

THE CHRONICLE

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Of Interest ...

Community Family Day scheduled May 19

GREENSBORO - People looking for fun should plan to stop by Community Family Day at the Weatherspoon Art Gallery between 1 and 4 p.m. Saturday, May 19.

A puppet show, African drumming and a gallery hunt (similar to a scavenger hunt) are in store, as well as hands-on art activities, such as cookie painting and make-your-own party hats. Everything is free except for a small fee for the cookie painting.

"This is a way for us to introduce people to the Weatherspoon Art Gallery, many of whom may never have been here before," said Ann Grimaldi, curator of education. "It will be a great way for kids and adults to experience the connection between looking at art and creating art."

Acting students at UNCG are planning to perform a children's theater, and other Greensboro organizations will provide demonstrations throughout the day, including the Greensboro Children's Museum, the Natural Science Center, Greensboro Historical Museum and ArtQuest.

Scheduled entertainment is as follows: the puppet show, presented by Greensboro Public Library, 1:30 p.m.; performances by Talking Drums at 2 and 3:30 p.m.; and UNCG graduate students exhibiting artwork in the MFA Exhibition, talking to children at 3 p.m. about their work. Other activities will be ongoing through the afternoon.

The Weatherspoon Art Gallery has a 5,000-piece permanent collection of modern and contemporary art, and many of the highlights will be on view during Community Family Day. Visitors can take in Early American Moderns: Highlights from the Permanent Collection, Henri Matisse: Portraits of Women and Cool & Collected/Recent Contemporary Acquisitions. Other pieces will be shown in the lobbies and courtyard.

Information about membership and the docent program will be available. For more information, or to volunteer to assist at Community Family Day, call the Weatherspoon at (336) 334-5770.

Located on the campus of The University of North Carolina at Greensboro, the gallery is open every day but Monday, and admission and parking are free.

Pollock's work at Reynolda House

Come learn about legendary artist Jackson Pollock on Tuesday, May 8. Reynolda House will be showing a video titled "Jackson Pollock: Portrait of an Artist" at 10 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. A brief discussion will follow in which guests will be able to visit several artworks by Pollock's contemporaries, including his wife, Lee Krasner. Admission is free.

Pollock (1912-1956) is recognized as one of the premier American painters of the 20th century. He initially studied under Regionalist Thomas Hart Benton. From 1938 to 1942, he worked on the Federal Art Project in New York City. Under the influence of the Mexican muralists Rivera and Siqueiros and European Modernist painters Picasso, Miro and Masson, Pollock developed the automatic techniques of the Surrealists into a more instinctive, personal form that was associated with the emerging movement Abstract Expressionism. He hoped to express, rather than illustrate, feeling on his canvas. His experiments led to the development of his famous "drip" technique, in which he energetically drew or dripped complicated linear rhythms onto enormous canvases. His vigorous attack on the canvas and his devotion to the act of painting led to the term "action painting." Pollock had become a symbol of Abstract Expressionism when he was killed in an automobile accident in 1956.

For more information, call Reynolda House at 725-5325, or visit the Web site at www.reynoldahouse.org.

11-year-old to debut in 'I Will Survive'

The Artist Studio School for Performing Arts is proud to present 11-year-old Jessica Waters in her first nightclub debut. It is titled "I Will Survive." Artistic Director Janice Price-Hinton directs the show. "I Will Survive" features Miss Waters in song, dance and acting.

She is an honor student at Southeast Middle School. Miss Waters performed in the 1999 N.C. Black Repertory MLK Day Celebration, 1999 SCAN Celebration, 2000 Mayor's Christmas Tree Lighting and opened for international blues artist Melva Houston. Her hobbies include dancing, singing and basketball. She attends and is very active at Emmanuel Baptist Church.

