

**Cover Art by John Hairston, Jr.**

*"Queen Charlotte"*

**Mena Mae Chan**

by Ellen Gurley | Page 4

**Andrew Taylor**

by Ellen Gurley | Page 5

**Funky Geezer**

by Ellen Gurley | Page 6

**Events in Your Area**

Page 8

**Spinner Rack**

by Seth Peagle | Page 11

**Learn to Take a Joke America**

by Bill "The Thrill" Cleveland | Page 14

**Monica Jeffries**

by Shane Elks | Page 15

**Alexander "Lexi" Walker LoBiondo**

by Shane Elks | Page 16

**Cheap Momma's Guide**

by Ellen Gurley | Page 18

**Truck Stalking**

by Ellen Gurley | Page 19

---

**Letter From the Editor**

Hello, Charlotte. This is My City Magazine. We are delighted to be celebrating the first issue of print. Thank you for picking up a copy. We are committed to keeping you abreast of the happenings in your city in an artsy not fartsy fashion via news, reviews, interviews and viewpoints.

We have columnists who act as mouthpieces for every aspect of Charlotte culture; art, food, beer, music, fashion, comics, neighbourhoods, theatre, alternative lifestyle, raising families and home improvement.

We hope you enjoy My City as much as we delight in bringing it to you. Thank you for your warm reception.

Sincerely, Ellen Gurley

ellen.gurley@mycitymagazine.net | 704.575.6611 | P.O. Box 5606, Charlotte, NC 28299

***THE MY CITY MAGAZINE TEAM***

John Hairston, Jr.

Marc "El Guapo" Jacksina

Ellen "LNMENTal" Gurley

Alex Barnette

Shane "Mr. Red" Elks

Clairsean "Babe" Alexander-Floyd

Bill "The Thrill" Cleveland

Seth Peagler

Greggory Bradford

Ray "About Your House" Terry

Austin Caine

Jennifer Davis

Liz Eagle

and the one and only Erin Tracy-Blackwood

# My City Staff



**SETH PEAGLER | Columnist** - In 2003, Seth Peagler received a B.A. in English from the University of North Carolina at Charlotte. He spent much of his twenties looking for creative ways to use said degree. In between odd jobs of teaching at after school programs, delivering phone books, and cleaning carpets, he wrote lots of songs and poems, and played in numerous bands around the the state. In 2007, he landed a job at Heroes Aren't Hard to Find, Charlotte's biggest and best-loved comic shop. In addition to managing Heroes' warehouse, Seth also acts as a contributing writer to the Heroes Blog, and is an organizer of the annual Heroes Convention. A native Charlottean, Seth happily lives here with his wife Heather and dog Faith. You can read weekly musings about comics at [www.heroesonline.com](http://www.heroesonline.com).



**BILL "The Thrill" CLEVELAND | Columnist/Party Shamen/Sales** - In no particular order, here are things one may consider pertinent information when getting to know this writer: Bill is the boogiemani to bummers. Born and raised in CrownTown, but has spent several years living.slash.adventuring all over the planet (spoiler alert: Charlotte is truly a top-shelf burg), Bill is a jack-of-all-trades and a master of fun. He can speak as eloquently as is required by social context, he just doesn't want to most times. "Hearts n farts" is a life motto and he is (very much so) a fan of quoting gnarly people that say gnarly things. "You must be shapeless, formless like water. When you pour water into a bottle, it becomes the bottle. When you put water into a cup, it becomes the cup. Water can flow and water can crash. You must be formless, shapeless like water, my friend." —Bruce Lee



**ERIN TRACY-BLACKWOOD | Columnist** - Erin Tracy-Blackwood is a hip-hop aficionado whose encyclopedic knowledge of the genre sometimes crosses over into super-nerd territory. When she realized at a young age she'd never rap as good as Nas, she vowed never to touch a microphone. Instead, she threw her energy into serving the hip-hop community by promoting artists, shows, events and the culture in general. She has been a Queen City hip-hop fixture since the Fat City era, and if you know what that means, you probably already know her. Erin is also a mother, wife and corporate marketing consultant in her spare time. She originally hails from Jacksonville, FL, but moved to Charlotte around the same time she entered the "36 Chambers".



**JENNIFER DAVIS | Columnist/Sales** - Her passion for wine lead Jennifer Davis from the natural state of Arkansas to the rapidly developing city of Charlotte. Little did Jennifer know she would fall in love with another, "Beer". As an artisan herself, her passion now is to encourage the appreciation of the "craft" beer.

Over the last few years, North Carolina became a beer enthusiast's state to reside and Jennifer is always pleased to market and otherwise bring awareness to the intoxicating craft called beer.



**AUSTIN CAINE | Photographer** - Austin Caine has been capturing souls for well over ten years, with a passion for photography that consistently drives him to outshine his own work. From his humble beginnings as "that annoying guy always taking pictures" at his friends' parties to a respected artist working with numerous talents within the entertainment and fashion industries. There's no telling where his incredible photographic journey will land him next. He enjoys being immersed in the moment and has developed a keen eye for freezing those intense fleeting images that define our most memorable experiences. The most important thing to remember about Austin is that he is a perfectionist and (should you have the chance to grace his lens) he will make certain you absolutely love the photo before he'll let you out of his sights!



**RAY TERRY | Columnist/Sales** - Ray Terry knows Charlotte, like the back of his hand. He may even say he knows Charlotte (or you, rather) better than he knows himself. (He is as great of a listener as he is a talker.) And he also has more colleagues that can build, repair, restore and otherwise create with their hands, than you can shake a 2X4 at.

He is no nonsense, catch his show every Saturday morning on 610 AM WFNZ "About Your House Radio", you'll see what I mean. He is passionate about all things, unless you show him your ego. That is like kryptonite to old Ray. He is real, genuine and down to earth. Follow him, he's worth the wandering.



**GREGGORY BRADFORD | Columnist** - Gregory Bradford is an artist, curator and freelance art writer. He earned his Master of Fine Arts at Edinburgh College of Art/University of Edinburgh in painting and drawing, and his Bachelor of Fine Arts at University of North Carolina at Charlotte.

He was awarded the Andrew Grant bequest for painting in Edinburgh, Scotland. His work has been shown in Glasgow, Edinburgh, Dunbar, Bristol, Newcastle, St. Louis, New York City, Boston, and Charlotte. He is part of the permanent collection of Richard DeMarco's Skateraw Archive, Edinburgh College of Fine Art, and Boston Museum of Fine Art in addition to other private collections.

# My City Staff



**CLAIRSEAN "Babe" ALEXANDER-FLOYD | Columnist** - Clairsean "Babe" Alexander-Floyd is a 24 year old, Charlotte native and single of mother of two, that loves thrift store shopping and repurposing/redesigning clothes. Babe is also owner of Babe Hollis clothing, an eclectic retail store, and designer of Artless Rogue (a clothing line that focuses on making the old new by adding and taking away from pieces in your present wardrobe).

"Cast aside talent, An artless rogue, Residing in the darkness of fear, To stay the vogue." - Clairsean Alexander-Floyd



**SHANE ELKS | Columnist** - Shane Elks may just be a real life "Mad Hatter!" Wearing many different hats from singer, actor, promoter and performance artist to husband, activist, stepfather and glitter enthusiast; Mr. Elks is an eclectic personality to say the least. Shane studied Musical Theater in NYC and has since performed on the stages of major festivals, theaters and the underground art scene. Also known as the cabaret persona Mr. Red, Shane enjoys mixing the worlds of classic performance with contemporary avante garde styling. Shane also shares his passion of art and activism with his husband Bryan. Together they are involved in numerous charities and organizations supporting the likes of Human Rights, Alzheimer's, Community Theater, HIV/AIDS Awareness, Animal Rescue and so forth. Shane's favorite word? SPARKLE!



**ALEX BARNETTE | VP/Coordinator** - Alex Barnette loves print work, small business, clean websites and consulting with new and existing companies on the business process. He spends his time 'tweaking' bleepy noises on his computer, brushing-up beautiful images, and 'raging' at the "DJ show" (where he performs sporadically around Charlotte).



**ELLEN GURLEY | Columnist/Sales/Owner** - Ellen Gurley has been in media and journalism (and sales in both advertising and marketing for print), web and radio for over fifteen years. She brings to the table a relationship-based approach on partners and team members.

