

# ARTS & LIFESTYLE

## Of Interest ...

### Fourth of July at Old Salem

This year's Fourth of July Celebration at Old Salem Museums & Gardens offers a special treat for visitors and history buffs alike. Beginning at 9:30 a.m. on Saturday, July 4, activities will include period music, a reading of the Declaration of Independence, parlor games and fire-drill demonstrations.

Fourth of July celebrations have a long history in Winston-Salem. In 1783, Governor Alexander Martin of North Carolina became the first governor to issue an order to celebrate the Fourth of July. The town of Salem responded by holding a special service and Lovefeast to commemorate the momentous event.

Visitors will also be able to play historic games in Salem Square, participate in fire drill demonstrations and listen to music by the Moravian Brass Band. Also featured are Tavern Games, hands-on Patriotic Fraktur freehand painting and a reading of the Declaration of Independence. Patriotic organ music and a choral performance will be held in the Single Brothers' House.

July Fourth activities are included with an All-in-One ticket to Old Salem Museums & Gardens, available for \$17 for adults and \$10 for children ages 6-16. For more information, call the Visitor Center at 336-721-7350.

### Essence Web site now offers digital makeover tool

Essence.com bolsters its beauty offerings with the first digital makeover application created for African-American women. The tool, Makeover Magic, launches today and is being sponsored by the fastest growing cosmetics line for African-American women, Covergirl Queen Collection.

Makeover Magic is designed to provide Black women with a virtual salon and makeup counter experience. Users can upload their photos, select from a diverse palette of cosmetics as well as relatable celebrity hair styles to "try on" before clicking to purchase. The virtual transformations make the popular celebrity styles of Beyonce or Rihanna accessible to every-day women. Operating as more than a tool, Makeover Magic facilitates a dynamic beauty community experience that provides users the option to share, post or have their looks voted on, within their social networks via Facebook and Ning-compatible widgets.

"Makeover Magic is an innovative tool that offers the Essence.com visitor a rich user experience and virtually connects her to the Essence beauty and fashion editors. The makeover tool is modern, creative and empowering just like the Essence.com brand," says Essence.com Managing Editor Emil Wilbekin. "Building confidence and self awareness through technology is just another way Essence.com is bringing its audience into the future."



Wilbekin

### UNCSA Board of Visitors adds four new members

Four new members have been tapped to join the Board of Visitors of the University of North Carolina School of the Arts (UNCSA). They are Noel L. "Skip" Dunn of Winston-Salem and Chicago; Frank Driscoll of Winston-Salem; Sue Henderson of Winston-Salem; and Raleigh native Randy Jones of New York City.

The new members were nominated by and voted on by the Board of Visitors.

Driscoll was president and CEO of Driscoll Associates Inc. for 50 years. He was also a partner in LaCache gift shop for nearly 30 years.

Dunn is president of Aon Risk Services (Holdings) of the Americas, Inc.

Henderson is regional director for the Piedmont Triad Region and senior vice president for Wachovia Wealth Management. The New York Post describes UNCSA School of Dance alumnus Jones as "one of the most beloved entertainers and pop icons from the Disco era ... (who) came to embody The Cowboy in the Village People in a way that has captured the public imagination for decades."

### Moody to conduct in Motown

Winston-Salem Symphony Music Director Robert Moody will guest conduct the Detroit Symphony Orchestra for two free, summertime outdoor performances on Friday, June 18 and Saturday, June 30, along Detroit's Riverwalk as part of the Midsummer Nights in Midtown celebration.

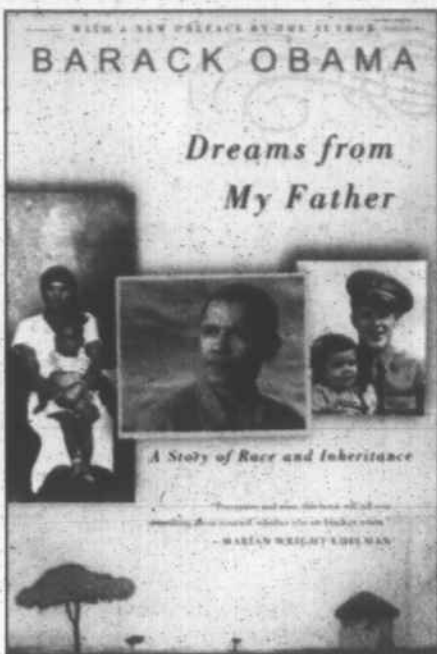
Moody, who begins his fifth season in Winston-Salem in September, will lead a light classical "River Days Concert" Friday night, to include works by Rossini, Mendelssohn and Beethoven; culminating with performance of Tchaikovsky's 1812 Overture.

