

ARTS & LIFESTYLE

Of Interest ...

Professor's 'From Cronkite to Colbert' book wins prize

Geoffrey Baym, a former television journalist and current associate professor of media studies at UNCG, has won the 2010 Book Award from the National Communication Association's Political Communication Division for his book, "From Cronkite to Colbert: The Evolution of Broadcast News." The award will be presented next month at the association's national conference in San Francisco.



Baym

Along with laughs for the audience, the hosts of faux news programs deliver tough questions for politicians, questions frequently missing from mainstream news coverage, Baym says.

"Jon Stewart and Stephen Colbert are doing the heavy lifting of the Fourth Estate. They're doing what Cronkite was trying to do all those years ago, although using radically different methods."

On Oct. 30, Colbert and Stewart will host dueling rallies on D.C.'s National Mall, spoofing Glenn Beck's Aug. 28 Restoring Honor Rally.

Baym suggests that Stewart's Rally to Restore Sanity emphasizes a point "The Daily Show" and "The Colbert Report" have long been making.

"Stewart asks us to be serious by being silly," Baym says. "Colbert calls for reason by being unreasonable. The tools of comedy - satire, irony and parody - have become necessary ways to talk about a political culture that itself is growing increasingly bizarre."

Solomon Burke and Albertina Walker pass away

AMSTERDAM (AP) - Soul singer Solomon Burke died at Amsterdam's Schiphol Airport last week. He was 70.

Airport police spokesman Robert van Kapel confirmed the death of the singer Sunday, and referred further questions to the performer's management.

Burke, whose hits include "Cry to Me" and "Everybody Needs Somebody to Love," was both a Grammy winner and a member of the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame. He had been due to perform at a well-known club in Amsterdam earlier this week.

Albertina Walker died last Friday in at RML Specialty Hospital in Chicago of respiratory failure. She was 81.

Known as the "Queen of Gospel," Walker, a protegee of Mahalia Jackson, formed her own gospel group, the Caravans, as a young woman. Later, she played the role of mentor to many young singers.

Agent and friend Sasha Dalton said Walker stuck with gospel music even though she'd been encouraged to sing R&B during the 1960s and 1970s.

"She was revered in the gospel community because of her commitment to gospel, her distinctive style and her uncompromising faith in God," Dalton said. "It wasn't about the money. It was about the message."

A foundation Walker started to help young people get formal musical training now gives away \$10,000 a year. U.S. Rep. Bobby Rush said in a statement that Walker was a voice for the Civil Rights Movement whose music was "a healing balm to those who struggled for justice."

Walker, a lifelong Chicago resident, was a member of the West Point Baptist Church.

Nivens to talk about writing

Bookmarks is presenting an evening with mother/daughter authors, Penelope Niven and Jennifer Niven, on Friday, Oct. 22 at 7:30 p.m. at the Milton Rhodes Center for the Arts, 251 Spruce St.

The Nivens will discuss their adventures with some of the books they have written - and some of the books they almost wrote. A book signing with the authors will follow their talk. Proceeds from "A Conversation with Penelope Niven and Jennifer Niven" will benefit Bookmarks.



Penelope Niven

Penelope Niven, the recipient of the North Carolina Award in Literature, is a Winston-Salem resident and is the author of critically acclaimed biographies of poet Carl Sandburg and photographer Edward Steichen.

Jennifer's books include "The Ice Master," "Ada Blackjack," "Velva Jean Learns to Drive," and "The Aqua-Net Diaries: Big Hair, Big Dreams, Small Town."

Ticket prices are \$22 for general admission if purchased in advance; \$28 general admission if purchased at the door. The price for Premier Admission is \$90 (\$50 is tax deductible). Premier Admission includes a private reception with the Nivens beginning at 6 p.m. featuring heavy hors d'oeuvres; a copy of "The Aqua-Net Diaries" and "Swimming Lessons"; a book signing; reserved premier seating at the event, and limited VIP parking. To purchase tickets, visit www.bookmarksbookfestival.org or call Brown Paper Tickets 24/7 ticket hotline at 1-800-838-3006.

Marker honors all-black Lifesavers team

CHRONICLE STAFF REPORT

A highway marker was unveiled Monday on S.R.12 at the Pea Island National Refuge Visitor's Center along the state's Outer Banks.

The North Carolina Historical Highway Marker honors the Pea Island Lifesavers and the station's keeper, Richard Etheridge. From 1880-1900, under Etheridge's military discipline, it remained the only all-black facility in the U.S. Lifesaving Service.

Monday's unveiling included a screening of the documentary "Rescue Men: The Story of the Pea Island Life Savers," a film by Allan Smith based on the book "Fire on the Beach" by David Zoby and David Wright.

The dedication date recalls the most dramatic rescue of the lifesavers on Oct. 11, 1896, when a three-masted schooner, E.S. Newman, ran into a hurricane, lost all sails and drifted more than 100 miles before sinking just two miles south of the lifesaving station. Conditions forced Etheridge to send his two strongest swimmers into the surf, each tied to a rope. The surfmen tied survivors of the sunken ship to themselves and dragged the travelers back to shore, thus rescuing nine crew and passengers. After a campaign for recognition, Etheridge and his crew were posthumously awarded the Gold Lifesaving Medal in 1966.

