

ARTS & LIFESTYLE

Of Interest ... Young artists to stage "apSOUListe"

Poitier opens up in magazine

Known for shying away from the spotlight, Sidney Poitier opens up about experiencing racism firsthand, the state of black actors in Hollywood, the importance of his family, and why he's a self-described loner in a rare one-on-one interview with "AARP The Magazine."

As he approaches his 82nd birthday, Poitier reflects on his rise from a semi-literate dishwasher to venerable actor, his isolated childhood on tiny Cat Island in the Bahamas, and the racism he first experienced at age 15 when his family moved to Miami. He also discusses his successful 40-year marriage, the lessons his mother taught him, his new book *Life Beyond Measure: Letters to My Great-Granddaughter*, and how he carefully chose each of his 56 film roles during his pioneering career.

Featured on the cover of the September/October issue of AARP The Magazine—which hit news stands nationwide July 24—the Oscar and Golden Globe-winning actor also comments on having a black man as the presidential candidate for a major political party saying, "I imagined it. I was always aware that it might not come in my life. It just goes to show you how far we have indeed come."

"AARP The Magazine" has been called the definitive voice for Americans 50 years and older. It is the world's largest-circulation magazine with more than 34 million readers.

Veteran black journalist to replace Tim Russert

NEW YORK (AP) —Mark Whitaker has been named to replace Tim Russert as head of NBC News' Washington Bureau.

The former Newsweek editor, who joined NBC last year as senior vice president of news, will assume many of the off-camera duties held by Russert, who died of a heart attack in June.

As bureau chief, Whitaker will be in charge of "Meet the Press," as well as NBC News' election and political coverage. He also will make occasional appearances as an on-air analyst, the network said in its announcement Monday.

Whitaker, 50, worked as a summer intern at Newsweek while at Harvard University in the late 1970s and did a variety of jobs at the magazine before serving as its editor from 1998 to 2006.

While there, he supervised the growth of Newsweek's Web site, which is affiliated with NBC News' MSNBC.com. He was president of the American Society of Magazine Editors from 2004 to 2006.

With Whitaker's appointment, another decision remains in filling the gap left by Russert, legendary as a multi-tasker: Who will be the permanent "Meet the Press" host? Through the November election, the semiretired Tom Brokaw, who in the past anchored "NBC Nightly News," has stepped into the role.

Tanya Rivera to co-anchor "Good Morning Show"

Greensboro-based WFMY News 2 has picked Tanya Rivera to co-anchor the "Good Morning Show" with Rosemary Plybon beginning Aug. 4.

"We are extremely excited about giving Tanya the morning anchor position. Her professionalism, personality and sense of humor are perfect for the Good Morning Show," said Station Manager and President Deborah Hooper. "Tanya and Rosemary are a great team and we know viewers will enjoy the energy they create together."

Rivera joined the station in 2002 and most recently served as a "2 Wants to Know" reporter and weekend news anchor. Her work has earned an Emmy and numerous other honors from Gannett news company and North Carolina Associated Press.

More than a year after her award-winning "Apartment X" investigation, she still speaks to community groups about online safety. She also serves as seminar leader and teacher through the worldwide Bible Study Fellowship organization.

Rivera is a South Florida native and a graduate of the University of Florida. She serves on the advisory board for the University of Florida College of Journalism and Communications.

Matron at Winfrey's school says she is innocent

SEBOKENG, South Africa (AP) — A former dormitory matron at Oprah Winfrey's school for poor South African girls pleaded innocent Tuesday to charges that she indecently assaulted and otherwise abused six teenagers and a fellow matron at the academy.

Tiny Virginia Makopo, 28, looked nervous and sullen at the start of her trial, and she and her lawyer gave no indication what her defense would be.

Judge Thelma Simpson granted a prosecution request for the rest of the proceedings, expected to last all week, to be closed to the public. She also is allowing the teenagers to testify through close-circuit TV to save them the trauma of confronting their alleged attacker in court.

