

HAPPENINGS

March

11 **EclerFest.** RealEyes Bookstore, 3306 N. Davidson St. Flea mall and festival includes kids corner with moon bounce, face painting and games as well as Celtic bands, art and food. Hosted by Brian Blakely of WCCB-TV. Free.

13 **Friends of the Library at Queens University of Charlotte** will host its annual book and author event at 6 p.m., Burwell Hall Book and author event/dinner at Young Dining Room, Morrison Hall at 7 p.m. On March 14, a reception will be held at Trexler Center at 11:30 a.m. and author event/luncheon at 12 p.m., Young Dining Room. Emerging authors will be featured, including Dean King, Tommy Hays and Geraldine Brooks. Tickets are \$35 per person with meal included. Reservations must be made by March 10. For information, call (704) 337-2437.

14 **"Sex & the Second City,"** Booth Playhouse through March 19. Tickets are \$30-\$35 and on sale at the Blumenthal Performing Arts Center box office by calling (704) 372-1000 or online at www.blumenthalcenter.org.

16 **"Pandemonium" and "Help!"**, 7 p.m. East Mecklenburg High School auditorium. Two one-act plays performed by East Mecklenburg's Theatre IV, MYP's, IB Theatre students. Second production on March 17.

20 **Spring Literary Festival,** Central Piedmont Community College. The two-day festival, "Weaving Words from Struggle," includes readings, performances and discussions with writers and publishing professionals. Keynoters include James McBride, Jimmy Santiago Baca and Richard Louv as well as folk artists Sparky and Rhonda Rucker. Free. For information and schedules, log on to www.cpc.edu/literary.

Soweto Gospel Choir, 8 p.m., Belk Theater. Choir delivers a non-stop pageant of inspirational music and traditional dancing backed by a live band. Tickets are \$22-\$32 and on sale at the Performing Arts Center box office by calling (704) 372-1000 or online at www.blumenthalcenter.org.

25 **Harlem Globetrotters vs. Washington Nationals,** 1 p.m., Charlotte Bobcats Arena. Barnstorming basketball team celebrates its 80th anniversary. A 30-minute meet-and-greet session will be held at the end of the game. Tickets start at \$12 and available at the arena box office or online at charlottebobcatsarena.com.

"Sir! No Sir!" a documentary on military personnel protest against the Vietnam War at Charlotte Public Library, 310 N. Tryon St., 1 p.m. Panelists will include Robert Macleod, founder of Union County Vietnam Veterans Association and Ahmad Daniels.

Black Family Expo - A Reunion of Soul, Charlotte Merchandise Mart. The event celebrates the African American family with music, food, entertainment and education.

Black history concert highlighted by A Sign of The Times, 8 p.m., Pease Auditorium, Central Piedmont Community College, 1201 Elizabeth Ave. Also featuring Gary Mumford & His Senior Drum Ensemble and Charlotte Contemporary Ensemble. Admission \$30 in advance; \$35 day of the concert; \$25 for seniors in advance and \$27 for children under 17 day of the show. Second show on March 26. For ticket information, call (800) 41UNITY or go online at www.asignofthetimes.org.

26 **Lippazaner Stallions,** Charlotte Bobcats Arena, 2 p.m. and 6 p.m. New music, choreography and routines are incorporated in the 36th edition of the show with emphasis on the breed's history. Tickets are \$27.50, \$22.50 and \$19.50 and available by calling (800) 495-2295 or the arena box office.

30 **Robert Preston photography exhibition.** Red Sky Gallery at Phillips Place, 6 p.m. Photographs will be on sale to benefit National Multiple Sclerosis Society. For information, call (800) 477-2955.

"Shear Madness," Blumenthal Performing Arts Center. Audiences will get to solve the crime in this whodunit, which runs through May 27. Performances on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays are at 8 p.m.; Saturdays at 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. and Sundays at 3 p.m. Tickets are \$25 and \$20 for six preview performances and on sale at the box office by calling (704) 372-1000 or online at www.blumenthalcenter.org.

