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NORTH CAROLINA

North Carolina News Notes

by Lainey Millen . Q-Notes staff

CHARLOTTE

All moved in

CHARLOTTE — The Lesbian & Gay Community Center has now completed its move into its new headquarters at 820 Hamilton St., Suite B6 and B11 in the North Carolina Music Factory.

Hours of operation are 5-8 p.m., Tuesdays through Thursdays and 10 a.m.-1 p.m., Saturdays.

For more information, call 704-333-0144 or email executivedirector@gaycharlotte.com.

Guild to host Shoemaker

CHARLOTTE — Dr. Stephen Shoemaker, M.Div., senior minister of Myers Park Baptist Church, will be the guest speaker at the Charlotte Business Guild (CBG) monthly meeting on Mar. 18 at the VanLandingham Estate, 5:30-8 p.m. The event is sponsored by Principal Financial Group.

Shoemaker showed great courage and wisdom by standing up to the North Carolina Baptist State Convention, which wanted to penalize Myers Park Baptist Church for welcoming gays and lesbians into its congregation. As a result, the church was expelled from the convention.

Cost is \$15 for CBG members; \$25 for guests and non-members (\$5 added for those without reservations).

Reservations should be made by noon on Friday, Mar. 14 by email to businessguild@yahoo.com or by phone to 704-565-5075. Individuals making reservations who do not attend will be charged for the event.

For more information, visit www.charlottebusinessguild.com.

PIEDMONT-TRIAD

Conference to target silence

GREENSBORO — The ChangeAIDS Conference will be held on Mar. 22 at Guilford College. Take part in a grassroots conference that aims to shatter the silence surrounding HIV/AIDS. The day includes teach-ins and grassroots collaboration. Exploring the intersections of power, privilege and stigma, these workshops will provide tactics and strategies for community action and sociopolitical advocacy.

Speakers include: Lisa Tiger, AIDS educator and member of the Muscogee Nation; Matt Kavanaugh, director of Global Justice; Erin Burns, national student coordinator of Student Global AIDS Campaign; Justin Smith, director of Project STYLE; Martha Lang, Medical Sociologist; and others.

The event is free and open to everyone.

For more information or to register, visit www.changeaids.org.

Oscar comes to Triad

GREENSBORO — Residents of the Triad gathered to enjoy the 80th Academy Awards on Feb. 24 at a local Oscar Night America party. The event was one of 52 official parties sanctioned by the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences held across the country on Academy Awards night and raised more than \$4,000 to support the programs and services of Triad Health Project.

It took place at 1618 West Seafood Grille.

Guests watched the Academy Awards

telecast on large screen televisions courtesy of ABC 45 WXLV-TV, which broadcast the awards presentation.

For more information, email mbaker@triadhealthproject.com.

TRIANGLE

SONG + intern = U

DURHAM — Southerners On New Ground (SONG) is seeking a visionary and leader with some organizing experience (events, campaigns, community groups, etc.) for a six-month internship. The intern will be involved in all the program work of SONG and be mentored by SONG staff. This intern will also be involved in the planning for the historic celebration of SONG's 15th anniversary.

It is a 15-hour-a-week position. Pay is \$10 per hour.

The intern will need to be able to travel at least once a month. SONG can only accept applicants who live (permanently or temporarily) within 30 miles of Durham because of budgetary constraints.

Due date for consideration is Mar. 17. The intern will be hired on April 14. Internship begins on May 1 and will end on Nov. 1.

For more information, call Caitlin Breedlove at 919-286-3230, email breedlovecaitlin@gmail.com or visit www.southernersonnewground.org.

It's sew fun!

LAKE GASTON — Reconciling United Methodists and Friends will hold a retreat on Mar. 15 from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. in order to build community and prepare stoles and rainbow crosses for the informational booth at the annual conference in June.

Lunch will be provided.

Participants are asked to bring irons, ironing boards, fabric scissors, needles and thread, cutting boards and a dessert dish.

Carpooling is available from Calvary UMC in Durham at 8:30 a.m. on the day of the event. The trip takes an hour and a half.

For location, directions, registration, email wcp0622@gmail.com.

Triangle Helpline to hold training

RALEIGH — Want to make a difference by providing peer support for someone who is coming out or is dealing with other issues? Then volunteer for the Triangle LGBT Helpline.

The Helpline is currently looking for volunteers to staff the telephone line. The next two-day training session will be held Friday night and all day Saturday, Mar. 14-15.

Training includes active listening skills, role plays, discussion activities and an orientation session with an experienced volunteer.

The Helpline is open Sunday-Thursday evenings from 6:30-9:30 p.m.

The LGBT Helpline is one of the longest-running helplines in the state for the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and same-gender-loving community. "We also get calls from parents and friends of gay folks, to help them get resources and better understand the situation," Jan Muller, board chair of Triangle Community Works, and a trainer said. "Some callers are only looking for specific information, and some call to talk to a friendly person."

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