Prosecutor Etienne Venter described the girls as "very scared and very, very emotional."

CHRONICLE STAFF REPORT

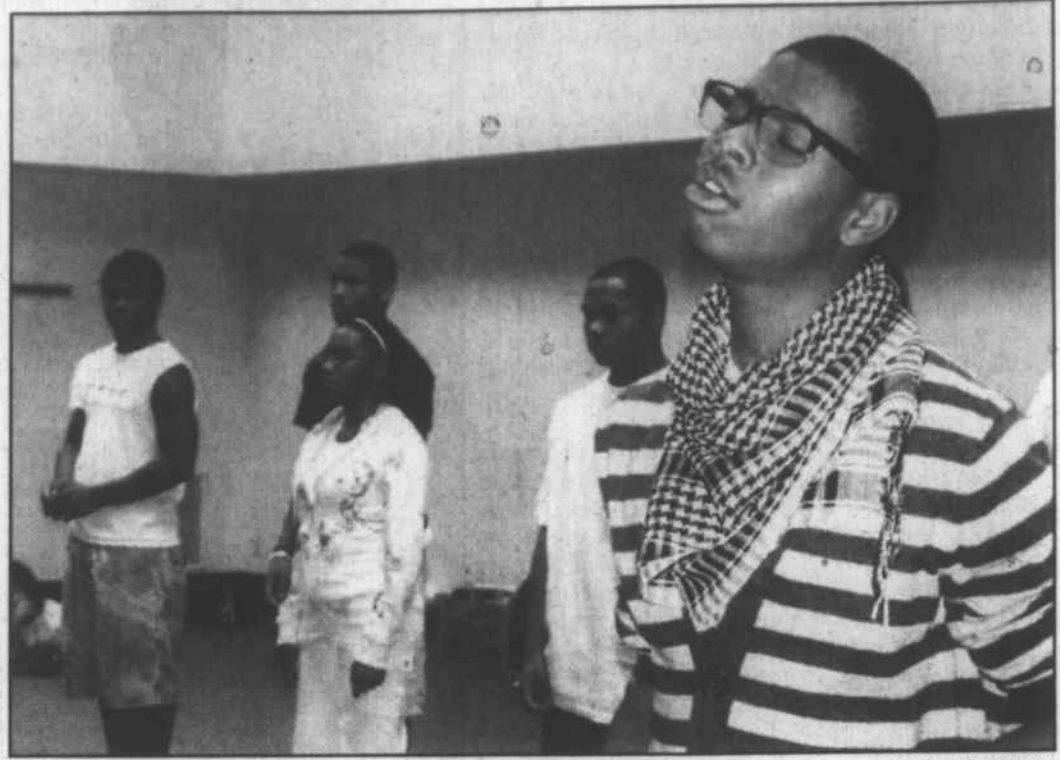
The talented teens of the Winston-Salem Youth Arts Institute are gearing up to present their 2008 Commencement Engagement, "apSOUListe."

A hodgepodge of monologues, poetry and other forms of expression, "apSOUListe" will be staged Aug. 7 - 8 at 7 p.m. in the Kelly Auditorium of First Baptist Church, 501 West Fifth St., and on Sunday, Aug. 10 at 3 p.m.

Thirty local youngsters, between the ages of 12 and 19, will take part in the performance, the latest in a string of well-received artistic showcases put on by students of the Winston-Salem Youth Arts Institute.

Founded by playwright/actor Nathan Ross Freeman, WSYAI is an intensive, six-week summer program that gives young performers the tools they need to express themselves in a variety of artistic disciplines, including writing, film, dance and song. At the end of the summer, and in community performances throughout the year, the youth present their works.

In a joint statement, the young people described "apSOUListe" as "a live sensation, where teens create and present abstract, uncensored and true works of poetry, monologues, raps, editorials, essays and lyrics from their hearts. We engage our audience, not for applause or standing ovations, but to



Quayshaun Hall rehearses for the upcoming show.