A dedication to all things local and better choices for entertainment have brought this poet, artist and DJ and her brain child to the market, MY CITY Magazine with a crew of amazing peers, all experts in their field. Enthusiastic is an understatement when describing this woman.



**MARC JACKSINA | Columnist/Sales** - Marc Jacksina is many people; peer, husband, father, boss and skater. But his favourite thing is working with food. He's a seasoned chef. And he's not ashamed to tell you about his love of animal parts. But above all, he has a lot to be proud of and a resume to boast. But you won't find him bragging about much, 'cept his love of the culinary connection he has made in Charlotte and relationships forged in the region. Give him air and he will talk about anything, but himself. He makes no promises, he just delivers.



**JOHN HAIRSTON, JR. | Cover Illustrator** - John Hairston, Jr. has been an artist for as long as he can remember. A North Carolina native, he created art before he could read or write. Throughout his grade school years, he spent the majority of his time drawing superheroes and listening to old soul or hip hop records. Under the guidance of his high school mentors and college professors, he learned to tap into these components to create a style of artwork that seamlessly blends political satire, social commentary and obscure pop-culture references. Hairston graduated from the University of North Carolina at Charlotte with a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Illustration & began his career as a professional artist illustrating storyboards for a string of independent films & television ads. Hairston's work is currently on display in various art galleries all over the East Coast and Charlotte, NC.



**LIZ EAGLE | Columnist/Sales** - As an NC native, Liz Eagle is an enthusiast of all things Charlotte. This includes, but is not limited to: local beer, neighborhood associations, the uptown vs. downtown quandary, greenways, hating University, Jack Beagles, mothers who think they should be in the pilot episode of "Real Housewives of Mecklenburg County", art markets, alley shows at Common Market, and an endless supply of free events to attend.

Being wife to a handsome young buck, momma bear to two lively little ones, president of an unassuming neighborhood and tender of a lively local bar, have lead Liz to love and thrive in this city, hoping to leave it better than she found it and to find humor in all of Charlotte's nuances.

# Mena Mae Chan

Interview by Ellen Gurley



E: I have seen some of your videos and have been blown away, to the point that I declared Mondays, “Mena Mondays” and used to post a video each week. I’ve become busy, but haven’t forgotten about you. Care to share any links of videos to my readers?

M: <http://www.youtube.com/user/MissMenaMae>

E: Which came first? The fire or the burlesque?

M: I started playing with fire at a young age, but throwing lit matches at other kids didn’t gain me many friends.

E: I imagine you have a lot of up and coming starry-eyed girls who care to apprentice from yourself, yes? Any free advice you’d like to give those interested in following in your proverbially footsteps?

M: Be graciousness, humble, and give your best even if there

is just three people in the venue.

E: I understand that you make a lot (if not all) of your outfits. And that you are also skilled in hair and have made some pieces for show. From whence did you pick up these skills?

M: My mother is a talented tailor. When I was in elementary school she had a vintage clothing and custom tailoring shop in San Antonio. I would spend everyday that I wasn’t in school there, helping, and napping on a petticoat. When I got older I had to help with all the grunt work with sewing...ripping seams, adding elastic, buttons, etc.

E: I understand that you have a very special man in your life and you met when you both spied each other’s tattoos (almost identical in nature) and after talking you came to find it was from the same artist. This tattoo is a full sleeve, rather, of the cosmos. Tell me what this tattoo meant to you and to him and NOW to y’all?

M: It just means everything. Some things are just meant to be.

E: What is your favorite burlesque music to date?

M: Electro-swing.

E: What is your favorite any other music?

M: I love music.. everything from early black metal to dub-step.

E: This above aforementioned special man supports you in all of your ventures. Am I to understand that he just fashioned you a bed of nails. How lucky are you?

M: I thank my lucky stars everyday for that man.

E: Have you any awards you’re really proud of?

M: I was named Miss May for the Exotic Dancer Magazine. I guess that’s some kind of an award.

E: What’s your next show?

M: July 6-9 in Traver’s City, MI

E: What was your favourite show?

M: Meow Meow’s. She is an Auisse cabaret singer.... she puts on a spell-binding show!

E: What, if anything, do you want viewers to “take away” from your show?

M: My intention when I perform is to create an aura of grace, beauty and fun that lifts the viewers spirit. I can only hope that’s what the viewer takes from my show.

E: What’s on the horizon?

M: Evaluation and refining of my craft and am honored for this interview.

# Andrew Taylor

Interview by Ellen Gurley

E: Andrew Taylor, I just remember you being a star baseball player, when we were in school together. And now you are a well known photographer in town. So how long have you been a photographer and when did you know that it was more than a hobby?

A: The long answer is, that I don’t really consider myself a “photographer”. With these new cameras, and with programs like instagram and photoshop, it’s not all that difficult for anyone

to take a decent picture. It seems like everyone you meet is trying to be a photographer, and I would never put myself in the same category as those great artists who are truly deserving of being called “photographers”. So, being a photographer has never been a label I would put on myself. I see this project more as a record of the city I love. With that said, I do love taking pictures. My father taught me at a very young age how to use his 35mm film camera, and I was always stealing it to snap pictures around the house. I really fell in love with photography when I learned how to develop my own film and use the dark room at Appalachian State.

E: I guess that you are mostly known for your series “Charlotte Landmark Series”. This is an (2003 circa) intimate collection of our city’s history; some ebbed away (some still in business). You’ve captured the signage of places such as Wad’s, the Drum, South 21, the Penguin, the Coffee Cup, and Price’s Chicken Coop. Which, have you found, to be the most popular of this series? Which is your favourite? Which are upcoming?

A: I’m not sure I can say for certain that there is one Landmark that is more popular than all the others, but the top five would (in no particular order) would probably be 1) Wad’s 2) Prices’ Chicken Coop 3) Park n Shop 4) Coca-Cola Mural and 5) Copal Grill. I have nearly 175 pictures in the series, so I think I’ve covered most of the Landmarks in town. I’m always on the lookout for new Landmarks and I constantly ask for suggestions. So, I can’t say what’s coming up. I will say it’s always exciting for me to find a new Landmark to photograph, and it’s especially exciting when I get to post the photos and share them with my fans.

E: What is, then, your favourite subject, would it be landmarks? Landscapes? People? Nostalgia?

A: I have to admit, I’m terrible at photographing people. I love shooting old signs and figuring out the best or most interesting angle that will capture that feeling of nostalgia or character of the Landmark. Many of my photographs are grainy, or over exposed or super saturated.

I wanted this series to have the feeling of a memory. Perhaps, you went to South 21 as a kid with your dad, and that big neon sign seemed larger than life. Maybe you drove past Park Terrace one day when the sunlight was glaring off it so brightly. So, the pictures aren’t all perfect.

E: What would you cite as your riskiest photo shoot? Your most fun? Your least favourite?

A: Most of these places are fairly accessible and don’t require much risk on my part. I will occasionally use the roof of my car to get a better angle on a sign, which always gets some funny looks from by-standers. Standing in the middle of Pecan and 7th


Street to take photos of Hereos Aren’t Hard To Find was probably the most dangerous.

E: You were recently married to a very beautiful, and equally photogenic, woman. Was it tough to hire someone else to do the capturing? Who did you choose and what was the end result?

A: It actually wasn’t that difficult to find the right person. We used an amazing wedding photographer, Christina Lynn-Masterson. She was great because I had all these crazy ideas about where I wanted to do the engagement shoot and she let me direct her. We really worked together to come up with some incredible images. She followed my wife around to places like Thomas St., The Dish, Hong Kong, and Lunchbox records. It was a lot of fun. When it came time for the wedding, I trusted her so much that I just let her do her thing and didn’t worry. I knew she would get the best shots from the day.

E: How do you feel about being at the other end of a lens?

A: I love having my picture taken, but I can’t stand posing for pictures. When I see someone taking pictures, I always say, “don’t wait, just shoot”, I would prefer they capture the moment as it’s happening and not some saccharine version of real life. In general, I feel like the best pictures of us all are taken when you aren’t aware of the camera. If you look at the photos from our engagement shoot and our wedding, the very best images Christina captured were the ones when we weren’t posing. When we were just goofing off and being ourselves, those are the photos that came to be the ones we cherished the most. I have a picture of Allison framed on our wall from our honeymoon that is probably the best picture I have ever taken.