"I Will Survive" also features her cast, ranging from 8 to 16 years old, who are also students of the Artistic Studio. Jessica will perform songs by Natalie Cole, Toni Braxton, Gloria Gainer, Donna Summer, Diana Ross and her rendition of "His Eye Is on the Sparrow." Some of her featured guest artists are 11-year-old Jillian Jackson ("Dream Lover"), 14-year-old Chris Bonner ("Can We Talk?"), 16-year-old Chanel Foxworth ("Bills, Bills, Bills"), 8-year-old Katasha Whitfield ("I Feel Good") and 11-year-old triple-threat sensation Olivia Walker.

It is a must-see production that has something for people of all ages. "I Will Survive" will be held Saturday, May 5, at 7 p.m. Doors to The Artistic Studio Theatre will open at 6:30 p.m. Reservations are strongly encouraged due to limited seating. Tickets are \$7 general admission, \$5 for students and \$3 for Artistic Studio students. The Artistic Studio Theatre is at 201 W. Third Street (Old Davis Department Store).

Downtown Arts District Association plans

Spring Gallery Hop on May 11

The Downtown Arts District Association (DADA) will present its Spring Gallery Hop May 11. More than 20 galleries, artist studios and retail shops will open their doors to the public from 7-10 p.m.

The Sixth and Trade Street galleries and shops offer unique and exciting products for Mother's Day gift giving. Additional craft, food and beverage vendors will offer their goods throughout the Arts District.

The Skellingtons, a local band, will perform in Soho Alley on Sixth Street. The Gallery Hop is free and open to the public.

DADA was formed as an advocate of educational programming and promotions of the arts as a basis for urban renewal in downtown Winston-Salem.

SECCA announces extended evening hours

The Southeastern Center for Contemporary Art (SECCA), in conjunction with the Homegrown I and II exhibitions, is happy to announce SECCA After Hours - extended Thursday evening hours! Every Thursday from May 17 through June 28 and July 19 through Sept. 27, SECCA will be open until 8 p.m. so our audience can visit the galleries and enjoy the exhibitions after 5. Come celebrate the art of North Carolina as we present live music, performance and ArtTalks featuring some of the most talented artists across the state who will be included in "Homegrown." Come meet your friends, see the show and see what's happening in your own back yard!

The schedule: May 17, Blue Rags, blues from Asheville; May 24, Angus McLaughlin, reading and discussion with Winston-Salem playwright; May 31, to be announced; June 7, Flicker Film Festival, great flicks from Durham; June 14, ArtTalk with Homegrown Artists; June 21, Art Talk with David J. Brown and Douglas Bohr; June 28, alban elved, performance by Winston-Salem dance company.

Admission will be \$3 general admission, \$2 students and seniors, children under 12 and SECCA members free. The June 28 alban elved performance will be \$9 general admission and \$7 for SECCA members. For more information, call SECCA at (336) 725-1904 or e-mail general@secca.org.

Janet Jackson gets high marks for latest disc

BY COURTNEY L. HILL
THE CHRONICLE

Miss Janet does it again with her eighth album, "All for You" (yes, this is number eight, although we tend to not count her first two not-so-hot albums), and this time she serves up an earful of very mixed emotional lyrics, which isn't a surprise coming from an artist no one can ever seem to figure out.

Don't expect for "All for You" to be another version of "The Velvet Rope." This album is a whole lot happier than "Velvet." "All for You" has provocative lyrics, self-affirmations, odes to love and little conversations in between songs. "All for You" can almost size up to her "Janet" album.

