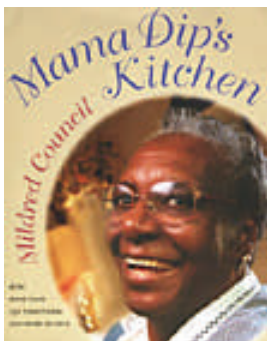


Friends of the Library Highlight Spring Programs

by Susan F. Whitt

The Friends of the Library of The University of North Carolina at Pembroke is an organization committed to sponsoring educational and cultural activities for our community. This goal has been actively achieved this academic year. Not only have the Friends sponsored programs during the fall semester, they have planned interesting and engaging programs for the upcoming spring semester.



Mildred Council on the cover of her book, *Mama Dip's Kitchen*

On February 3, 2009, please join the Friends for an evening celebrating Black History Month. Featuring **Anita Spring Council**, the daughter of **Mildred Council** better known as "**Mama Dip**," the event promises to be interesting. You may know "Mama Dip" from her appearances on the North Carolina Public Broadcasting System or from eating at her restaurant in Chapel Hill. I personally have a hard time sharing the sweet potato biscuits when I have the opportunity to eat there. Spring Council will discuss her mother and her mother's cookbooks, *Mama Dip's Kitchen* and *Mama Dip's Family Cookbook*, which are published by the University of North Carolina Press. This event will be held in the Library and will begin at 7:00 p.m. with a reception to follow. Signed books will be available for purchase.

In their continuing effort to highlight campus authors, the Friends are planning a program on March 18, 2009. **Dr. Charles Beem** and **Dr. Shelby Stephenson** will be featured. Dr. Beem will discuss his new book *The Royal Minorities of Medieval and Early Modern England*. Dr. Stephenson will discuss his recently published work *Family Matters: Homage to July, the Slave Girl*, which is a collection of poems about slaves, slave owners, and slave ownership in North Carolina. This title was selected as the winner of the 2008 Bellday Poetry Prize. The program will begin at 10:15 a.m. in the main reading room of the Library. A reception will follow the program, which is free and open to the public.



Dr. Shelby Stephenson

The Friends are delighted about their upcoming 2009 benefit "**Celebrating Your Southern Self @ the Library**." Featured speaker will be **Celia Rivenbark**. Her humor, often described as "an edgy Erma," is the result of her growing up in the poor but colorful countryside of eastern North Carolina. Ms. Rivenbark is known for her syndicated humor column that appears in papers throughout the country. This column was the inspiration for her first book *Bless Your Heart, Tramp*. It was a best selling title in the Southeast. *We're Just Like You, Only Prettier* was her next book and was the winner of the Southern Independent Booksellers Alliance Award for Non-Fiction Book of the Year in 2004. In 2006 her next release, *Stop Dressing Your Six-Year-Old Like a Skank*, was named best title of the year by the magazine *Entertainment Weekly*. Her new book *Belle Weather: Mostly Sunny with a Chance of Scattered Hissy Fits* was released in August 2008. There is no doubt that her presence at our benefit will be entertaining.

Photo by Kenneth C. Flynn



Celia Rivenbark

UNCP music students will entertain and a truly elegant Southern dinner will be available. Live and silent auctions will offer exciting items on which to bid. More information on this benefit will be in the next issue of *Library Lines*. Be sure to mark your calendar for April 17, 2009. This is our eighth annual benefit and we expect tickets to go quickly. Over \$16,000 was raised from last year's benefit, "A North Carolina Evening @ the Library." Proceeds raised from our benefits go to support the Friends of the Library initiatives such as funding four scholarships and book scholarships established to assist students at UNCP, funding the McNaughton leasing program for popular reading materials and movies on DVD, and underwriting projects in the Library's archives and special collections areas.



Dr. Charles Beem

Photo provided by author

photo provided by author

To find out more about our Friends group, the programs it sponsors, or to join this very worthwhile organization, call the Library at 910.775.4242 or go to the Library's webpage at <http://www.uncp.edu/library/friends/>.