300 • EAST

**Patio Dining • Local Beers on Tap**

Utilizing Area Growers and Producers to Serve Up the Freshest American Cuisine

[www.300East.net](http://www.300East.net) | (704) 907-4331

A Charlotte Institution, Serving Dilworth since 1986

**CigarsCentral**  
Tobacco & Lounge

**Premium Cigars  
Pipes . Tobacco**

Smokers Lounge  
Storage Humidors

**(704) 566-6063**  
3712 E. Independence Blvd.  
Charlotte, NC





She was sitting on a wall in Amalfi looking at this little Italian city. I called her name, and as she turned, I snapped this image of her. It’s incredible because it’s her being natural and beautiful.

E: Where can one view your prints? Buy your

prints? Are they in any galleries?

A: I sell my prints at Ruby’s Gifts in NoDa as well as on my website, [www.TaylorPrints.com](http://www.TaylorPrints.com). You can also see about 20 of my photographs on display at Bank of North Carolina on Fairview Rd. The easiest way to buy a print is to “Friend” my Charlotte Landmark Series Facebook page and just send me an email with which print you want and what size.

E: You’ve been quoted as having dedicated the “Charlotte Landmark Series” series to your late grandfather, Clarence O. Kuester, Jr.; that is a very sweet gesture. Tell our readers a little bit about your relationship with him.

A: My grandfather was a very special man. Not simply because he was my grandfather, but his contributions to Charlotte as a volunteer are too many to list. He was the definition of a Southern Gentleman, and the lessons he taught me about being a man will be passed down to my son and my grandchildren. We could do an entire interview just on Clarence alone. He was an incredible person. The book is dedicated to him, because he loved this city more than any person I’ve ever met.

E: I understand that you have written a coffee table book. What is it called, and about and when can we expect it to be published? (Will you be writing more?)

A: I have a coffee table book that I co-wrote with my father Bob Taylor. It’s called “Taylor Prints: Charlotte Landmark Series”. At the moment, I do not have a publisher for the coffee table book, but I do self publish them through Shutterfly. Volume Two will hopefully be ready in November.

E: You have an ongoing love affair with Charlotte. Is your wife from here? Have you told her you never plan to leave here?

A: I have deep roots in Charlotte. My great-grandfather was born in his home on the corner of 7th St. and College St. Which makes me a 4th generation Charlottean. My wife is a 3rd generation Charlottean. I like to make a joke that our son will be a 7th generation Charlottean, but I don’t think that’s how it works. I’ll never leave Charlotte.

E: Let’s talk “Charlotte Divinity Series” and the “Charlotte Arbor Series”. What are these and have they already begun?

A: I have plans for both of those and yes, I do have several images under the category of “The Divinity Series” and “Arbor Series”. “The Divinity Series” will be a little easier to accomplish. I’m still struggling a little with how to pull off the “Arbor Series”. I have some ideas, but it doesn’t fit into the style of the “Landmark Series”. “The Arbor Series” could take some time. Then again, “The Landmark Series” took 10 years to get to ‘this’ point.

E: What is next for Andrew Taylor? (Or anything you wished I’d asked, so our readers will know?)

A: Fatherhood is my new chapter. William Thomas Peabody Taylor was born in May. I hope your readers will enjoy the inter-

view and the “Landmark Series”. It’s very special to me.

Additional Information: **Taylor Prints**

[drewtaylor27@hotmail.com](mailto:drewtaylor27@hotmail.com)

[taylorprints.wordpress.com](http://taylorprints.wordpress.com)

# Funky Geezer

Interview by Ellen Gurley



E: I have seen your act at a private party for a new brewery yet to be disclosed. It was fun. No one warned me ahead of time, but the way you describe your own act as “musical comedy” is befitting. When did you first begin performing? And when did Funky Geezer come about?

FG: Yep, that was Jimmy Jamz, FG started about three years ago.

E: Let’s talk Army. All I know about your time in the service is what we chatted about that faithful night when we met - poison ivy in your privates and eyes - enough to make even a mother of two cringe. Tell me more. I imagine you were quite the cut-up, no?

FG: Total elephant man covered head to toe with Poison Ivy, taking mud baths stopped it, though.

E: I have seen some custom painted dress shirts that you sell. And they come with a free can of what? When did you begin this hobby or craft, rather, as you are profiting from it? Who is your average customer? Have you ever seen someone in one of your pieces and not know them?

FG: Yes, these shirts were designed as show shirts, but came with quite a few requests. It takes me about two days to hand paint one and yes I see friends wearing them from time to time.

E: So, let’s talk home life. Aren’t you in a home that would make you the third generation? Who are your housemates (pets) and how do they respond to your music?

FG: I’ve lived here for 60 years. I bought the family home place from my father when he retired. I have 6 cats unexpectedly. Live alone.

E: Wow, history. And furr. From where do you draw your musical inspiration?

FG: Many and all levels of input, not just musicians, but nature, emotions and art can inspire.

E: Some people know you as Woody, some as Funky Geezer. On [www.ReverbNation.com](http://www.ReverbNation.com) you have tons of links, ending in the following backslashes; WoodrowWilliams, CountryEastern, JukePower, FunkyGeezer and theFunkyGeezer. Can one assume that your real name is Woodrow Williams? And do you have stuff on you tube?

FG: Yes, many genres. Woody is my street name. I have 270 videos on youtube under the name Funky Geezer. I went “platinum” this year with over a million hits. :)

E: So, you’re a DJ, a singer/songwriter, a performer, a painter and a comedian. Am I missing anything? How many instruments do you play or other artistic outlets you’d care to divulge?

FG: I’m a retired graphic artist, that played music most of my life. I play guitar and keyboards.

E: You had a recent health scare? What is the deal?

FG: Had pneumonia this winter. :(

E: Let’s talk cars, or vans rather. You have a purty one. Where did you get it, how many transformations has it undergone, what is it and what’s its name?

FG: I have owned almost 500 cars over my life. I restore them and move on to the next project. Being a NASCAR Graphics guy, I like doing designs on vehicles, too. They are like a canvas to me.

E: Who are your favourite local artists? I know that you often share a bill with Renelvis.

FG: Way too many to choose from; New Familiars, Matrimony, Sponge Cake Fluff Ramblers and on and on ...

E: You have retired from your job as an editorial cartoonist and graphic designer, but you still post homemade memes and put your own face on other’s bodies. So you haven’t really retired at all, now have you?

FG: I am just expressing my right to do non-commercial art now that I’m free.

E: How young is the Geezer and what is next? We’re all interested. (I speak for Charlotte and your fans, not just the people in my head.)

FG: I’m as young as my ability takes me. I want to do more to help other artists get their shows on the road. I’m just hanging around for inspiration. If I can share any lifelong tips, it may help them down the road. Oh and funny thing, I may be on the Ellen Show one day, as a friend of mine with connections to her producers submitted my music to them.

My City magazine

## Events Newsletter

Subscribe to My City Magazine’s weekly event listing by emailing [ellen.gurley@mycitymagazine.net](mailto:ellen.gurley@mycitymagazine.net)

Our email newsletter will keep you abreast of your entertainment choices in the area and will also make you eligible to win free stuff!

Our first giveaway will be a box of cigars from Darryl Lee at Cigars Central on Independence Blvd. In addition our second giveaway will come through Alvaro Matta of Semper Fidelis Health and Wellness. He is offering a free customized holistic program that will last until the individual reaches their goal. Thank you and, as always, thank you for supporting your scene. Follow us on twitter: [@mycitycharlotte](https://twitter.com/mycitycharlotte)



WE BUY COMIC BOOK COLLECTIONS!

PHOTOGRAPH BY HEATHER PEAGLER

VISIT OUR STORE OR FIND US ONLINE AT

**HEROESONLINE.COM**

COMIC BOOKS FROM THE GOLDEN AGE THRU TODAY. STATUES, COMIC COLLECTING SUPPLIES, AND MORE!