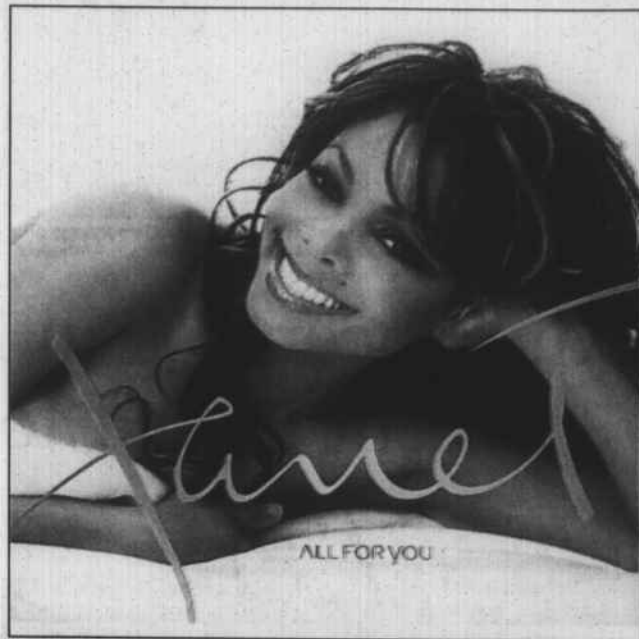
The album includes 20 cuts, with 14 of them being actual songs. This is another one of Janet's roller-coaster rides of an album and if you aren't careful you may find yourself listening to the songs and saying, "Hmm, I wonder if this one is about her breakup with Renee?"

There are a few edgy-rock songs that may take some getting used to if you are an R&B fan. Her opening song, "You Ain't Right," has a very rough but digital sound to it, which makes it very hard to understand the lyrics of Janet's soft-wanna-be-hard vocals. This song talks about getting stabbed in the back by a friend, which I'm sure we've all experienced.

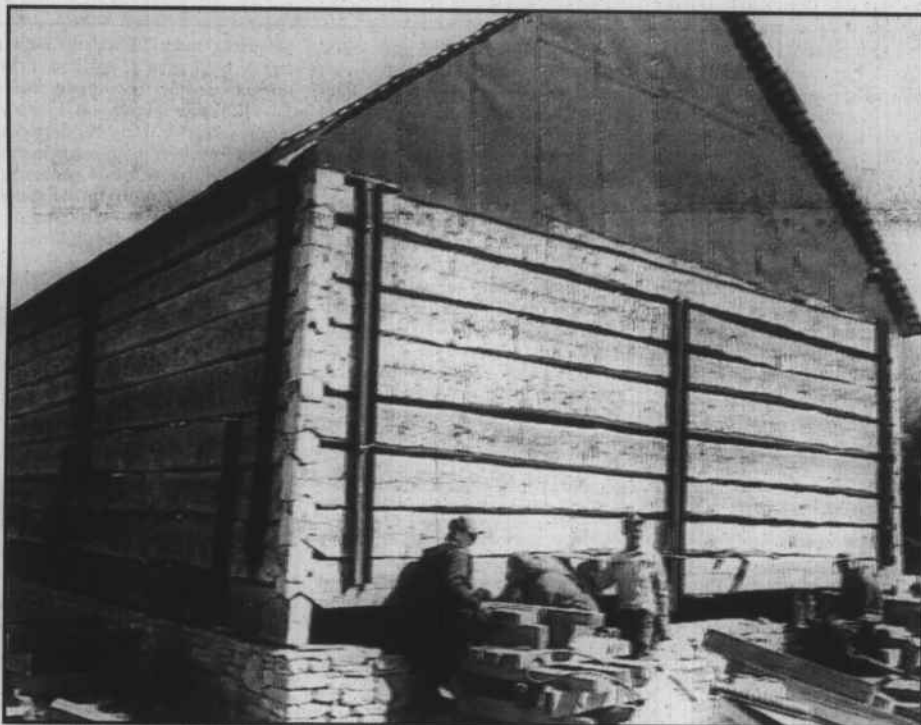
Then, of course, you have other dance tracks such as her funky debut title track, "All For You," which I think was very clever to include the sample of Luther Vandross' "Glow of Love." It's just one of those feel-good-sunny-days kind of songs. She also includes a dance version of "Doesn't Really Matter" as well as "Come on Get Up," another saucy track and another song with country-pop sound that is truly adorable called "Someone to Call My Lover."

Of course this would not be a Janet Jackson CD without the racy love songs. There are four tracks that

See Janet on C6



St. Philips Log Church progressing at Old Salem



Looking north, the reconstructed Log Church is slowly lowered onto its permanent foundation.

