

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

April 16

Arty Party, Actor's Theatre of Charlotte, 6-10 p.m., 650 East Stonewall St. A collection of ATC legends will perform, such as "Hedwig," "Bat Boy," and heroes from "Violet." Includes food, drinks and silent auction. Reservations are \$150 per couple by calling (704) 342-2251 with proceeds going to Actor's Theatre for support of future productions and the new facility.

Piedmont Adult Living Services third annual golf tournament, Pine Island Country Club, 1701 Stoneridge Drive. Shotgun start at 1 p.m.

"The Member of The Wedding," Pease Auditorium, Central Piedmont Community College. Repeats April 17, 23, and 24 at 8 p.m. and 2:30 p.m. April 25. Tickets are \$25 at CPCC box office or calling (704) 330-6534.

Save A Life Youth Lock-in, Arbor Glen Outreach Center, 1205 Clanton Road, 6 p.m.-12 a.m. Variety of games and fun centered on alcohol awareness sponsored by Fighting Back program.

April 17

Chinua Hawk, Dinkins ATS Cafe, Winthrop University. Admission is \$5 with Winthrop ID, \$7 for public.

Frolic at Central Piedmont Community College's central campus on Elizabeth Avenue. Free. Scheduled from 12-7 p.m., rain or shine. The Front Porch Stage will feature blues, jazz, gospel and Native American music. A Side Porch workshop tent will feature performers in a second, more informal setting where the audience can listen, see playing styles and instruments up close and get to know the performers better.

Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Charlotte Alumnae Chapter fashion show, Charlotte Marriott Executive Park, 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Admission is \$25. Proceeds go to college scholarships for the sorority's spring cotillion.

REACH 2010 Celebration of Life, McCrorey YMCA, 12 p.m. Sponsored by Mecklenburg County Fighting Back.

April 18

Save A Life, End Underage Drinking basketball tournament, First Ward Recreation, 610 East Seventh St., 2-6 p.m. Sponsored by Fighting Back.

April 22

Fighting Back community empowerment workshop, West Boulevard Branch Library, 2157 West Blvd., 6-8 p.m.

April 23

Friends of the Mint coffee and lecture, 10 a.m. Robert Hicklin, dealer and director of Renaissance Gallery in Charleston, S.C. For more information, call Priscilla Dabney at (704) 366-9808.

April 24

Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Charlotte Alumnae Chapter spring cotillion, Charlotte Convention Center, 6 p.m. Young women in high school with outstanding academic achievement, leadership and community involvement are selected debutantes. Admission is free. For information, call Melody Harris at (704) 399-4002 or Sondra Hines at (704) 338-9328.

Northeast Communities Organization community yard sale and bazaar, Hampshire Hills Shopping Center at the Plaza and Milton Road. Table rentals \$15 for community residents. Interested vendors can call John Minter at (704) 563-0198 or Doris Nurrullah at (704) 537-4297.

Fighting Back community empowerment workshop, Northwest Health Dept. 2845 Beatties Ford Road, 10 a.m.-12 p.m.

National Kidney Foundation of N.C. kidney screening, Northwest Health Dept. 2845 Beatties Ford Road, 12 p.m.

April 25

Historic Rosedale presents "The Sale" 1-4 p.m. A dramatic event recreated by costumed interpreters, dealing with the public sale of the Frew plantation to pay the taxes of Mecklenburg County in 1819. This extraordinary event in the life of Mecklenburg, the Frew family, and the enslaved African-Americans of the plantation, provides an excellent opportunity to explore the history of the region and the lives of our ancestors.

Partners in Learning golf tournament, Crescent Golf Club in Salisbury. Field will be made up of 2-person adult/junior teams. The junior must be between 5-18 years old. Registration is \$95 per team with a portion of proceeds will go to Partners in Learning. For information, log on to www.nationaljrgolfclub.com or call (704) 829-7407.

Networking expert/author George Frazier, Afro-American Cultural Center, 6 p.m. Part of the AACC's Village Square Forum.