[/HEROESONLINE](https://www.facebook.com/HEROESONLINE)  
[@HEROESONLINE](https://twitter.com/HEROESONLINE)









Carlos Valencia, Rob McDonald, Tom Stover (host)  
(Matt Stover bday)

Saturdays:

Saturdays on [www.PMCRadio.org](http://www.PMCRadio.org)  
1-5am Nightly DJ Jason Michael

Saturdays @ the Roxbury  
DJ Jody

Saturdays @ Book Buyers  
10am “Story Hour” (for ages 3-5)

Saturdays @ Club Hush  
the Independence Flea Market

Saturdays @ [www.CharlotteHaunts.net](http://www.CharlotteHaunts.net)  
7pm Riding Ghost Tours  
8pm Haunted Pub Riding Tour

Saturdays @ Bistro La Bon  
“Alter Ego Saturdays” w.DJ that Guy Smitty

Saturdays @ the Whitewater River Center  
“Riverjam” 7pm - 10pm  
8.03 Overmountain Men  
8.17 Lefty Williams  
8.24 Jesse Dee  
8.31 Charley Horse

Saturdays @ Tyber Creek Pub  
DJ Wiiz Kid (Steve Warwick)

Saturdays @ Madison’s Coffee House (Indian Trial)  
“Cup of Humor” (every first Saturday) feat. comics:  
Darryl Smith, Rob McDonald, Roxanne McDonald,  
James Dugan, Ed Fox (8.03)

Saturdays @ Marigny  
“Caliente Saturdays” (Latin night)

Saturdays in Charlotte  
2pm [www.TourDeFood.net](http://www.TourDeFood.net) (every Sat. til Nov.)

Saturdays @ the Common Market (Plaza-Midwood)  
8.17 Boolow, the Coming Dawn  
8.31 Fat Face Mariachi, World Service Project, NOHAY-  
BANDATRIO

Saturdays @ Amos’  
8.03 M4 Messenger  
8.10 [www.SingleCell.us](http://www.SingleCell.us) Presents: “Purgatory 53 :  
Fairies & Fantasy” feat. Miss Mena, Black Widow,  
Vivica Hallow, Djinn the Nytechylde, Jas MC, Architech,  
Lechter & more  
8.17 Skid Row

Saturdays @ the Comedy Zone  
8.03 Tom Arnold & Friends  
8.10 Chris D’Elia  
8.17 Adam Clayton-Holland  
8.22 CZ Arnez J

Sat., Aug. 3rd @ Crown Station  
“Junglist Massive vol.10 : Shadow Junglism” feat. Ran-  
dall, Cobraconz, MFJ, Squake, Robothands

Sat., Aug. 3rd @ the Sound Hole (Myrtle Beach, SC)  
Dr. Cirkustien, Rabble & Rebellion, Fire Marshal Bill

Sat., Aug. 3rd @ the Harris YMCA  
Swim, Bike, Run (for the McCarthy Kids) [www.SportOften.com](http://www.SportOften.com)

Sat., Aug. 10th @ the Fillmore  
the Cult

Sat., Aug. 10th @ Finz Raw Bar (Matthews)  
Lipstick on a Pig

Sat., Aug. 10th in NoDa  
[www.Facebook.com/SummerLoveMusicFest](http://www.Facebook.com/SummerLoveMusicFest)

Sat., Aug. 17th @ Phoenix  
[www.SugarSociety.com](http://www.SugarSociety.com) Presents: Simon Patterson,  
Kevin Focus

Sat., Aug. 17th @ Time Warner Cable Arena  
Slightly Stoopid, Atmosphere

Sat., Aug. 17th @ Metrolina Expo  
[www.DixieGunAndKnifeShow.com](http://www.DixieGunAndKnifeShow.com)

Sat., Aug. 24th @ the Visulite  
Shot Silk, If You Swim, Deep Sky

Sat., Aug. 24th @ the Grady Cole Center [www.CharlotteRollerGirls.com](http://www.CharlotteRollerGirls.com)  
All-Stars vs. Gate City Roller Girls + B-Dazzlers vs. Clas-  
sic City Roller Girls

Sat., Aug. 31st @ Verizon Wireless Amphitheater  
the Allman Brothers Band, Steve Winwood

Sat., Aug. 31st @ the Double Door  
Analog Daze, the Kevin Marshall Band, Gigi Dover &  
Big Love

SPECIAL EVENTS OR MULTIPLE DAY FESTIVALS:

- “Flight of the Butterflies” @ [www.DiscoveryPlace.org](http://www.DiscoveryPlace.org) in IMAX
- Tweetsie Railroad : Aug. 10th & 11th “Riders in the Sky” - [www.Tweetsie.com](http://www.Tweetsie.com)
- Tuesdays - Sundays @ the Bar at 316 : DJ Eric B.
- Aug. 2nd - 4th : Dinosaur Train @ the Great Smoky Mountains [www.GSMR.com](http://www.GSMR.com)
- THRU Aug. 3rd @ the Peculiar Rabbit : paintings by Jonathan K. Rice
- Aug. 9th - 11th : Transformers Convention [www.Charticon.com](http://www.Charticon.com)
- Aug. 9th - 11th @ Catawba River Campground : “Camp Neon 3 Music Festival” feat. BZ, Will Love & many more
- Aug. 29th - Sept. 2nd [www.KeyWestBrewFest.com](http://www.KeyWestBrewFest.com)
- Aug. 30th - Sept. 1st Durham, NC [www.BullCityRumble.com](http://www.BullCityRumble.com) feat. vintage bikes, bands & burlesque
- THRU Nov. 3rd @ the Mint Museum : “New Eyes on America : the Genius of Richard Caton WOODVILLE”
- THRU October [www.NCZoo.org](http://www.NCZoo.org) / Asheboro : “Dinosaurs”
- THRU Jan. 2014 at [www.MintMuseum.org](http://www.MintMuseum.org) Randolph : “Elegance & Ease” feat. designs by Dior, Balmain, Saint Laurent

LOCAL & REGIONAL SEASONAL OR ANNUAL EVENTS:

January  
MLK Parade [www.MLK/CharlotteVibe.com](http://www.MLK/CharlotteVibe.com)  
Charlotte Restaurant Week [www.CharlotteRestaurantWeek.com](http://www.CharlotteRestaurantWeek.com)  
Tour de Food [www.TourdeFood.com](http://www.TourdeFood.com)

February  
Queen City Brewer’s Fest. [www.QCBrewFest.com](http://www.QCBrewFest.com)  
Southern Spring Home & Garden Show [www.SouthernShows.com/sss](http://www.SouthernShows.com/sss)

Valentine Tours [www.LattaPlantation.org](http://www.LattaPlantation.org)  
[www.CIAATournament.org](http://www.CIAATournament.org) CIAA Basketball Tourna-  
ment

March  
[www.CharlotteCraftBeerWeek.com](http://www.CharlotteCraftBeerWeek.com)  
[www.CharlotteStPatsDay.com](http://www.CharlotteStPatsDay.com)

April  
“Miles for Mutts” Benefit Ride  
[www.NCBeerMonth.com](http://www.NCBeerMonth.com)  
Middle East Festival (Charlotte, NC) [www.MiddleEastCouncilNC.org](http://www.MiddleEastCouncilNC.org)  
Charlotte Wine and Food Festival [www.CharlotteWineAndFood.org](http://www.CharlotteWineAndFood.org)  
[www.HickoryHops.com](http://www.HickoryHops.com) Brew Festival  
Bar-B-Q, Bourbon & Beer  
Charlotte Bayou Festival [www.BayouFestivalTour.com](http://www.BayouFestivalTour.com)  
Foodlion Auto Fair  
Mineral Springs, NC : [www.QueensCup.org](http://www.QueensCup.org)  
Presents: Steeplechase  
Booze, Broads & BBQ  
Wilkesboro, NC [www.MerleFest.org](http://www.MerleFest.org)  
Loch Norman Highland Games (Huntersville)  
Sensorial (Arts Fest.) [www.Sensoria.CPCC.edu](http://www.Sensoria.CPCC.edu)  
Springfest

May  
Cityfest Live  
Beach, Blues & BBQ Festival [www.MonroeNC.org/](http://www.MonroeNC.org/)  
[beachbluesandbbq](http://beachbluesandbbq.com)  
Charlotte Gay Pride  
Foodlion Speed Street 600 @ Charlotte Motor Speed-  
way [www.600Festival.com](http://www.600Festival.com)  
the Kickstart Motorcycle Classic (Maggie Valley, NC)  
[www.WheelsThroughTime.com](http://www.WheelsThroughTime.com)  
5th Generation Camaro Show [www.SheltonVineyards.com](http://www.SheltonVineyards.com)  
Canine Angels [www.Canine-Angels.net](http://www.Canine-Angels.net)  
Ramp Festival (Waynesville, NC) [www.DownTown-Waynesville.com](http://www.DownTown-Waynesville.com)  
NC Brewers & Music Festival (Huntersville, NC) [www.NCBrewsMusic.com](http://www.NCBrewsMusic.com)  
LEAF - Lake Eden Arts Festival [www.TheLeaf.org](http://www.TheLeaf.org)  
MINIs on the Dragon [www.MINIsOnTheDragon.info](http://www.MINIsOnTheDragon.info)  
Kernersville Spring Folly [www.KernersvilleSpringFolly.com](http://www.KernersvilleSpringFolly.com)  
Days of Thunder (Elgin, SC) [www.ThunderTowerHarley.com](http://www.ThunderTowerHarley.com)  
Asheville Herb Festival [www.AshevilleHerbFestival.com](http://www.AshevilleHerbFestival.com)