Gilbert & Sullivan's "HMS Pinafore," 7:30 p.m., Meroney Theatre, 213 South Main St., Salisbury. Shows on March 31, April 1, April 5-8. April 2 performance at 2:30 p.m. Tickets are \$15, \$12 for seniors and students under 18 and available by calling the box office at (704) 633-5471.

31 **Tiempo Libre,** McGlohon Theatre, 8 p.m. Miami-based band performs timba, a musical mix of Latin jazz that stays true to the tradition of their native Cuba. Tickets are \$22-\$27 and available at the Performing Arts Center Box Office at (704) 372-1000 or online at www.blumenthalcenter.org.

April

Bowl For Kids' Sake. AME Lanes. South Boulevard. Fund raiser for Big Brothers Big Sisters of Greater Charlotte. Competition continues through April 8. Call (704) 829-6624 to register your team or go online at www.bowl4kidscharlotte.kintera.org.

Bowl For Kids' Sake, Dave & Buster's Grand Sports Cafe. Concord Mills. Fund raiser for Big Brothers Big Sisters Cabarrus County. To register, call (704) 829-6624 or go online at www.bowl4kidscabarrus.kintera.org.

WINNING CUTS



PHOTO: HAROLD TYSON

The winning barbers and models from the fifth Rumble in the Jungle barber competition in Rock Hill Feb. 26. The top barbers were from left, back row, Keith Middleton (second), Cleavon Bradley (first) and Kendrick Lawson (third). The models are (front row) Luther Johnson, Kelsey Howze and Michael Dixon.

SUPPORT FOR KATRINA VICTIMS



KIMENYA WELCHER-RAMET

The Greater Charlotte Alliance of Black School Educators honored Hurricane Katrina victims with free memberships to the organization and gift cards.

KENNEDY CENTER HONORS ARTS CENTER



BLUMENTHAL PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

The Kennedy Center invited representatives of the North Carolina Blumenthal Performing Arts Center Education Institute and its Phase II Partners in Education Team in Gaston County to give a presentation about their K-5 Arts Integration Model (AIM) program. The local team presented remarks in the "Successful Program Models" session at the Kennedy Center Partners in Education Annual Meeting in Washington on Feb. 1-4. Morenga Hunt, vice president of education and director of the Blumenthal Performing Arts Center's Education Institute, Lizzie Williams, associate director of the Education Institute, Ron Foulk, principal of Ida Rankin Elementary School, with his dance teacher, Breeze Williams, EC teacher, Kristy Brooks, and Dr. Elda Franklin, assessment specialist for the Institute, presented an overview of the elements and the process for their "whole-school" partnership model.

FANCY FOOTWORK

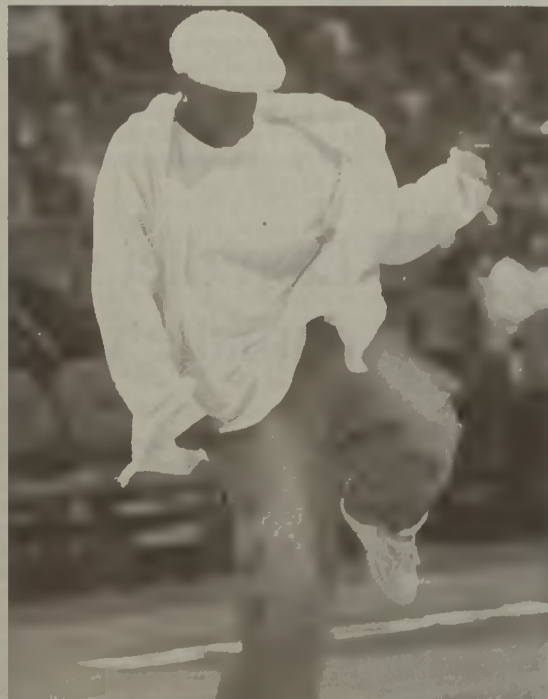


PHOTO: CURTIS WILSON

UNC Charlotte's hip-hop squad showed off its best moves during the CIAA basketball tournament.

