

ARTS & LIFESTYLE

OF INTEREST

Fictionalized account of Greenwood riots released

Frederick Williams, executive editor of Prosperity Publications LLC, has released his debut novel, "Fires of Greenwood: The Tulsa Riots of 1921."

Williams uses a real event, a riot started by whites jealous of the success and wealth of their African American neighbors. The fictionalized account gives a chilling account of how the prominent Greenwood District of Tulsa, Okla., better known as "Black Wall Street," had over 34 square blocks of its community destroyed by an angry mob of approximately 10,000 whites. Williams vividly paints a picture of how the mob savagely raged through the streets of Greenwood, committing sheer acts of brutality. This murderous anarchy lasted for more than 18 hours.

"The total destruction of the Greenwood community has been researched and written about in articles and books for almost a century, but it is long overdue for the whole truth to be told," said Williams. "We must document our heroes, our successes and contributions to the wealth and prestige of this nation, ourselves."

Learn more at <http://prosperitypublications.com>.

State tree to be lit

The tree-lighting tradition at the State Capitol will continue when Gov. Pat McCrory and First Lady Ann McCrory light the state Christmas tree on Thursday, Dec. 12.

The Junior Woman's Club and State Capitol historic site host this free, public celebration. The festivities begin at 5 p.m., with luminaries being lit and holiday music by the Raleigh Concert Band and Garner Magnet High Die Meisters. The governor and first lady will make their way to the South grounds at 6:15 p.m. to officially begin the ceremony. The lit tree will be visible the length of Fayetteville Street. The 24-foot tree was grown by Peak Farms in Ashe County and is sponsored by the Capital City/Cardinal Club of Raleigh. There will be free parking along the street and in state government lots after 5 p.m.

Yellow Dog Bread Company will sell coffee and assorted pastries on the grounds throughout the evening. The Junior Woman's Club will give away cookies and hot chocolate while local sports team mascots entertain the crowd prior to the ceremony. Even Santa is scheduled to make an appearance.

The annual holiday open house will begin at 6:30 p.m. The public is invited inside to see the Capitol's holiday decorations, sponsored by the N.C. Department of Agriculture and featuring items grown, raised and harvested in our state. Meanwhile, the East Cary Middle School Steel Drum band will perform holiday music in the rotunda.

The governor and first lady invite the public to bring donations for North Carolina's Rural Shelters, which provide temporary homes for pets.

Smiley show renewed

"Tavis Smiley," which airs weeknights on PBS, has been renewed for two years. Beth Hoppe, PBS chief programming executive and general manager of General Audience Programming, accouanted.

The extension will take the show, now in its 10th season, through 2015.

Entering its 11th season in January, "Tavis Smiley" airs on approximately 97 percent of PBS stations in more than 200 markets, including New York, Los Angeles, Chicago, Philadelphia, Washington, D.C. and Atlanta.

"I am excited to continue with such a strong broadcasting platform as PBS," said Smiley. "My team and I are proud of what we've accomplished over the past 10 seasons and look forward to bringing our loyal viewers more in-depth conversations as we head into the 11th season. I want to thank Walmart for its generous and long-standing support."

Walmart, which has funded the show throughout its 10 years on PBS, will continue to underwrite the series.

The show has garnered acclaim for its balance of news and entertainment. Marking 20 years in broadcasting this year, the eponymous host has been included in the group of the "20 people changing how Americans get their news." It was recently announced that he will be honored with a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame on April 24, 2014.

"Tavis Smiley" continues to be an important asset for PBS," said Hoppe. "Tavis and his colleagues produce shows that bring an intellectual richness to our audience with the mix of news and entertainment. Tavis' tremendous curiosity, passion and understanding are clear in every interview he takes on - PBS is proud to be his television home."



Williams



WFU Photo

Wait Chapel decked out for the annual Lovefeast.

Lovefeast tradition continues at WFU

CHRONICLE STAFF REPORT

Wake Forest University will hold its 49th annual Lovefeast on Sunday, Dec. 8 from 8 - 9:30 p.m. in the school's Wait Chapel. The service is free and open to the public.

Since 1965, Wake Forest University has annually held a lovefeast, a unique tradition of the Moravian community. More than 2,000 students, faculty, staff,

alumni and community members will gather for the event - the largest single lovefeast in North America - and candlelight service.

Luminaries will line Hearn Plaza and Christmas decorations will adorn the Chapel.