Banner Elk Herb Festival [www.BeHerbFest.com](http://www.BeHerbFest.com)  
Cinco de Mayo Festival (Charlotte, NC) [www.LatinAmericanCoalition.org](http://www.LatinAmericanCoalition.org)  
Hillsborough Hog Day (Hillsborough, NC) [www.HillsboroughChamber.com](http://www.HillsboroughChamber.com)  
Mayberry Farm Fest. (Mount Airy, NC) [www.MountAiryDowntown.org](http://www.MountAiryDowntown.org)  
Race City Festival ( Mooresville, NC) [www.MooresvilleNC.org](http://www.MooresvilleNC.org)  
Nascar Sprint All-Star Race & Coca-Cola 600 [www.CharlotteMotorSpeedway.com](http://www.CharlotteMotorSpeedway.com)  
Midwood Maynia (Charlotte, NC) [www.PlazaMidwood.org](http://www.PlazaMidwood.org)  
Daniel Boone Family Festival (Mocksville, NC) [www.DanielBooneFamilyFestival.com](http://www.DanielBooneFamilyFestival.com)  
Asian Festival & Dragon Boat Races (Cornelius, NC)  
[www.CharlotteDragonboat.com](http://www.CharlotteDragonboat.com)  
RIBFEST!  
[www.WellsFargoChampionship.com](http://www.WellsFargoChampionship.com)  
Beer Fest (Gastonia, NC) [www.GastoniaGrizzlies.com](http://www.GastoniaGrizzlies.com)  
[www.DerbyDaysCharlotte.com](http://www.DerbyDaysCharlotte.com)  
Greek Festival (Winston-Salem, NC) [www.WSGOC.org](http://www.WSGOC.org)  
Greek Festival (Chapel Hill, NC) [\[GreekFestival.org\]\(http://GreekFestival.org\)](http://www.STBarbaraNC-</a></p></div><div data-bbox=)

June  
[www.UptownCharlotteJazzFest.com](http://www.UptownCharlotteJazzFest.com)  
Juneteenth Festival (Charlotte, NC)  
World Feast  
Heroes Convention [www.HeroesOnline.com](http://www.HeroesOnline.com)  
Charlotte Bayou Fest [www.CharlotteBayouFest.com](http://www.CharlotteBayouFest.com)  
Summer Pops in the Park [www.CharlotteSymphony.org](http://www.CharlotteSymphony.org)  
Hatfield McCoy Feud (Mingo County) [www.WVTourism.com](http://www.WVTourism.com)  
Beckley Renaissance’s Annual Bike & Motorcycle Show (Beckley) [www.WVTourism.com](http://www.WVTourism.com)  
Taste of Charlotte [www.TasteOfCharlotte.com](http://www.TasteOfCharlotte.com)  
Boone, NC Bike Rally [www.BooneBikeRally.com](http://www.BooneBikeRally.com)  
Run to the Sun benefiting St. Jude Children’s Hospital [www.BrittMotorSports.com](http://www.BrittMotorSports.com) (Wilmington, NC)  
Angier Bike Fest. Benefiting Fallen Firefighters Memo-  
rial Fund (Angier, NC) [www.AngierBikeFest.org](http://www.AngierBikeFest.org)  
Ride for the Shrine (Florence, SC) @ Doug’s Harley-  
Davidson, Florence, SC  
Pointe to the Children’s Home Benefit Ride (Concord, NC) [www.CrossPointeBaptist.com](http://www.CrossPointeBaptist.com)  
Officer Down Ride (Raleigh, NC) [www.BlueK-Night-sNC2.com](http://www.BlueK-Night-sNC2.com)  
Combats Vets Benefit Ride (Wilkesboro, NC) [www.CVMARide.com](http://www.CVMARide.com)  
Ride for Boys & Girls Clubs (Raleigh, NC) @ Ray Price  
Harley-Davidson  
Vets in Need Ride (Winston-Salem, NC) @ American  
Legion Post  
March of Dimes Ride for Babies (Winterville, NC) [www.HometownHarleyDavidson.com](http://www.HometownHarleyDavidson.com)  
Hospice of Davidson Ride for Angels (Denton, NC)  
[www.HospiceOfDavidson.org](http://www.HospiceOfDavidson.org)  
Strength & Honor Bike Show (Concord, NC) [www.SHMCNC.com](http://www.SHMCNC.com)  
Summer Shootout Series [www.CharlotteMotorSpeedway.com](http://www.CharlotteMotorSpeedway.com)

July  
Intergalactic Bead & Jewelry Show  
Wild Wonderful Mountainfest Motorcycle Rally) (WV) [www.WVTourism.com](http://www.WVTourism.com)  
Alpine Lake Bluegrass Festival (Alpine Lake Boathouse)  
[www.WVTourism.com](http://www.WVTourism.com)  
Fire on the Mountain Chili Cook Off (Snowshoe Moun-  
tain) [www.WVTourism.com](http://www.WVTourism.com)  
Summer Pops in the Park [www.CharlotteSymphony.org](http://www.CharlotteSymphony.org)  
West Virginia Harley Owners Group Rally (Snowshoe  
Mountain) [www.WVTourism.com](http://www.WVTourism.com)  
Mountain State Arts & Craft Fair (WV) [www.WVTourism.com](http://www.WVTourism.com)  
Point Pleasant River Museum Car & Bike Show [www.WVTourism.com](http://www.WVTourism.com)  
Plaza-Midwood Pig Pickin’  
Biker’s Rodeo (Myrtle Beach, SC) [www.MyrtleBeach-Harley.com](http://www.MyrtleBeach-Harley.com)

August  
Monster Truck Bash [www.CharlotteMotorSpeedway.com](http://www.CharlotteMotorSpeedway.com)  
Fastgrass Bluegrass Fest.  
Liquid Steel Big 50 Bike Show  
Food Lion Auto Fair [www.CharlotteMotorSpeedway.com](http://www.CharlotteMotorSpeedway.com)  
Annual Freedom Ride (Greensboro, NC)  
Summerfest (York County) [www.GreaterYorkChamber.com](http://www.GreaterYorkChamber.com)  
Ride for Humane Society (Greensboro, NC) [www.HDGreensboro.com](http://www.HDGreensboro.com)  
Annual Biker Day (Winston-Salem, NC) [www.Smokin-Harley.com](http://www.Smokin-Harley.com)  
Ride for Kids (Fletcher, NC) [www.RideForKids.org](http://www.RideForKids.org)

LGBT Pride Festival [www.PrideCharlotte.com](http://www.PrideCharlotte.com)  
Bull City Rumble (Durham, NC) [www.TonUp-NC.com](http://www.TonUp-NC.com)  
September  
Yiasou Greek Festival (Charlotte, NC) [www.YiasouFes-tival.org](http://www.YiasouFes-tival.org)  
Charlotte Fashion Week  
Festival in the Park [www.FestivalinthePark.org](http://www.FestivalinthePark.org)  
International Festical (Charlotte, NC) [www.Ifest.UNCC.edu](http://www.Ifest.UNCC.edu)  
Festival of India (Charlotte, NC) [www.IndiaFestival.net](http://www.IndiaFestival.net)  
Blues, Brews & BBQ (Charlotte, NC) [www.BluesBrews-AndBBQ.com](http://www.BluesBrews-AndBBQ.com)  
Festival in the Park (Charlotte, NC) [www.FestivalIn-ThePark.com](http://www.FestivalIn-ThePark.com)  
Bull City Rumble (Durham, NC) [www.TonUp-NC.com](http://www.TonUp-NC.com)  
Southern Women’s Show (Charlotte, NC) [www.South-ernWomensShow.com](http://www.South-ernWomensShow.com)