April 28

Queen City Soul Slam, 8 p.m. Afro-American Cultural Center. Registration starts at 7 p.m., show begins at 8. Poets pay \$3 to participate and general public admission is \$5. Final Charlotte "slam team" will compete in national competition in August in St. Louis. For information, call (704) 374-1565 or log on to www.aacc-charlotte.org.

April 30

Shania Twain, 7:30 p.m., Charlotte Coliseum. Tickets are \$80, \$65 and \$45 and on sale now.

Taste of Charlotte, Tryon Street between First and Sixth streets through May 2. Event features family entertainment, visiting artists, live music, beverages and food from 32 Charlotte-area restaurants. For information, call Tim Miner at (704) 632-4791 or log on to www.tasteofcharlotte.com.

Urban Market at NoDa through May 2 at Highland Mill, 2901 N. Davidson St. Market features vendors offering merchandise for home, garden and people. Imports from Europe, Africa and

Latin America as well local and regional goods. For information, call Margaret Jones at (770) 934-2170.

Mothers of Murdered Offspring 10th annual Nonviolence Day Weekend through May 3. Features equal justice symposium, family social, Praise in the Park and Nonviolence Day celebration. For information, call (704) 336-3515.

Queen City Soul Slam finals, Afro-American Cultural Center. General admission is \$10 and poets can compete for \$3. Charlotte "slam team" will compete in national competition in August in St. Louis. For information, call (704) 374-1565 or log on to www.aacc-charlotte.org.

Save A Life Youth Rally, First Ward Recreation Center, 610 East Seventh St., 4 p.m. Forum where middle school aged children can participate in an open discussion about alcohol abuse and other issues they face daily.

May 6

100 Black Men of Greater Charlotte Spring Tennis Classic through May 9, Jeff Adams Tennis Center at Renaissance Park. To register, log on to www.USTA.com or www.100blackmenofcharlotte.org/action.htm.

May 7

"Handel's Messiah, Parts 2 and 3" 7 p.m., Saint James Lutheran Church, 104 Union St., Concord. For information, call Mark Frye at (704) 786-1063.

May 8

Spring Pottery Show, Oasis Shriner's Center, 604 Doug Mayes Place, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Free admission. Sponsored by Carolina Claymatters Potter's Guild.

May 11
Twelfth annual Bell Acres Party for Easter Seals,

5:30 p.m., Belle Acres Country Club, 3033 South Blvd. Tickets are \$10 each and can be purchased in advance by calling (704) 529-5195.

May 15

HBCU Carolinas College Fair, Mount Carmel Baptist Church, 3201 Tuckaseegee Road, 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Free.

Sheila Stewart High School Step Show, 7 p.m., Cricket Arena. Teams competing include Hunter Huss, North Mecklenburg, Olympic and West Charlotte high schools and Marie G. Davis and Castle Height middle schools. Proceeds support Sheila Stewart Education Foundation, which provides scholarships to college-bound students. Tickets are available at Ticketmaster (704) 522-6500; No Grease Barbershop; Jacobs Barbering or calling (704) 580-0460.

May 18

Sizzling Strings audition May 18, J.H. Gunn, 7400 Harrisburg Road. Children between ages 9 and 14 who play violin, viola, cello or bass can audition. Concert will be given Sept. 4 at Walt Disney World.

May 22

100 Black Men of Greater Charlotte scholarship banquet, Westin Hotel, 601 South College St. Reception begins at 6 p.m., followed by dinner, program and dancing. Tickets are \$100 and tables \$1,000. Proceeds go to scholarship program. For information, call (704) 375-7300 or log on to www.100blackmenofcharlotte.org.

June 5

Metrolina Association for the Blind walkathon "Step Up for Sight," Freedom Park. Fund raiser for the purchase of low vision aids for the visually-impaired. To register or for information, call Danelle Volk at (704) 887-5122 or log on to mabnc.com.

CHAMPION READERS



CHARLOTTE-MECKLENBURG SCHOOLS PHOTO

James Martin Middle School won the Battle of the Books reading competition. The Martin team defeated Lake Norman Charter, Crestdale and Jay M. Robinson to advance to the regional competition at Burns Middle School in Lawndale. Each student has read at least 27 books from a state-approved reading list and the teams responded to a series of questions about the books.