Next week, Maestro Moody and the DSO will be joined by "Project Bandaloop," an innovative acrobatic dance troupe, who will perform aerial choreography - hanging by rappel lines from downtown Detroit's Ellington Loft building - to music of Beethoven, Sibelius, and Stravinsky.

"It is always an honor to be invited to guest conduct great orchestras around the country. I'm especially thrilled to be returning for concerts with the Detroit Symphony, as this will mark my fourth set of appearances with that great orchestra," says Moody.



Moody



### A&T picks Obama book for campus reading project

CHRONICLE STAFF REPORT

N.C. A&T State University will use President Barack Obama's first autobiography as the subject of an array of campus-wide discussions and programs.

"Dreams from My Father" has been picked for the school's 2009-10 "Text in Community" reading project. A&T students, faculty and staff are asked to read and participate in activities centered around the book planned throughout the upcoming academic year. The book has already been given to new students attending this summer's orientation sessions.

Obama released "Dreams from My Father: A Story of Race and Inheritance" in 1995, when he became the first black president of the Harvard Law Review. He had yet to enter politics at the time.

Re-released in 2004 after Obama gave a blockbuster keynote speech at the 2004 Democratic National Convention, "Dreams from My Father" is a New York Times bestseller.

In the fall of 2006, Obama released "The Audacity of Hope: Thoughts on Reclaiming the American Dream," which has been called a political autobiography. The book contains many of the platforms that he used to successfully win the presidency in 2008. "The Audacity of Hope" reached No. 1 on both the New York Times and amazon.com bestseller lists.

## Cell phone users can't get enough of gospel hit

Sapp's gospel smash sells more than a million ring tones

CHRONICLE STAFF REPORT

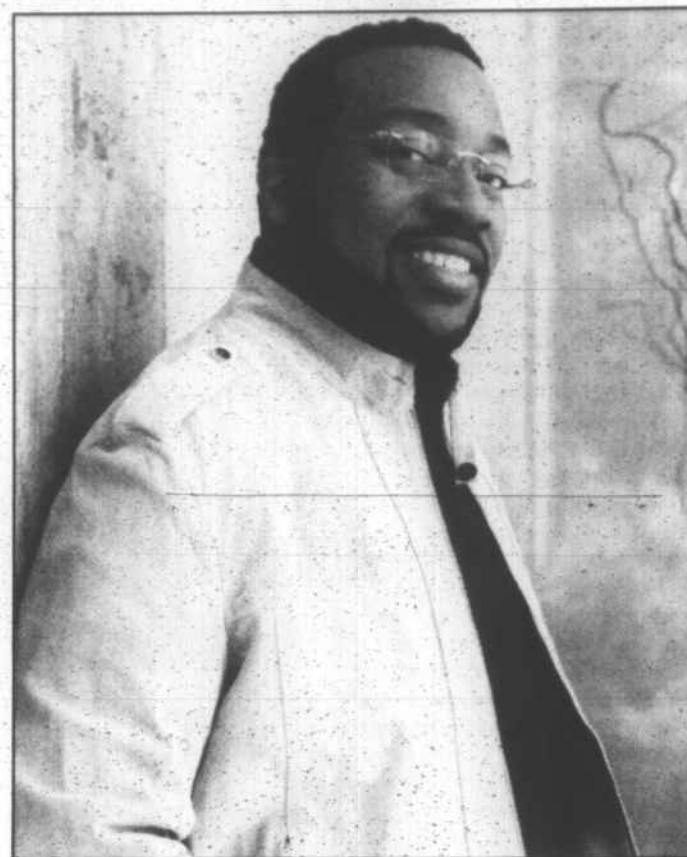
It appears that the public's love affair with one of gospel singer Marvin Sapp's most popular songs is far from over.

"Never Would Have Made It," the singer's glorious ode to faith and God, spent 47 weeks atop the gospel music charts last year, the longest run of any song of any musical genre has been in, the No. 1 position.

It has now made history again, by selling 1,254,957 ringtones - the most ever for a gospel song.