Notes

HIV/AIDS Walk and Health Fair. March 11, First Ward Elementary School. Walk starts at 11 a.m., health fair begins at 1 p.m. and includes free screenings for diabetes, blood pressure, cholesterol and weight. Sponsored by Charlotte Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta sorority and Deltas of Charlotte Inc.

Charlotte Club of the National Association of Negro Business and Professional Women's Clubs will host the 48th Annual Southeast District conference March 16-19 at the Omni Charlotte hotel, 132 Trade St. Approximately 200 members from Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Tennessee, West Virginia and the Carolinas will attend. On March 17 at 7 p.m., a vocal arts competition for emerging artists will be held. It's free. For information, call Sarah Stevenson at (704) 392-9503.

American Girl Fashion Show to benefit Special Olympics North Carolina, March 18 at Dana Auditorium, Queens University of Charlotte, 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. Tickets available at www.sonc.net or call (919) 719-7662, extension 103. Tickets are \$30 and every ticket order must include at least one adult.

Mecklenburg Park and Recreation is offering rides for folks who can no longer use Revolution Pool. The parks department will provide free rides from Southview Recreation Center, 720 Vilma St., Amey James Recreation Center, 2425 Lester St. and Arbor Glen Outreach Center, 1520 Clanton Road. To be eligible, children or adults must sign up in advance at any of the recreation centers and schedule the ride three days in advance by calling (704) 353-1250.

MOCA party to support veterans March 11, 7 p.m. at VFW Post 9488, 2831 The Plaza. Tickets are \$12 in advance, \$15 at the door. Sponsored by Military Order of the Cootie Auxiliary.

Lockwood neighborhood meeting March 13 at 7 p.m., Sugar Creek Service Center, 4045 N. Tryon St. Guest speaker will be Dawn M. Hill, Lead Hazard Reduction Program, Neighborhood Development Dept. For information, call Jacques D. Kibler III at (704) 375-4993.

Registration for Urban League Stepping Up program classes start Feb. 25 and March 11 at 9:30 a.m., at 740 W. Fifth St. Classes for non-native English speakers to improve skills and performance in the workplace. Classes include team-building skills, decision-making and problem solving. Must be 23-45 years of age and have a minimum of one year in the U.S. workplace. For information, call Astrid Chirinos at (704) 451-3978.

Dinner of Champions benefit for National Multiple Sclerosis Society, March 25, 6 p.m. at Tiffany & Co. at SouthPark. Tables available. For information, call National MS Society at (704) 525-2955.

Veterans of Foreign Wars Ladies Auxiliary will sponsor National Young American Creative Patriotic Art Scholarships for students in grades 9-12. First place pays \$10,000 in scholarships. Deadline is March 29. For information, call Betty Morris at (704) 535-3568.

World-class riders will participate in the third annual **Charlotte Jumper Classic** April 7-9 at Bobcats Arena. Three-day passes are \$75, \$45 and \$15 for children 3-12. Single session tickets are \$25, \$15, \$10 and \$5 for kids 3-12. Available at the arena box office or calling (800) 495-2295.

Exhibits

"Oh Freedom Over Me," through May 28, Levine Museum of the New South. Photographer Matt Herron's recording of the civil rights movement through the Southern Documentary Project.

"From Apartheid to Democracy," through May 15, Levine Museum of the New South. Exhibit illustrates transformation of South Africa by telling the story of the first 10 years of democracy.

Concerts, art exhibits and community-oriented events can be submitted to The Charlotte Post P.O. Box 30144 Charlotte, NC 28230. You can fax (704) 342-2160, log on at www.thecharlottepost.com or e-mail editorial@thecharlottepost.com.