

CAABJ sponsors talent auditions Saturday at Spirit Square

Around Charlotte

• The Charlotte Area Association of Black Journalists and Spirit Square are looking for Charlotte's most talented performers.

Auditions will be held for the Queen City Talent Showcase Saturday at Spirit Square, 345 N. College St. Auditions start at 9 a.m., and the first 50 performers to register on-site will audition live. Everyone else can audition with video or audio tapes.

First place wins \$1,000; second is worth \$500 and third is \$250.

Tapes should be sent by June 21 to CAABJ, P.O. Box 32574, Charlotte, N.C. 28232. Include a description of the performance and name and phone number. Tapes will not be returned.

• The Plato Price High School Alumni will hold its monthly meeting on Monday. The meeting will be at Moore's Sanctuary AME Zion Church at 6:45 p.m. The Alumni Choir Glee Club will rehearse at 7:30 p.m. For more information, call David L. Grier at 366-0046 or Worth Williams at 596-4105.

• The Kujichagulia organization will have classes that focus on self-empowerment and self-knowledge on Monday through Thursday. The classes begin at 7:30 p.m. at Walls Memorial AME Zion Church on 2722 Bancroft St. The workshop cost is \$10 (this goes towards the purchase of a workbook). The instructors are Meloye Stewart and Rev. Sheldon Shipman. For more information, call 375-5361 or 375-6131.

• The Charlotte Housing Authority is presenting a children's play titled "The Star That Hangs Closest To The Earth," on August 2-3 at 3 p.m. and 8 p.m. The fee is \$5 for adults and \$3 for children. The theme is "Difference is not inferior." For more information, call 372-7469.

• The Mecklenburg County Park and Recreation Department and EPIC Special Events is sponsoring Funday in the Park today at 3 p.m. at Johnston Memorial YMCA. For more information, call 643-5521.

• There will be a "Jammin for Hope and Health Fair" on Saturday to celebrate the 100th anniversary of Chapel of Christ the King. Special guests include WPEG's Breakfast Brothas, the Charlotte Hornets Honey Bees Dancers, the Akwaaba Drummers Dance Troupe, Daryl Ryce and others. Free medical services will be available. Immunizations are available with immunization records. Festivities will take place at 17th and Caldwell streets. For more information, call 333-0378.

• The Young Black Professional Organization will have a car wash on July 6 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Burger King on Central Avenue.

• The Grier Heights Economic Foundation will hosts its second annual community service awards banquet at 6 p.m. on June 22. The banquet will be held at the Best Western Hotel on 3024 E. Independence Blvd. Harvey Gantt, a candidate for the U.S. Senate, will be the guest speaker. For more information, call 375-9566.

• The Charlotte Housing Authority will host the "Proud to Be Drug Free" basketball tournament today through Saturday. There will be a luncheon held today at 1 p.m. in the ballroom of the Marriott Center Hotel. Games are free and open to the public. For more information, call 336-5222.

• Chapter 54 of Winners on Wheels will hold its first awards ceremony on Saturday at the Greenville Neighborhood Center. Wheel Awards will be presented every six months in the areas of arts and crafts, games for self esteem, and games for using the buddy system. The goal of the Wheel Award program is to build self-esteem in children who use wheelchairs. For more information, call 1-800-969-8255.

• The Neighborhood Assistance Corporation of America will hold a seminar for people who want to own a home. The seminar will teach people about closing costs and down payments. The seminar will begin at 4:30 p.m. on June 23. The workshop will be held at Mount Carmel Baptist Church on 3201 Tuckaseegee Road. For more information, call 536-7676 or 1-800-391-5526.

• The Charlotte Chamber will

hold a seminar titled "Meet The Lenders," NationsBank and the Small Business Administration are the sponsors of this workshop. The workshop starts today at 7:30 a.m. and runs until 1:30 p.m. The cost is \$35 for Chamber members and \$45 for non-members. For more information, call 374-1903.

• Charlotte Mecklenburg Schools is enrolling preschool (4 years old) students. Briarwood, Highland, Winterfield and Merry Oaks are the participating elementary schools. For an appointment, call 343-5535.

• Hands on Charlotte will work with the Gains Laundry Man to promote the importance of volunteerism among local residents. Charlotteans can get up to two loads of clothes washed for free if they are brave enough to "air their dirty laundry." For more information, call 312-329-7578.

• The Salvation Army Adventure Camp will run from June 10 through July 12. For more information, call 523-0394.

• Mecklenburg Senior Citizens are having an attic sale and fish fry at the residence of Maggie Freeman June 22 at 10 a.m. You must bring your own table if

you want to be a sponsor. The cost is \$25. For more information, call Freeman at 372-0670.

• Angels Jazz Society will have a summer cabaret on June 21 from 10 to 12 p.m. featuring Conversation Piece. The cabaret

will be held at the Radisson Plaza Hotel. The cost is \$10. Proceeds will go to St. Michaels Episcopal Church.

For more information, call 376-7709.

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Social Lites



PHOTO/PAUL WILLIAMS III

Former WPEG radio personality Skip Murphy (center) is greeted by friends and fans last week during Black Radio Exclusive's national convention in Charlotte. Murphy, who now works in Dallas, was in town for the meetings and parties, which drew professionals from the radio and recording industries.

Myrlie Evers-Williams leads the revamped NAACP

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say about you, you have to stay focused on your goals."

Evers-Williams' schedule is non-stop, with meetings and fund raising taking the majority of her time. And unlike previous chairs, she isn't paid to do the job.

"I am the first chairman across the board who has ever worked full time, non-salaried, who has the responsibility of restoring the credibility of the organization and who has the responsibility of raising the funds to literally keep the doors open," she said.

Williams has been on the road for 47 weeks carrying the message that the NAACP is cleaning house and it is positioning itself again to work for the black community.

Williams said that she, newly elected NAACP President, Kwesi Mfume, and other officials will spend time after next month's national convention in Charlotte, cleaning the organization's image, facing issues that threaten civil rights, and recruiting younger members.

"We had to cut our staff drastically," Evers-Williams said. "We had to clean up things from the inside and I am amazed at what has been done in this last year. Now we are branching out and doing the work that is in our constitution. It was very unpleasant for me to terminate loyal people who have held positions for 10 and 20 years, but it was something that had to be done."

"In the last year we have cut our deficit from \$5 million to \$1.5 million."

Williams said her love for the organization, her people and love for her grandchildren motivates her. She quoted the phrase "To whom much is given, much is required."

"When I look at my grandchildren and other grandchildren, I know that I must continue the struggle for them because racism is still alive," she said.

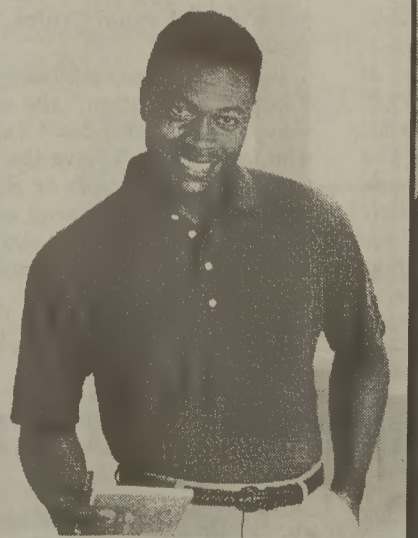
"Our people have become too complacent. We are taking for granted the gains that have been afforded by the NAACP and other civil rights organizations. It doesn't sound exciting or sexy, but that's it. We have to do as my first husband said and continue to fight for opportunity, justice, equality."



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