A statue of Etheridge was unveiled this summer in front of the Pea Island Museum.



The Pea Island Lifesaving Station rescuers.

Photo courtesy of the N.C. Department of Cultural Resources

Lecture to focus on Cherokee slave owner

CHRONICLE STAFF REPORT

Tiya Miles, an award-winning author and noted professor of history, will lecture on "The Artistry of Women on the Vann Plantation" at the St. Philips Complex at Old Salem Museums & Gardens on Saturday, Oct. 16 at 2 p.m.

Miles' lecture will focus on the lives of women living and working in the southern backcountry in the 18th and 19th centuries, including Anna Rosina Gambold, a Moravian Missionary; Peggy Scott Vann, the wife of a Cherokee Plantation owner and slave holder; Pleasant, a slave at the Spring Place Mission in the Cherokee Nation; and other enslaved black women.

Miles is an associate professor of history, American culture, Afro-American studies and Native American studies at the University of Michigan. Her first book, "Ties That Bind: The Story of An Afro-Cherokee Family in Slavery and Freedom," won the Organization of American Historians' Turner Prize and the American Studies Association's Romero Prize.

"The House on Diamond Hill: A Cherokee Plantation Story," an exploration of African American life among American Indians, is Miles' most recent book. It tells of James Vann, a wealthy Cherokee who built a plantation called Diamond Hill in present-day north Georgia. Vann and his family possessed nearly 100 of the 583 black slaves owned by Cherokees in the first decade of the nineteenth century.

Women's book clubs and organizations are invited to set up displays at the lecture. Call 336-721-7399 or email charry@oldsalem.org for more information.



Miles

FINGER LICKIN' GOOD FIGHT



The recent Twin City Food Fight at the Piedmont Club raised nearly \$4,000 for Muscular Dystrophy Association, Second Harvest Food Bank of Northwest North Carolina and ClubCorp's Employee Partners Care Foundation. About 160 people attended the event, which featured food prepared by Piedmont Club Chef Charles Kurtz and Chef Jeff Bacon, founder of the Triad Community Kitchen. Here, Kurtz (second from left) and Bacon (second from right) pose with (from left) Celebrity Judge Wanda Starke of WXII-12, Second Harvest Food Bank CEO Clyde Fitzgerald; Celebrity Judge Chevara Orrin, a community advocate who owns WhiteSpace Gallery; and Piedmont Club Manager Peter Grzan.

"The Chittlin Circuit Review" coming to Delta Arts

CHRONICLE STAFF REPORT

The Delta Arts Center will open "The Chittlin Circuit Review," a sweeping series of paintings by Washington, D.C. artist Rik Freeman, on Oct. 22. An opening reception will be held on Sunday, Nov. 14 from 3 - 5 p.m. The paintings will be on display through Jan. 15, 2011.

Freeman's vibrant paintings chronicle the history of Blues music's passage from the country to the city, after turbulent social conditions of the rural countryside impelled a mass movement of African Americans to the North beginning in 1919.

Freeman has been evolving "The Chittlin Circuit Review" for the past 16 years. A native of Athens, Freeman has studied at Savannah State College and majored in painting at the University of Georgia. He also studied at The US Army School of Graphic Illustration in Denver. His murals can be seen through-



Rik Freeman's "Taint Nuttin Nu."

out the Washington, D.C. area.

"The Chittlin Circuit Review" began its tour at the Greater Reston Arts Center and has since been exhibited in Charleston, S.C., Jackson, Miss., Washington, D.C., and Gettysburg, Penn. The Delta exhibition will mark the first time this vibrant group of paintings will be shown in North Carolina.

A number of related activities and programs are planned, including a blues dinner with performances by Big Ron Hunter and Captain Luke on Oct. 29 at 7:30 p.m.



Rik Freeman

The Delta Arts Center is located at 2611 New Walkertown Road. For more information, call 336-722-2625 or go to www.deltafinearts.org.

NCCU bringing Grammy-winning Gospel talent to campus

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

Two Grammy Award-winning gospel singers, Israel & New Breed and Smokie Norful, will perform at N.C. Central University's Homecoming Lyceum concert on Oct. 26. Both U.S.-born artists have international followings. NCCU's popular gospel music concert is a traditional part of the school's Homecoming Week celebration.

The Lyceum event begins at 7 p.m. in McDougald-McLendon Gymnasium, 616 E. Lawson St.

The artist Israel Houghton is known professionally as Israel & New Breed. His more than 10 major albums are noted for blending pop, rock, Latin and R&B.

Houghton won a 2006 Grammy for



Smokie Norful

Best Traditional Gospel Album and a 2008 award for Best Pop/Contemporary Gospel Album. This year, he won in the same category for his album, "The Power of One." The album was recorded at London's famed Abbey Road Studios. He also has received two Stellar and two Dove awards.

Houghton is worship leader at Lakewood Church, a mega-church in Houston, Tex., led by the Rev. Joel Osteen. His first album, "Whisper It Loud" was released in 1997. He has written or co-written 11 Christian Copyright Licensing International Top 500 songs.

Norful's "Nothing Without You" album won a Grammy in 2004 for Best Contemporary Soul Gospel Album. The