The first lovefeast was served in Germany on Aug. 13, 1727, following the renewal of the Moravian Church. The Lovefeast is not the sacrament of

Holy Communion. It is styled after the common meal partaken in love and fellowship by the early church (described in the book of Acts) prior to their celebration of the Lord's Supper. The service will include a message by Wake Forest University Provost Rogan Kersh and music by the concert choir, a handbell and flute choir and Messiah Moravian Church Band.

PRIZE FOR CREATIVITY



DCCC Photo

Davidson County Community College student Allen Singletary won the scariest costume contest at the school's Halloween Extravaganza last month. Singletary dressed, of course, as "Beetlejuice," the star of the eponymous classic film.

Pointer Sisters headlining benefit

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE



Press Photo

The Pointer Sisters

See Concert on A7

The Pointer Sisters will headline the annual fundraiser for the Carolina Theatre of Greensboro, Inc.

The concert will take place at the theatre, 310 S. Greene St., on Thursday, April 24. Preconcert events begin at 6 p.m.

The Pointer Sisters first landed on the Billboard charts in 1973. With songs that blurred the lines between rock, pop, R&B and even country, the group was the first contemporary act to perform at the Grand Ole Opry. The group appeared on the silver screen with Richard Pryor in the 1976 movie "Car Wash." The Pointer Sisters were early music video innovators and a mainstay of MTV's early days with songs from their 1983 album, "Break-Out," including

UNCSA students to play jazz classics

CHRONICLE STAFF REPORT

The UNCSA Jazz Ensemble, under the direction of Ron Rudkin, will present the "Swing Era Extravaganza," a boisterous musical experience that will also feature dancers from the UNCSA School of Dance, on Thursday, Dec. 5 at 7:30 p.m.

The concert will take place at The Gerald Freedman Theatre in Performance Place on the UNC School of the Arts campus, 1533 S. Main St.

Featuring music by some of the greats, including Duke Ellington and Benny Goodman, the concert will bring back the golden age of Big Band jazz for one night only. The UNCSA Jazz Ensemble will be joined by talented dancers from the UNCSA School of Dance to recreate the excitement of the 1930s and '40s. It is guaranteed to keep your toes tapping until the end.

Rudkin directs the Jazz Program and teaches Music Theory at UNCSA. In addition to maintaining an active performing career on saxophone, clarinet and flute with his own jazz groups and dance band, Rudkin plays clarinet in the Winston-Salem Symphony and has appeared with the North Carolina, Greensboro, Charlotte and Western Piedmont symphonies.

An experienced band leader and arranger, Rudkin has led professional groups in performance with numerous celebrities from the worlds of entertainment, pop and jazz. He is a recipient of the Jazz Composers Fellowship from the North Carolina Arts Council and has toured and performed with legendary jazz drummer Max Roach and drummer Thelonius "T.S." Monk Jr. in public schools across North Carolina as part of an educational program.

Tickets are \$15 or \$13 for students. For reservations, call 336-721-1945 or visit www.uncsa.edu/performances.



UNCSA Photo

Ron Rudkin leads the UNCSA Jazz Ensemble.

Historic black authors featured in new book

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

Dr. Eric Ashley Hairston, an associate professor of English, law and humanities at Elon University, has published his first book, "The Ebony Column: Classics, Civilization, and the African American Reclamation of the West."

In the book, released in the summer by the University of Tennessee Press, he examines the influence

the classics had on four leading black authors - Phillis Wheatley, Frederick Douglass, W. E. B. DuBois and Anna Julia Cooper.

"The Ebony Column: Classics, Civilization, and the African American Reclamation of the West" is the first title in the University of Tennessee Press' new Classicism in American Culture series.

Dr. Hairston says that in some ways, his book is a story of how the literature, philosophy and history of the African-American intellectual tradition is part of the broader American tradition.

Hairston has regularly presented his work at professional conferences and has served as a panelist and commentator on issues of law, politics and policy. He will lead a panel on literature and law at the 2014 Modern Language Association Conference in Chicago in January.

A graduate of South Stokes (County) High School, Hairston earned a bachelor's degree in English and politics from Wake Forest University before attending the University of Virginia, where he received his master's and doctorate degrees in English language and literature. Dr. Hairston also earned a law degree from the University of North Carolina School of Law.

He is married to the former Dr. Cherry Chevy, and they are the parents of Graham and Madeline Hairston. His parents are Dr. Edward & Mrs. Marian Anderson-Hairston. He is the brother of Dr. C. Todd (Dr. Kristen G.) Hairston and attorney Melody R. Hairston.



Dr. Hairston