October  
Plaza Midwood / Chantilly Chili Cook Off benefiting  
Hospice Palliative Care (Charlotte, NC) [www.PMCCoo-koff.com](http://www.PMCCoo-koff.com)  
World of Outlaws Late Model Showdown [www.CharlotteMotorSpeedway.com](http://www.CharlotteMotorSpeedway.com)  
Goodguys Southeastern Nationals [www.CharlotteMotorSpeedway.com](http://www.CharlotteMotorSpeedway.com)  
SC State H.O.G. Rally [www.SCStateHOGRally.com](http://www.SCStateHOGRally.com)  
Charlotte Renaissance Festival [www.RoyalFaires.com/](http://www.RoyalFaires.com/)  
Carolina  
Great Grapes (Charlotte) [www.UnCorktheFun.com](http://www.UnCorktheFun.com)  
Bank of America 600 [www.CharlotteMotorSpeedway.com](http://www.CharlotteMotorSpeedway.com)  
Latin American Festival [www.FestivalAmericano.org](http://www.FestivalAmericano.org)  
Scarowinds [www.Carowinds.com](http://www.Carowinds.com)  
Time Warner Cable BBQ & Blues [www.CharlotteBBQandBlues.com](http://www.CharlotteBBQandBlues.com)  
Oktoberfest Charlotte [www.CharlotteOktoberFest.com](http://www.CharlotteOktoberFest.com)

November  
Charlotte Renaissance Festival [www.RoyalFaires.com/](http://www.RoyalFaires.com/)  
Carolina  
Charlotte Concerned  
Biker Association’s  
Swap Meet & Bike  
Show [www.CharlotteCBA.org](http://www.CharlotteCBA.org)  
Harvest Day  
Southern Christmas  
Show [www.SouthernShows.com](http://www.SouthernShows.com)  
Holidays on Oce  
[www.WBTHoliday-sONIce.com](http://www.WBTHoliday-sONIce.com)  
Holiday Lights [www.DSBG.org](http://www.DSBG.org)  
Le Beaujolais Fest.  
Belk Carolinas’ Car-  
ousel Parade [www.CarroselParade.org](http://www.CarroselParade.org)  
BBQ Cook-Off & Vet-  
erans Day Celebra-  
tion (Raleigh, NC)  
[www.RayPrice.com](http://www.RayPrice.com)

December  
Christmas Candle-  
light Tours, Historic  
Brattonsvillew [www.CHMuseums.org](http://www.CHMuseums.org)  
Santa Train @ the  
NC Transportation  
Museum (Spencer)  
[www.NCTrans.org](http://www.NCTrans.org)

“Gingerbread Lane” feat.gingerbread house compe-  
tition to benefit Levine’s Children’s Hospital [www.theBallantyneHotel.com](http://www.theBallantyneHotel.com)  
Charlotte Motor Speedway lights [www.VisitCaro-linaChristmas.com](http://www.VisitCaro-linaChristmas.com)  
McAdenville Christmas Town USA (lights) [www.McAdenville-Christmastown.com](http://www.McAdenville-Christmastown.com)  
Zootastic Park Christmas Wonderland (Zootastic Park,  
Troutman, NC) [www.ZootasticPark.com](http://www.ZootasticPark.com)  
Belmont Parade [www.VisitGaston.org](http://www.VisitGaston.org)  
Cramerton Parade [www.VisitGaston.org](http://www.VisitGaston.org)  
Bessemer City Parade [www.BessemerCity.com](http://www.BessemerCity.com)  
Kannapolis Parade [www.CabarrusEvents.com](http://www.CabarrusEvents.com)  
Lowell Parade [www.VisitGaston.org](http://www.VisitGaston.org)  
McAdenville Parade [www.McAdenville-Christmas-Town.com](http://www.McAdenville-Christmas-Town.com)  
Santa at the Mall : [www.Simon.com/Mall/Southpark](http://www.Simon.com/Mall/Southpark)  
, [www.Simon.com/Mall/Concord-Mills](http://www.Simon.com/Mall/Concord-Mills) , [www.Shop-NorthlakeMall.com/SantaPhotos](http://www.Shop-NorthlakeMall.com/SantaPhotos) , [www.ShopMon-roeCrossing.com](http://www.ShopMon-roeCrossing.com) , [www.Westfield.com/Eastridge](http://www.Westfield.com/Eastridge) ,  
[www.CarolinaPlace.com/Events](http://www.CarolinaPlace.com/Events)

To see your event on this list, email  
it to [ellen.gurley@mycitymagazine.net](mailto:ellen.gurley@mycitymagazine.net). And, as always, the [www.MyCity-Magazine.net](http://www.MyCity-Magazine.net) website has a full venue  
listing to correspond with the events  
above. Thank you .





# Spinner Rack

by Seth Peagle

Chances are, if you don’t read comics, you’ve at least seen one of Hollywood’s numerous adaptations of some of the industry’s classic characters. It’s not just evident in the big summer popcorn movies either. Sure, Avengers and Man of Steel get most of the attention, but let’s not forget the more Indie-type films like Ghost World, American Splendor, and Tamara Drewe. Even if you didn’t get dragged along to one of these films by your kids or significant other, it’s easy to see that comics are everywhere these days

If it’s not apparent by the plethora of comic-related movies and video games, it’s seen in the fact that comic writer Neil Gaiman continues to wind up on bestseller lists whenever he publishes a new novel. And then there’s television, where comic writers like Brian K. Vaughan crossed over to write for Lost, and is a showrunner on the upcoming Under the Dome series. With comics bleeding into every form of media, where does that leave the good old print comics?

In this column I’ll give you an overview of some of the big events that you’ll be able to find each month on the comic shelves, while introducing you to some less visible comics from smaller publishers and comic creators around the world. Those of us who work in around the comics industry are prone to saying that “there’s something for everyone,” but that statement has never been truer than it is right now.

Take a look at some of the new comics available in July and you’ll see what I mean. If you grew up loving the Biff-Pow adventures of the sixties Adam West/Burt Ward Batman series, you’ll probably be interested in knowing that DC is kicking off Batman ’66 #1, which is the first time they’ve done a regular print comic in the campy vein of that show. For the record, both the Julie Newmar and Eartha Kitt versions of Catwoman will be making appearances in the series, so there’s no need to argue.

Over at Marvel, July’s biggest newsmaker will likely be Guardians of the Galaxy #5. Now, most of you aren’t familiar that book, but that’s okay. Just think a space version of the Avengers, and you’ll be fine. With a big budget Guardians of the Galaxy film coming from Marvel Studios in the next few years, Marvel’s trying to increase public awareness of this property. To aid in this effort, they tapped Neil Gaiman to co-write the series starting with July’s issue five. Though he started in comics, Gaiman’s been busy with novels, movies and TV shows in recent years, so it’s always worth noting when he comes back to the funny books.

July also sees Marvel kicking off yet another Oz book from Eric Shanower and Skottie Young. The Emerald City of Oz #1 continues the pair’s excellent adaptations of the L. Frank Baum books. My wife and I have enjoyed all of the previous books in this series, and given several to young nieces and nephews as gifts. If you want to get your kids to read this summer but don’t want them to just read super hero comics, this is a great option for you.

We’ve talked DC and Marvel, but what about other companies in July? Image Comics offers up Satellite Sam #1 by Matt Fraction and Howard Chaykin. This is being billed as a noir tale set in the Golden Age of television, where the star of a daily TV show dies mysteriously in an unseemly room. Fraction’s been doing some of the best work of his career recently over on Marvel’s Hawkeye, so I’m betting this pair-



ing with a legend like Chaykin will be worth a look.

Some of you may be familiar with DC Comics’ Vertigo imprint. Over the past 25 years they’ve produced some of the darker, more literate comics on the shelves. From the gruesome horror of Alan Moore’s Swamp Thing, to the novelistic fantasy of Sandman, Vertigo has developed a strong reputation for quality and stretching the boundaries of what can happen in comics. In the past ten years, newer titles like Fables and Y: The Last Man have continued the trend of the publisher’s critically acclaimed titles. Sometimes, though, even heralded publishers need to change with the times. With their new July title Collider, Vertigo hopes to move away from some of that literal and figurative darkness. With fluid artwork from Robbi Rodriguez and the dynamic palette of Charlotte’s Rico Renzi, Collider’s science fiction elements look like nothing you’ve ever seen from Vertigo. This is a good thing not just for the publisher, but for any comic readers wanting a new book to pick up in July.

If you think comics are just fodder for Hollywood to turn into an endless parade of summer films, I’d encourage you to give some of these new books a try. This really is a great time to start reading, and you might be surprised by the variety of options. Keep an open mind, and maybe you’ll see what I (and countless others) already know: comics, like any great art form, provide a limitless array of experiences.