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

The reconstruction of the historic 1823 Log Church at Old Salem took a long step forward recently when the building's permanent stone foundation was completed. At that point, the building was very carefully lowered onto the foundation.

With the foundation finished, the next phases of construction will include the addition of doors, porches and an access ramp and stairs; permanent roofing; and enclosure of the building by sealing the

gaps between the hand-hewn logs.

Design work for the interpretive visitor exhibits that will be placed inside the Log Church is well under way.

After the Log Church is opened for visitors, additional work on the adjacent graveyard and restoration of the 1861 Brick Church (eventually named St. Philips Moravian Church and the oldest standing African-American church in the state) will move forward.

The funding for the St. Philips project has been raised as part of the Old Salem \$25

million capital campaign that will also include opening the Timothy Vogler Gunshop, the Herbst House (which will feature candlemaking) and a new Visitor Center complex on the west side of Old Salem Road.

Old Salem already offers a free map with an African-American walking tour of the historic district.

In about two years, the St. Philips complex is expected to become an integral part of interpreting the African-American experience at Salem in the late 18th and early 19th centuries.

NCSA receives grant to establish endowment

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

The N.C. School of the Arts has received a \$150,000 grant from the Rudolf Nureyev Dance Foundation to establish an endowment fund for guest artists in the School of Dance. The endowment will be used to engage a special guest artist annually to enhance the school's dance program, and to honor in perpetuity the memory of Rudolf Nureyev, one of the greatest dancers of the 20th century.

The grant, which must be matched on a one-to-one basis, will be given over a three-year period. At the end of that period, the \$300,000 fund will be permanently endowed to provide income for annual guest artist grants. It will be known as The Rudolf Nureyev Guest Artist Endowment.

In addition, the Rudolf Nureyev Dance Foundation will contribute \$17,000 to fund the first guest artist engagement at NCSA, during the 2001-02 school year. The guest will be in-residence at the school up to one month, teaching classes and giving workshops. The school will select the guest artist "with preference to enhance classical ballet," according to the foundation.

"The North Carolina School of the Arts is honored to receive this grant from the Rudolf Nureyev Dance Foundation," said School of Dance Dean Susan McCullough. "Rudolf Nureyev was an extraordinary artist whose legacy continues to inspire young dance students around the world today. We know that our choices for NCSA's Rudolf Nureyev Guest Artist must live up to his remarkable reputation and dedication to the art of dance."

In tribute to Nureyev, whose love of the "new" in dance sprang from a profound faith in ballet's traditional past, the Rudolf Nureyev Dance Foundation seeks to preserve and protect the history and tradition of classical dance while simultaneously encouraging its progress and development. Specifically, the foundation aims to perpetuate Rudolf Nureyev's name and to advance his vision and contribution

See NCSA on C6

Millions of Americans have downloaded music



Americans are using music downloading services such as Napster more than ever, according to a new report.

BY D. IAN HOPPER
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON - Thirty-seven million Americans have downloaded free music from the Internet since last summer, a 40 percent increase, according to a study released recently.

The legal setbacks of music-swapping service Napster seem to have fueled the increase, which spans all Internet users regardless of their experience, age, prosperity or race, the study's author said.

According to the study by the Pew Internet and American Life Project, 29 percent of American adults say they have downloaded music online. That figure was only 22 percent in late July 2000, when the recording industry won its suit against Napster in U.S. District

Court.

"The level of sharing and downloading closely tracked the court case," said project director Lee Rainie, the author of the study. In July, the average Napster user shared about 130 music files. That jumped to 200 in January, when an appeals court heard the case.

But lately that number has diminished to about 80 files shared per user, according to Pew researchers. Rainie said that may be due to Napster's filtering efforts. While savvy and persistent users have gotten around Napster's file-name filters by inserting typos into song titles, they have discouraged more casual file sharers.

Napster officials declined to comment on the study, other than to

See Music on C6