pictures in 1961 with his role as actress Rita Moreno appeared as March 2003, when prolific Academy Award, the Golden Gossett has been awarded the motion pictures and television, his rather lengthy career in awards highlighting hallmarks of in Old Main.

plans to be interviewed before his Distinguished Speaker Series and on Feb. 24 at 7 p.m. Hollywood royalty when welcome a member of Academy award winner to visit campus By Wade Allen Managing Editor

The UNCP Friends of the Library hosted Mildred “Mama Dip” Council, who is a self-described “cook,” rather than a chef on Feb. 3 at 7 p.m. in the Livermore Library. Mama Dip, author of “Mama Dip’s Family Cookbook” and “Mama Dip’s Kitchen,” spoke to a crowd of over 50 people.

Mama Dip is the proud owner of Mama Dip’s Traditional Country Cooking restaurant in Chapel Hill, N.C., which she opened when she was 70 years old.

“I never thought that I would get this far, as far as the restau- rant is concerned,” Mama Dip said.

When asked what the main characteristic of Southern food was, her reply was simple.

“Friendliness,” Mama Dip said. “It’s friendly on the table.”

Mama Dip has penned two cookbooks, “Mama Dip’s Family Cookbook” and “Mama Dip’s Kitchen.” Following her speech, Mama Dip autographed copies of her books for those who pur- chased them.

“They told me I had to come out here and speak,” Mama Dip said. “So, ladies and gentlemen,” Mama Dip said, straightening her gray suit jacket, “How ya’ll doing?”

Full of Southern charm and wit, Mama Dip wasted no time telling the assembled variety of people what her life had been like and the hardships that she has faced.

“In 1939, you can imagine how good a piece of ham hock would look,” Mama Dip said. Among Mama Dip’s most famous foods are her once-a-kind collard greens and even those have a story.

According to Mama Dip, she was hired for her first cooking job by a woman from Goldsboro. A mother of eight, Mama Dip said, “I called Mama Dip the other day from the grocery store and she said, ‘Can I bring you anything?’”

“I said, ‘Ah, ok, she done jumped on my wagon!’”

Mama Dip has been invited to New York to appear on CBS tele- vision and cook a Thanksgiving meal. Although she was eager to introduce her recipes to the coun- try, she was apprehensive of going up North because of her humble upbringing.

“Down South, we stroll,” Mama Dip said. “Up there, they trot.”

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Mama Dip went on to explain that over 800 people ate in her restaurant on New Year’s Day. “Anybody can come to Mama Dip’s,” she said. “You go other places, and it’s $49 for two people. Better not get steak, it’s $75.”

She has appeared in “Southern Living” magazine and on various cooking television shows over the years. Mama Dip was introduced by Spring Council, who proved to share her mother’s gift of humor and extending that to others. Perhaps the biggest laugh of the evening was courtesy of Spring Council, as she described her mother.

“I called Mama Dip the other day and I told her, ‘Mama Dip, I want you to drive down the street, you have to do this. I want you to drive down the street, you have to do this.’”

“I said, ‘I love collard greens,’” Mama Dip recollected. “And I said, ‘I promise, you’ll never eat collard greens again.’”

According to Mama Dip, she was 19 when her first child was born and 29 when she had her last.

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