights: The Ballad of Ricky Bobby."

The Film Office, formed to support and encourage commercial production in the state, was honored recently by peer institutions with first-place awards for best logo and best print ad campaign at the Association of Film Commissioners International's annual tradeshow.



George Clooney in "Leatherheads."

SEUSS TIME!



Little Theatre Photo

Some of the performers in The Little Theatre's production of "Seussical" show off their colorful costumes. Billed as the "ultimate fun for the entire family event," the musical brings to life the popular characters from the world of Dr. Seuss, including the Cat in the Hat, Horton the Elephant and the Grinch. Performances will be held at Reynolds Auditorium on Aug. 8, 9, 15 and 16 at 8 p.m., and a 2 p.m. Sunday matinee on Aug. 17. Tickets for adults are \$20, while kids 16 and under pay \$10. Call 336-725-4001 or go to www.LittleTheatreOnline.com.

Professor creates sculpture for Olympics show

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

"Vessels," a sculpture by Billy Lee, professor of art at The University of North Carolina at Greensboro, was accepted for inclusion in the Olympic Fine Arts 2008, a cultural event organized by the International Olympic Committee and Chinese Olympic Committee.

Artists from more than 80 countries were invited to submit proposals for an international exhibition to run concurrently with the Olympics this summer. After that, the exhibition will travel internationally for two years before being permanently installed in the Olympic Fine Arts Museum in the Forbidden City in Beijing. Works include Chinese painting, oil painting, print art, sculptures and digital art.

The Olympic Committee held the first Olympic sports and art contest in Sydney for the 2000 games. The second contest was in Athens in 2004, intended to promote the development of



Professor Billy Lee works in the studio.

sports culture. "There is a great deal of energy and excitement in Beijing right now," says Lee, who will be on research leave in China during the fall semester. While there, he will work on a series of stone sculptures. He will also spend time in Beijing visiting artists and their studios.

Lee is frequently invited to exhibit and place his works around the world. Among Lee's

GIRL

WSSU grad releases her debut novel

CHRONICLE STAFF REPORT

In her first novel - "A Girl Mistreated" - Stephanie M. Feggins says she drew from her own experiences and her perceptions of the reality for young women today.

The book has just been released by Denver, Colo.-based Outskirts Press and is being called "a remarkable window into the adolescent African-American experience."

The tale that Feggins, a city native and Winston-Salem State University graduate, weaves around the school freshman Alyssa, a black girl from working-class roots. At school, she is confronted by issues such as love, sex, poverty and betrayal. A survivor of abuse that she has yet to cope with, Alyssa seeks affection from a slew of boys, ending up victimized again in the process.

But ultimately, the story is one of survival, Feggins says. It follows Alyssa through high school, the challenge of attending college and young adulthood - showing how young women from difficult backgrounds struggle and survive.

"I hope this book will serve as a tool for young women to empower themselves, and will inspire them to continue to strive for success regardless of how bad their current situations may seem," Feggins says.

The author has always had writing in her blood. In high school, she placed in a regional poetry competition - a victory that helped her land two academic scholarship awards. At WSSU, she wrote for the New Argus, the campus paper, while earning a BA in Mass Communications. Feggins has worked as both a speechwriter and freelance journalist.

"A Girl Mistreated" is available online at retailers such as Amazon.com, barnesandnoble.com, and at the Outskirts Press Web site at outskirtspress.com.



Feggins

UNCG Photo