## Joshua Zane Starnes

Interview by Ellen Gurley

E: I drove down Central Avenue the other day and to my surprise, the side of a bar I’m familiar with was painted with two fists. And on the knuckles there was the word “American”. I liked it so much I did a U-turn and photographed it. I asked Central Station who the artist was and they sent me to you. It’s so nice to meet you. Tell me about the inspiration for this piece?

J: Ellen, it’s great to meet you, as well. I am a visual story teller and I sign all my art with my middle name Zane. My art happens a few images at a time (kinda like a cliff hanger). My visual stories are a kind of game for people’s minds that inspire people to build their own story for the meaning of the symbols found in my art. Businesses hire me to create a visual story that can communicate something powerful and to make a buzz about their business. With things like Face book (and social media networking) it can go to a whole new level.

At 2131 Central Avenue (Central Station) I am telling the story of a character that I have create in my head based on the images I see in NoDa and Plaza-Midwood. Central Station hired me to paint two specific murals inside the business. On my recommendation, the owner agreed to “test” the exterior wall with my visual story concept of this character in my mind

who has AMERICAN knuckle tattoos. It has worked wonderfully and I’ve been working on it ever since. The neighborhood is watching the work in progress and it has created a conversation that was positive for business. Art speaks to people’s hearts and that can be a powerful magnet to their buying decisions in these times.



It’s art that can be held in the minds of the community. It’s a marketing experience to all the community to shape the future of the art. The neighborhood gets to see the evolution of the painting and make comments that influence my next brush stroke. That rocks because social media is recording everyone’s experience.

The result of this project (so far) has been a huge success. The bar gets a story on their exterior wall that gets them noticed because people are literally co-creating the visual story that I am painting. We crave stories because that’s how our brains work. A canvas that tells a story is a living thing and brings everyone to the proverbial campfire to buy some cocktails.

One side note: There is an obvious political edge being that the literal canvas is a gay bar. Almost instantly a discussion appeared around the graffiti mural. Many are interpreting the painting as a gentle reminder to the world that gay people are still fighting for their basic human rights. Naturally, yesterday when the Supreme Court voted down DOMA and Prop 8, they invited me back to do a quick last minute temporary painting to celebrate before their celebration party last night. A good time was had by all.

E: I understand that you also did murals for Krazy Fish (an angry, yellow octopus) on their parking lot fence. How fun.

J: Yeah, I love that angry octopus, which, by the way, is amazing right now as he is propped above an aggressive squash plant they planted along their fence. It looks like he is hiding in seaweed. I just got rehired there to give the octopus something to fight with! Hence the story evolves and the neighborhood takes ownership of the art work as they invent their own stories about the images with which I am supplying them. You will have to go see what other creature climbs out of my imagination at Krazy Fish.



E: This is three places in Plaza-Midwood alone. Are there more in this neighbourhood?

J: There are not more exterior murals in the neighborhood, but I am constantly consulting with businesses that want to hear my ideas about how to help their business. Also I have been an artist for thirty nine years now so I have tons of work ‘floating around’ out there.

E: Have you always drawn on the walls?  
J: Yes, I have always drawn on the walls or any other surface that I could find. I used to get in trouble as a kid, but now I only do public murals that are commissioned.

E: So, you just came back from South Beach where you spent ten days working on something for a club. What was that?  
J: Oh my, I did lots of things while I was in Miami. I body-painted a model, consulted on the restoration of a antique lead garden statue, and I oversaw the moving of a large custom mural I did for a ocean front condo in South Beach. Finally, I was contracted by DeLucca Events to create custom body stencils that will become the signature flair for their staff at this highly successful events company.

E: I understand that you wrote a book entitled “Gay and OK : an Inspirational Guide for Coming Out of the Closet and Building a Brighter Future”, so I see that painting is not your sole craft. Tell me about the journey writing this book and was there some cooking that you became known for, at some point?

J: You can get the book on www.Amazon.com, it’s written for a younger audience and it is getting younger all the time when kids are choosing to come out. And yes, I did do some cooking segments on the Charlotte Today show a few years ago as “Josh the Leftover King”.

E: They don’t make ‘em more local than yourself, having lived in Charlotte, Waxhaw and Monroe your whole life. I, too, am a native. Do you always see yourself here?

J: Actually, I have lived and traveled all over the place in my career as a banking consultant. Here lately, I have become a snow bird between Charlotte and Miami.

Do you have an Ugly Deck?



**Cabot's**  
PREMIUM WOODCARE  
SINCE 1817

**HORIZON**  
**DECK BUILDERS**

Call Today 704-879-1207 or Visit Us Online At  
**www.horizondeckbuilders.com**

**12 X 12 DECK RESTORATION**  
Includes: Resetting Nails,  
Screw Down Warped Boards,  
Clean and Seal  
**\$249**  
With coupons. Not valid with any other offer. Exp. 9/1/13



**VISART VIDEO**  
**Charlotte**

**1945 E. 7th Street**  
**(704) 343-3031**

**VISARTVIDEO.ORG**

Hours:  
Su-Th: 10am - 10pm | Fr-Sa: 10am - 11pm

VisArt Video	27	VisArt Video
<b>Rent One Movie</b> <b>Get Second Rental Free</b> <small>*Cannot be combined with other offers</small>		<b>\$2 Off</b> <b>Any Movie / DVD Purchase</b> <small>*Cannot be combined with other offers</small>
<i>Expires: August 31st, 2013</i>		<i>Expires: August 31st, 2013</i>



hidden in many venues. I think the show we have at Petra’s is a place to let everyone know that we’re just not makeup and fake tits with a Broyhill sofa strapped to our \*sses. Lol! I am amazed at the guests that can’t take their eyes off of the performers at Petra’s. It is like they really enjoy the entertaining, not just the art.

SE: Which do you prefer: singing live or lip synching for your life?

MJ: I do both live and lip synching, after all there are a few things I can not sing and my nuts only stretch so far.

SE: Unfortunately the drag world can be shady at times. Why do you feel that a group so boldly ‘out there’ can at the same time be so insecure?

MJ: This is very true, however, if we as a community, as well as a state and nation, would stop worrying about what everyone else is doing and just join in and be supportive (no matter what), we could change things all around us. The best way to stay out of the shade is get out from under the tree.

SE: I am in the world of drag for the love of entertaining and painting. Do you find that a lot of today’s queens take them selves too seriously or not seriously enough?

MJ: Again, I think it is up to the entertainer to decide what is best for them. I made a statement in the very beginning, that I may never be the prettiest or the most talented, but would always be the most gracious. If you are having fun, that’s all that matters.

SE: As a truly flawless belle of the south, how do you feel about all the different forms of drag that are being seen today?

MJ: Flawless? Not. But thank you. We all have different likes and desires for our art. If we were all the same, at some point in time it would get very boring. Again, this is an art and all facets are amazing.

SE: What is on the horizon for Monica?

MJ: In December of 2013, Monica will release her very first album entitled “Simply Monica J”.

SE: Fabulous, I will be in line for a copy. Thank you for your time and glitter. (XOXO)

MJ: Thank you so much for the opportunity for this interview. I would like to add a special thanks to Jeff Reeves of Club Caberet for never giving up on me and to Amanda Chandler for always being there. I’d also like to send a thank you to all of my fans and friends and to the new man in my life for always putting up with Jeff AND Monica. (He’s more of a queen than I.)

Alexandra “Lexi” Walker LoBiondo

by Shane Elks

One incredible part of being a performer is that you meet some of the most interesting people. Of all the many performance companies I have worked with, my time with Opera Carolina blessed me with not only the opportunity to perform some of the greatest operas ever composed but also perform with some of the greatest souls I have ever met. Alexandra Walker LoBianco (or Lexi as I call her) is not only one of today’s touring voices

but is also a spirit of genuine kindness. Two seconds with her and you find yourself laughing and feeling as though this is an old friend. Join me as I catch up with this opera diva and chat about the business.

SE: Well first I wish to say I miss your face and have always carried a place for you since we first met. You are one of those souls who people never forget.

AL: You’re making me blush my dear. I feel the same about you.

SE: Too Sweet! How was your audition?

AL: I need to make a trip to NC soon. Actually today’s went really well. I felt like I got my groove back.

SE: What was it for?  
AL: Palm Beach Opera  
SE: Do you have an agent who sets up your auditions?