REACHING OUT



PHOTO:PAUL WILLIAMS III

Carolina Panthers President Mark Richardson, the Rev. Floretta Watkins of Siegle Avenue Presbyterian Church and Panthers defensive end Mike Rucker participated in a fund raiser for church-related outreach programs.

DANCE FEVER



PHOTO:PAUL WILLIAMS III

N.C. Dance Theatre board of directors member and Charlotte plastic surgeon Monique Abner (left) and dancer Ayisha McMillan ham it up at the Black and White Ball, one of the theatre's major fund raisers. Abner, an accomplished artist in her own right, donated a painting of McMillan for auction at the ball.

NOTES

"Alice Neel," a play by Ann Marie Oliva, Theatre Charlotte, 501 Queens Road. Starts April 15 at 7:30 p.m.; April 16-17 and 23-24 at p.m.; April 25 at 2:30 p.m. Tickets \$12 for adults, \$10 for seniors and students. For information, call (704) 201-4289.

U.S. Rep. John Lewis at 26th Judicial Mecklenburg County Bar, 12 p.m., Hilton Charlotte & Towers, 222 East Third St. Tickets are \$25 and sold in advance only. For information, call Susie Taylor at (704) 375-8624 or log on to www.meckbar.org.

Democratic Women of Mecklenburg County meet second Wednesday at 2821 South Blvd. Meetings with refreshments served at 6:30 p.m., followed by a speaker. Open to all registered Democrats.

Afro-American Cultural Center CultureCamp, first Saturday of the month. Cultures that will be explored include Native American, Vietnamese, Hispanic and African traditions. CultureCamp will run in conjunction with AACC's Heritage Saturday Tour program, which travels to cultural sites across the Southeast. General admission \$3, first 10 children free. For information, call (704) 374-1565.

African American Caucus of Mecklenburg Democratic Party meets third Thursday at Carole Hoefner Center at 7 p.m. For information, call John Minter at (704) 891-3052.



"Theatre Posters of James McMullan" is on display at the Main Library Gallery through May 30.

EXHIBITS

"A Fish Story," through May 29 at Noel Gallery, 401 North Tryon St. Featuring paintings of Fernando Porras.

The Theater Posters of James McMullan, through May 30, Main Library Gallery. For more information, www.plcmc.org/gallery. McMullan's most well-known client is the Lincoln Center Theater in New York City, which has commissioned more than 40 posters from the artist over the last decade and a half.

Custom Clothier: Designs by Ruth Grey, through April 30, Beatties Ford Road Library. For information, call (704) 432-6706. Handmade original creations by Ruth Grey, founder of her own clothing line. Her specialties include christening gowns, formal wear, bible costuming, dolls and liturgical wear. She is the founder of her own clothing line, "For His Glory."

Cassie Martucci, through April 30, Art Institute of Charlotte Gallery, Three Lake-Pointe Plaza, 2110 Water Ridge Parkway. Meet the artist April 21 from 5:30-7 p.m.

MFA Works in Progress, through April 16, Edmund Lewandowski Student Gallery, Winthrop University, McLaurin Hall. For information, log on to www.winthrop.edu/vpa/galleries/events.

Student Outdoor Sculpture Exhibition, April 18, Winthrop University Galleries, 107 McLaurin Hall, Rock Hill. Call (803) 323-4897 for information.

"Through the Lens: Women's Perspective" at Mint Museum of Art, 2739 Randolph Road. Coffee at 10 a.m. followed by lecture at 10:30 a.m. Three women photographers - JoAnn Sieburg-Baker, Diane Davis and Carolyn DeMeritt - will discuss their work, challenges and aspirations. For information, call Priscilla Dabney at (704) 366-9808.

Afro-Latino photographic exhibit by Ron Wilkins, International House, 322 Hawthorne Lane. Free. Exhibit is a celebration of people of African and Latino descent in the Caribbean and the Americas. For information, call (704) 333-8099.