

happenings

August

24 Pre-Labor Day golf tournament sponsored by Greater Gethsemane AME Zion Church, Olde Sycamore Golf Club. Entry fee \$65 per player and \$260 per foursome. Proceeds benefit Christian Education department and scholarship fund. Registration should be completed by Aug. 7 and mailed with entry fee to 531 Campus St., Charlotte, NC 28216. For information, call (704) 375-3900, extension 10.

26 Great Gatsby Party sponsored by National Multiple Sclerosis Society Mid-Atlantic Chapter, Wachovia Atrium. Food and beverages from Charlotte's top restaurants, silent auction, swing dance and costume contest. Tickets are \$35 in advance, \$40 at the door. Call Catherine Turner at (704) 525-2955 or visit www.nationalmssociety.org/nep.

Health and Education Fair, Theresa Elder Park, 6301 Rockwell Church Road. Sponsored by YET Ministries of Rockwell AME Zion Church.

26 Back to School Evangelistic Block Party, 12-6 p.m., Walls Memorial AME Zion Church, 2722 Bancroft St. Food vendors, dunking booth and 8-on-8 basketball.

September

Earth Wind & Fire, Verizon Wireless Amphitheatre. Special guest Chris Botti. Tickets are \$24 and \$54.

Charlotte Shout, a month of dance, music and culinary delights through Sept. 29.

Pride Sunset Jazz Festival kicks off at Halton Theater at Central Piedmont Community College, 7:30 p.m. and continues through Sept. 10. Indoor concert with Fred Wesley, Maceo Parker and Carla Cook. Admission \$35 orchestra, \$30 balcony. Free Sept. 9 concert on the green at 435 S. Tryon St. 1 p.m. Featuring Dave Goldberg and the Duane Allen Quintet, Ziad featuring Mandyl Evans and Puchio Brown & the Latin Soul Brothers, Tyrone Jefferson, Saltman & Knowles and Celia Smith highlight Sept. 10 show at 1 p.m. on the green. Free. For information, call Torrey Feinster at (704) 375-9553.

"Blackout 2006: A Theatre Event," Afro-American Cultural Center through Sept. 16. Event explores impact black gays had on the Harlem Renaissance in the early 1900s. Friday program starts at 8 p.m.; Saturday program starts at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$10. For information, call (704) 713-6948 or (704) 968-3916.

Acoustic Music Showcase, Dale F. Halton Theater, Central Piedmont Community College, 1206 Elizabeth Ave., 7 p.m. Tickets \$12 for adults, \$10 for seniors and \$6 for children under 16. For ticket information, call the box office at (704) 330-6534. For a list of performers, go to www.toscomusicparty.org.

Alison Brown Quintet, 7:30 p.m., McGlohn Theatre. Grammy-winning banjoist shows off her range from acoustic to its bluegrass roots. Tickets are \$21-\$28. For information, call (704) 372-1000 or visit www.blumenthalcenter.org or www.carolinatix.org.

Charlotte Post Best, Hilton Charlotte Center City, 222 E. 3rd St. Celebrating 10 years of The Post's annual scholarship gala. Entertainment by A Sign of the Times Big Band. Honorees are Nicole Beach (Top Senior), Donmarae Wade (Top Senior runner-up) Wachovia (corporation of the year), Big Brothers Big Sisters (community service) and Robert Davis (Luminary Award). Tickets are \$75 and proceeds benefit The Charlotte Post Foundation. For information, call (704) 376-0496 or log on to www.thecharlottepost.com.

24 Nancy Wilson, Blumenthal Performing Arts Center, 8 p.m. Sponsored by the Southern Area of The Links. Tickets \$100 and available by calling (704) 372-1000 or online at www.salinks.org. Proceeds benefit the HBCU Scholarship Endowment Initiative.

October

Black Political Caucus of Charlotte-Mecklenburg will host its annual fundraiser/banquet, 6:30 p.m., Sheraton Airport Hotel, 3315 Scott Futrell Drive. The caucus will recognize individuals who make Charlotte a better community to live and work. For information, call Ella Williams at (704) 596-1332 or (704) 231-0294 or Gloria Rembert at (704) 948-8089 or (704) 737-6185.

Bill Cosby, Blumenthal Performing Arts Center, 4 p.m. and 7 p.m. Tickets are \$25-\$50 at the box office in Founders Hall, by phone at (704) 372-1000 and online at www.blumenthalcenter.org.

Ebony Fashion Fair, Owens Auditorium, 2700 E. Independence Blvd. "Stylishly Hot" is sponsored by Delta Zeta Chapter of Zeta Phi Beta sorority. Tickets are \$25 general admission, \$35 for reserved seating. For information, go to www.zetasofcharlotte.org.

LISTEN

Gena Chambers



GENA CHAMBERS

Gena Chambers, winner of "Gimme The Mike Charlotte 2004," will showcase her singing talents Sept. 16 at the Big Chill, 911 East Morehead St. The show starts at 8 p.m., and includes soloist Kevin Jones and Chill Factor. Tickets are \$10 in advance at Shear Energy Salon and \$15 at the door. For information, call (704) 889-5216.

WATCH

North Carolina Shakespeare Festival



NORTH CAROLINA SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL

Students can get to know the world's greatest playwright during the North Carolina Shakespeare Festival's MainStage season, Sept. 8-Oct. 8 in High Point and Oct. 11-15 in Raleigh. Productions include "Romeo & Juliet" and "The Taming of the Shrew." More than a dozen performances are scheduled for school groups throughout MainStage. Admission is \$12 per student. Teachers can make reservations in advance by calling (336) 841-2273, extension 226 or e-mail sales@ncshakes.org.