"This is so exciting. I remain humbled by the overwhelming response to this song and thank everyone who made "Never Would Have Made It" their ringtone," said Sapp, who also earned the Associated Press' Top Song of 2008 honor for the single. "This is truly more than I could ask or think, and I am grateful."

Named the Best Gospel Artist at the 2008 BET Awards, Sapp began his musical career in the 1990s with the group Commissioned after being offered the job by Fred Hammond. "Never Would Have Made It" has brought



Gospel star Marvin Sapp.

him his biggest success so far as a solo artist. The song is from his gold-certified CD: "Thirsty," last year's top-selling gospel disc.

Sapp is currently touring around the country and is scheduled to perform on July 5 at the Essence Music Festival in a tribute to Bishop

T.D. Jakes. Away from the stage, Sapp is founder and senior pastor of Lighthouse Full Life Center Church in Grand Rapids, Mich., and a married father of three kids. In March, he was initiated into the Grand Rapids Alumni Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity Inc.

### SO YOU THINK YOU CAN PRODUCE?

PRNewsFoto/Red Bull Big Tune  
The popular energy drink Red Bull is looking for the next superstar music producer. Aspiring producers can visit [www.redbullbigtune.com](http://www.redbullbigtune.com) to apply for a chance to win studio time with an A-list emcee of his or her choice. The winner and the runner-up from each qualifier will be flown to Atlanta for the national championships in October. Here, is rap superstar Nas with the 2008 winner, C-Sick.



Submitted Photo

Farmer Vern Switzer is known for his watermelons.

## Local watermelon artists to compete at Farmer's Market

CHRONICLE STAFF REPORT

The Downtown Farmers' Market will host a unique competition on Thursday, July 2.

The outdoor market - which is open every Tuesday and Thursday during summer months - will host a watermelon carving contest beginning at 10 a.m. The special event is intended to provide the public with a little pre-Fourth of July fun. Prizes will be given to the first 100 market visitors.

Watermelons are a major theme at the city-sponsored market - which is located at the old City Market at Sixth Street between Cherry and Trade streets. Vern Switzer, a local farmer, is one of the many vendors who sells fresh produce at the market. Switzer is known as the "Watermelon Man" because of the

large, sweet melons he grows on his farm. Switzer has also penned several children's books based on his life as a farmer.

Other vendors hawk everything from fresh flowers and herbs to baked goods, soaps and candles.

Residents are invited to witness the contest or take part. Those interested in showcasing their carving skills are only asked to roam the market and buy their melon and then sharpen their knives to carve.

Carvers should register by calling 336-724-2474 or online at <http://cityofws.org/Home/Nlmm/Form/s/WatermelonCarvingRegistration>. Free parking through the Park & Shop program is available in the Convention Center parking deck and in the surface lot located directly behind the Convention Center.

## Leonard Bernstein Award goes to UNCSA high school student

CHRONICLE STAFF REPORT

A 15-year-old high school student at the University of North Carolina School of the Arts (UNCSA) is the very first recipient of the school's Leonard Bernstein Excellence Award.

Rising tenth-grader James Baron Fenwick III is studying piano and viola. He has showcased his talents with the UNCSA Symphony Orchestra during performances at the Stevens Center and Asheville's Grove Park Inn.

The Bernstein award was created by Chancellor John Mauceri with a gift from Leonard Bernstein's three children - Jamie, Alexander and Nina - and matched by The William R. Kenan Jr. Charitable Trust. The award provides assistance for talented, deserving students to continue their studies. Chancellor Mauceri and James Baron Fenwick III.

The Leonard Bernstein Excellence Award will be awarded annually to a music student at UNCSA who best epitomizes the talent and commitment to society of Leonard Bernstein.

"Interim Music School Dean Michael Rothkopf and I chose Baron because he has not only been a terrific student," Chancellor Mauceri said, "but he has gone the extra mile to represent UNCSA at frequent events. He is a model citizen, and as a freshman in high school, has set a standard that is absolutely inspirational."

Fenwick is from Todd, a small town near Boone, and is the son of Cindy Norris and Jay Fenwick. He has played the piano since he was 5.

"I didn't know what to think," said Fenwick, when asked how he felt about being the first Leonard Bernstein Excellence Award winner at UNCSA. "It's such an honor!"

The late Bernstein is best known as a composer and conductor of stage classics like "West Side Story" and "On the Town," but he was also a noted music educator, having authored books on the subject and lectured at schools around the world.



UNCSA Photo