

happenings

September

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

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

8 Pride Sunset Jazz Festival kicks off at Hilton 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 Pucho 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

14 Hip hop pioneer Kurtis Blow and reggae/dance hall icon **Papa San** share their stories of inspiration and hope at a taping of INSP's Mixx Masters Lounge. Doors open at 6:15 p.m. and tickets are free by calling (704) 561-7809 or visiting www.mixxmasterslounge.com/tickets. Performances on Sept. 15 and Sept. 16.

15 "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) 968-8916.

16 Acoustic Music Showcase, Dale F. Hilton 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) 390-6534. For a list of performers, go to www.tosomusicparty.org.

We Must Praise, Owens Auditorium, 7 p.m. Tickets \$11-\$26 in advance, \$16-\$31 day of the show.

21 Alison Brown Quintet, 7:30 p.m., McGlohan 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.carolinatx.org.

23 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), Donarae 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

fit The Charlotte Post Foundation. For information, call (704) 376-0496 or log on to www.thecharlottepost.com.

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.

"Music of the Great Depression," Charlotte Museum of History, 3500 Shamrock Drive. Depression-era activities and storytelling for all ages. Free. Reserved seating concert, reservations required.

One Man Star Wars, McGlohan Theatre at Spirit Square, 7 p.m. and 9 p.m. Charles Ross stars in a one-man performance. Tickets are \$20 and \$25 at the box office in Founders Hall, by calling (704) 372-1000 and online at www.blumenthalcenter.org.

San Jose Taiko, McGlohan Theatre at Spirit Square, 7:30 p.m. Performance inspired by traditional Japanese drumming that expresses the beauty and harmony of the human spirit. Tickets are \$22-\$28 at available at the box office at Founders Hall, by phone at (704) 372-1000 and online at www.blumenthalcenter.org

29 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 2006," will showcase her singing talents Sept. 14 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.

Goal to go

GREAT GATSBY FOR MS



PHOTO/PAUL WILLIAMS III

Judy and Jeff Green dressed for the 1920s Saturday at the National Multiple Sclerosis Society's annual fund raiser. This year's theme was the Great Gatsby.

RUBBER BAND MAN

Southwest DeKalb High School dazzled fans at the Charlotte Superband Showcase at Memorial Stadium.



PHOTO/WADE NASH

PRAISE DANCE



PHOTO/PAUL WILLIAMS III

Keonna Torrence of Mount Carmel Baptist Church led a liturgical dance program Aug. 19 at the church. The program brought together praise dance troupes from five churches.

Notes etc.

Second Ward High School National Alumni Foundation, meets Sept. 1, Second Ward Alumni House and Museum, 1905 Beatties Ford Road. For information, call Vermelle Diamond Ely at (704) 392-5686.

Fish fry sponsored by **Silver Set Lodge 327,** Sept. 2 at 10:30 a.m., Tyrrence Grove Road. Plates are \$6 each. For information, call (704) 597-7557.

Grier Heights homecoming reunion Sept. 4, starting with a parade at 501 Billingsley Road at 10:30 a.m. Program following the parade includes food, games and recognition of residents who have succeeded in professions and businesses. For information, call Janice Clawson at (704) 332-3000 or George Wallace at (704) 375-9566.

Charlotte Chapter of N.C. Central University Alumni Association monthly meeting Sept. 5 at the Kappa Fraternity House, 5409 Beatties Ford Road, 7 p.m. For information, call Gardner Johnson at (980) 343-6822 or Johanna Gray at (704) 869-3257.

Jazz music workshop, Sept. 9, 11 a.m., Afro-American Cultural Center, 401 N. Myers St. Vocalist Carla Cook and saxophonist Maceo Parker featured. Cost: \$10.

Narnia Lovers Bookclub will discuss "The Magician's Nephew" Sept. 23, 3 p.m., West Boulevard Public Library. For registration and information, call (704) 336-6802.

Back to School Festival, Sept. 23, Thomasboro neighborhood. Vendors and school supplies welcome. Call Vanessa Johnson at (704) 321-1092.

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.

Genealogy research course at Central Piedmont Community College, Thursdays from Sept. 14-Oct. 12. For genealogists, 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) 337-2437 or e-mail Winnie Bryce at brycew@queens.edu by Sept. 15.

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 Bratonsville** in McConnells, 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.

96.1 The Beat Holla Run 5K race, Oct. 26, 7 p.m. Race starts at Morehead Street and ends at Carson Boulevard. For race information, log on to www.runforyourlife.com.

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," through 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 Robiesek Collection, Mint Museum of Art, 2370 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 bining the work of young artists to people who have few opportunities to view contemporary Japanese art. For information, log on to www.halsey.cofc.edu/fof.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.