WITNESS

"I Am My Own Wife"



PHOTO: GARRIE CRANFORD

Scott Ripley stars in the Pulitzer Prize and Tony Award-winning drama "I Am My Own Wife," which opens the Actor's Theatre's 2006-07 season Sept. 6-23. Ripley plays Charlotte von Mahisdorf and 34 characters as a real-life German transvestite who navigated the Nazi and communist regimes of Eastern Europe. Opening night reception for cast and director is \$23. Tickets on Thursdays (7:30 p.m.) are \$23; Fridays (8 p.m.); Saturdays (8 p.m.) \$25 and Sept. 17 matinee (2:30 p.m.) \$23. For tickets, call (704) 342-2251 or go online at www.actorstheatrecharlotte.com.

Good to go



MOVING DAY



PHOTO: WADE NASH

Stephanie George of Wilmington (left) moves into her dormitory at Livingstone College last week. Helping her are nephew Jacob Rutland-George, 2, and friend Britney Lorch.

Notes etc.

Urban League cookout and open house, Aug. 24, 5 p.m., Urban League of Central Carolinas highlights its services and opportunities for involvement. Includes fundraiser raffle and Urban League officials and graduates to discuss programs. For information, call Sarah Biggers at (704) 373-2256, extension 205 or e-mail sbbiggers@urbanleaguecc.org.

Charlotte Neighborhoods Family Day, Aug. 26, 12 a.m.-12 p.m., Charlotte Museum, 3500 Shamrock Drive. Tour the Charlotte Museum's interactive exhibit of Plaza-Midwood through maps and photos. Free for museum members; \$6 for adults, \$5 for students and seniors and \$3 for children.

Minority business conference, Aug. 26, N.C. Department of Public Instruction, 301 North Wilmington St., Raleigh, N.C. Education Lottery will hold conference to bring together minority vendors from across the state. Starts at 8 a.m. Conference will be held in Room 150 North. For information, call (919) 301-3300.

Renting vs. buying a home workshop, Morrison YMCA, 9405 Bryant Farms Road, Aug. 26. Mortgage expert will share information on pros and cons of renting, advantages to buying, basics on credit and mortgage financing.

Daycare preparedness initiative, Aug. 29, 3 p.m., Sheraton Charlotte Airport. All day care providers invited to meet representatives from Mecklenburg County Health and Homeland Security Offices, FEMA and American Red Cross. Free. To register or for information, e-mail bbpreparednow@bjnj.net.

Charlotte Writers Club kicks off its 2006-07 monthly meeting schedule Sept. 19 at 7 p.m. at Joseph-Beth Booksellers. Mark Ethridge, author of "Grievances," will present his experiences as a first-time novelist. Free.

Genology research course at Central Piedmont Community College, Thursdays from Sept. 14-Oct. 12. For geneologists, historians and anyone learning to preserve and organize family memorabilia. Classes will be held at 7 p.m. For information, call (704) 995-0731 or e-mail preservepro@earthlink.net.

Motivational speaker and health and nutrition expert **Dr. Ann Gregoire Kulze** will talk at Sykes Auditorium, Queens University Sept. 19 at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$35 and includes one-year membership to Friends of the Library, sponsor of Kulze's talk. To RSVP, call (704) 837-2437 or e-mail Winnie Bryce at brycew@queens.edu by Sept. 15.



Kulze

Charlotte Preparatory School open house, Sept. 28, 7 p.m., 212 Boyce Road. Open house for early lower and middle school students. Information about the school, its educational philosophy curriculum and student environment will be available.

Step back in history Saturdays through Nov. 25 at **Historic Brattonsville** in McConells, S.C. Costumed interpreters will bring to life aspects of 18th and 19th century living with themes changing weekly. Admission is free for Culture & Heritage Museum members, \$6 for adults, \$5 for seniors, and \$3 for children.

Exhibits

"Mexico," through Oct. 12, Knight Gallery, Middleton McMillan Gallery, The Light Factory. Black and white prints from photographer Harvey Stein from his visits south of the border.

"(ID): An exhibit of self-portraiture," Aug. 18-Oct. 12, Knight Gallery, The Light Factory. Exhibit designed to reveal the real idea of self, or what happens when the artist turns the camera inward.

Spanish Colonial Art from the Lilly and Francis Robicsek Collection, Mint Museum of Art, 2870 Randolph Road through September 10. Paintings, sculptures, silver and furniture from the late 17th through 19th century.

Mining for grant gold workshop, Charlotte Art League, 1517 Camden Road, 7 p.m. Fee is \$10 a person. Answers questions about the grant process and creating a successful proposal. For information, call CAL at (704) 376-2787, or log on to www.charlotteartleague.org.

Opening reception for "Force of Nature," Oct. 11-13 at UNC Charlotte, Davidson College and Winthrop University. Ten artists from Japan will be in residence with each school for six weeks. The exhibition explores the relationship between humans and nature through the minds and hands of contemporary artists. The exhibit at Davidson's Ven Every/Smith Galleries, UNC's College of Architecture and Winthrop University Galleries is intended to provoke dialogue and discussion with members of each host community while bringing the work of young artists to people who have few opportunities to view contemporary Japanese art. For information, log on to www.halseycofc.edu/fon.html.

Woven Worlds: American Indian Baskets as Works of Art, through Dec. 31, Mint Museum of Craft + Design, 220 N. Tryon St. Baskets from the Clark Field Collection honors tribal groups from the U.S., Canada and northern Mexico dating from the late 19th to mid-20th century. For information, call (704) 337-2000 or www.mintmuseum.org.