Photo by Cheryl Schirillo

change your life and make a difference."

available at the door, but reservations are recommended by calling 336-749-1317 or going to www.wsyai.org.

Tickets to the show are \$10 each and are



Photo courtesy of Beck's Baptist Church

The members of the Rejoice Ringers will join handbell performers from around the globe.

Handbellers to attend international event

CHRONICLE STAFF REPORT

Rejoice Ringers, the popular handbell group based at Winston-Salem's Beck's Baptist Church, has been selected to participate in the prestigious 13th International Handbell Symposium next month in Orlando, Fla.

Hosted by the American Guild of English Handbell Ringers, the biennial event brings together more than 800 handbell ringers from 10 countries. It will take place Aug. 4-8 at Orlando's Rosen Shingle Creek Resort. This will be the first time since 1996 that the Symposium has been held on U.S. soil. It will not return to the United States until 2020.

The Rejoice Ringers is one of three handbell groups at Beck's. All of the groups have grown under the direction of Deborah S. Rice, director of the handbell ministry at Beck's and the head of the

American Guild of English Handbell Ringers.

The groups often provide entertainment at hospitals, rehab centers, nursing homes, retirement communities and correctional centers. The groups also perform benefit concerts and have performed abroad, most recently in Great Britain.

During the International Handbell Symposium, members of the Rejoice Ringers and other performers from around the globe will work toward a shared goal of building better communication among ringers, maintaining high musical standards of ringing and performance and encouraging continued interaction among countries. One of the highlights of the event will be joint performances by 800 ringers under the batons of directors from across the globe.

For additional information on the symposium or AGEHR, visit www.agehr.org.

Outdoor film series returning

Reynolda House will show several New York-themed movies

CHRONICLE STAFF REPORT

Reynolda House Museum of American Art is bringing back its popular outdoor movie screenings, "Cinema Under the Stars," starting Saturday (Aug. 2) with the Blake Edwards's classic "Breakfast at Tiffany's."

It will be the third year for the evening film series, which is cosponsored by the School of Filmmaking of the North Carolina School of the Arts. This year's series celebrates New York City in anticipation of the museum's fall exhibition, "Seeing the City: Sloan's New York," which opens Oct. 4.

Based on the novel by Truman Capote and featuring the Oscar-winning song "Moon River," "Breakfast at Tiffany's" stars Audrey Hepburn and George Peppard. All the films will be screened at 9 p.m. outside on the lawn of the museum and include a pre-screening talk by local scholars. In the case of the bad weather, the screenings will be held indoors.

Other movies slated as part of this year's series are:

- "King Kong" (1933) on Saturday, Aug. 9. The film stars Fay Wray and Robert Armstrong and, of course, a 30-foot tall gorilla with a soft spot for blondes.
- Woody Allen's "Manhattan" (1979) on Saturday, Aug. 16. The film stars



See Films on A11



Historic Bethabara Park Photo

A view of some of the park's natural beauty.

Bethabara nature guide in the works

CHRONICLE STAFF REPORT

Historic Bethabara Park will showcase its animals, plant life and other aspects of the park's natural history in a guide that will be created with a \$15,000 grant that has been awarded by the Winston-Salem Foundation.

A National Historic Landmark, Historic Bethabara was the first Moravian settlement in North Carolina in 1753. It is the founding settlement of the Wachovia Tract, which encompasses all of modern-day Winston-Salem and most of Forsyth County.

Waterford Press will pro-

duce "The Bethabara Pocket Naturalist Guide," which provide a simplified, easy-to-use reference to what everyone should know about the park's familiar plants, animals and natural history.

Most of the park has been untouched over the last two centuries. The flora and fauna found in the surrounding flood plain forest and adjacent uplands remain similar to the wilderness environment of the colonial frontier settlement. Grounds, gardens, and trails in the 175-acre park are open, free of charge year-round. The park is at 2147 Bethabara Road.