AL: I do now. I’ve just recently joined the Barrett Vantage Roster.

SE: Congrats! I am sure that makes life easier.

AL: I was with PrinceSF Productions for about a year and a half, which was a wonderful starter manager, but it’s great to be with a ‘big time’ management.



Voted Best American Cuisine by Citysearch!



Great “Classic Comfort” Meals  
Roast Beef, Pulled Pork BBQ & Meatloaf All Cooked In-House!  
Try our Famous Haddock Fish Fry or Beef on ‘Weck – Best in Town!  
Daily Drink Specials | Daily Lunch & Dinner Specials



1524 East Boulevard in Dilworth | 704.370.1177

www.lebowskisgrill.com

Full takeout menu for lunch & dinner! Support Local. Gift Cards Available.

FREE WINGS

RECEIVE FREE WINGS WITH PURCHASE OF \$10 OR MORE!  
\*Pre-tax total. Dine-in only. Must present coupon. Not valid with other offers or discounts. One coupon per check. Exp 8/31/13.

COUPON

SE: I don’t think most realize that in order to be successful in the opera world you must commit your life to traveling.

AL: It sounds like a ‘glamorous life’ until you’re in the midst of it and realize you live mostly out of a suit case and you’re alone quite often. Luckily for me I make friends easily. Honestly one of the things that has made such a difference for me was spending so many years in the Opera Carolina chorus.

SE: You do (make friends easily). I first met you while we were both doing “La Boheme” for Opera Carolina. How does Opera Carolina stack up with other companies around the globe?

AL: It’s actually one of my most favorite places to work still and I haven’t worked there in years. Maestro Meena is one of the finest conductors I have ever had the pleasure of working with

SE: “There’s no place like home!” (Your working home, that is.) Where are you from originally?

AL: Originally from St. Petersburg, FL. I feel the need to put FL after that now because I was in a competition where they put me down as from St. Petersburg, Russia which became a wonderfully hilarious moment as I was walking on stage for the finals.

SE: I could see you as Russian.

AL: Exactly! It was a pretty funny way to walk on stage as they were announcing the corrections. Well I’m adopted, so who really knows. Apparently I adapt well.

SE: You definitely have the bosom for Russian. It just makes you a great actress. “She can play anything Folks!”

AL: Ah yes, the girls. Lol. They have made a name for themselves in this business.

SE: I would hire them!

AL: Well you know Charlie Lang named them while I was at OC. Poly and Esther.

SE: What has been your favorite role thus far?

AL: My fave role so far? Well I have a great love for “Turan-dot” and the most recent addition has been “Amelia” in “Un Ballo in Maschera”. They were two very different women but both very passionate and complex.

SE: What brought you into the opera world?

AL: This is a convoluted story so I will try to tell it in as neat a picture as I can. I had always been a singer, according to my parents, from the moment I could make noise. I was always making up melodies. I sang in preschool then life changed in elementary school and I stopped music completely (except my pop music belt-a-thons). I came back to music in middle school where I was an instrumentalist. My parents had always taken me to the theater, symphony and eventually opera. The first opera I saw was “Cavalleria Rusticana” and “I Pagliacci”. It was at the MET and I really thought I was going to be a clarinetist. We were seated house left in the front row so I could see into the pit. Well needless to say, my eyes left the pit and were drawn to the stage. I was completely overwhelmed with how they could do ‘that’. It wasn’t until my senior year of high school where a dear teacher looked at me and said hey you’ve got a big voice have you ever thought about opera? It was really by accident.

SE: The best things are by accident.

AL: What really hooked me was the fact that it was acting as well as music. I could escape the person I was in high school

and be anyone I wanted to be.

SE: YES!

AL: The more I get into this as a career, the more I realize that my dreams of being a music therapist are coming true and what I do is not for me at all. I’m the vessel to tell the story and it’s an honor to be part of the process. It’s also a great responsibility.

SE: It is therapy, for the audience and for you.

AL: It is indeed.

SE: No better way to celebrate your passion than to share it.

AL: You can go see opera at the movies but it’s not the same as having the vibrations of sound actually surround every molecule of your body.

SE: Not at all. Though I do suggest people expose themselves to the art form any way they can.

AL: Absolutely! I’m not saying don’t go to the movies to support opera. I’m just saying don’t forget about the opportunity to see live opera as well or art in any form.

SE: Oh no, I completely understand and agree with your sentiment. Live theater is meant to be seen live. Do you see yourself venturing into directing, teaching or perhaps the music therapy worlds in years to come?

AL: Well, I actually have a studio of students that’s pretty full right now. Most of my students I have met on gigs and I actually teach via Skype.

SE: LOVE IT! Isn’t teaching amazing?

AL: I would one day love to start my own company (a training company). This goal is equally important to me as singing. I actually thank Opera Carolina for giving me my first real

15% off  
Pounds of Coffee on Wednesdays



Central Coffee Company  
719 Louise Avenue, Charlotte, NC 28204  
704.335.7288

We want to be your neighborhood coffee shop!

Espresso | Iced Drinks | Pastries | Gifts | Free WiFi



experience as a teaching artist with the “Music! Words! Opera!” program.

SE: It is awesome having a student who shares your passion and leading them on the journey of self-awareness and growth through art.

AL: There is NOTHING like the light bulb moment.

SE: NOTHING like it. And they teach me as well. I learn from teaching.

AL: Oh, I learn so much from teaching. Every time I work with them (all), I discover more about myself. I could go on and on (actually) but I will just say that the Education Deparment at Op- era Carolina was a place of life learning for me, not just a place to teach.

SE: Gorgeous! Speaking of gorgeous...

AL: Yes, we’re talking about you now?

SE: Please! We are actually talking about how your traveling life seems to not be so lonely as of late.

AL: Oh, my sweetie?

SE: Yes!

AL: Well, I will say that we’ve been together for over two years now and he’s very patient with me and this crazy life.

SE: Beautiful!

AL: He’s not a singer so he doesn’t get to come on gigs with me very often.

SE: What is his career?

AL: He’s a computer programmer (actually) who started as a music major but he was smart and got out and actually makes a decent living with benefits. He sings on the side for fun.

SE: How great. So he does share your passion and appreciation. Haha! You said he was smart and got out, right? Look at us with all of our education and experience and people always go “Oh really? Wow!”. And I go, “honey, it’s not at all what you think it is”, but I wouldn’t trade my life for the world. I know you wouldn’t either.

AL: You got that right, dear. Traveling is always tough but I am grateful to my wonderful mentor who drove into my head to have a balanced life (wherein I could come home and not go into depression from being off the road).

SE: That is great. Many more need that mind set.

AL: The hours and hours and hours spent pouring over one phrase of music sometimes it gets ... well, you know. Perception really is everything, isn’t it?

SE: You have always been a light, Lexi gal. Thank you for shar- ing a bit of it with me.

AL: Oh, I should add that I have taken to sending a box ahead of me when I travel. There are a few essentials that I must have in order to make anywhere feel like home. Now don’t laugh, but I send my knives and spices and I’m thinking about sending a good basic skillet. If I can cook I feel at home.

SE: Awwww! I think that is wonderful. And cooking is such great therapy.

AL: I also keep a photo of my parents, a silk screen that some of my dearest fans bought me in China, and a shell that has a button stamped out of it from Iowa. Oh honey, if I wasn’t sing- ing, I’d be a chef in a heart beat, but now-a-days I keep it for my private passion.

SE: Well I would dine at the house of Lexi any day.

AL: I promise to make you a meal if I come through.

SE: You must and our home is open for you anytime.

AL: Thank you, love. Now I must get back to studying some

“Suor Angelica” and getting ready to teach tonight. I would love to have a Skype date with you at some point, as miss your handsome self.

SE: YES! I actually have a student coming at six. We must Skype it up soon. We have years to talk about. Much love.

AL: Indeed we do. Hugs and much love, to you, too, my dear.

# Cheap Momma’s Guide

by : Liz Eagle

There are quite a few things in the world I value. Craigslist, Pandora, sunny days... But, as it should be, at the top of that list is my kids. Nothing in the world beats 2 little monsters run- ning around, coming up with awesome projects, playing dress up, and playing in the yard. When those fun activities end, however, it can leave us poor mommas and poppas feeling a bit stumped. Don’t play games with me. Parenting isn’t all Pinterest and PBS. I can’t always do all the great things I see on SesameStreet.com and, dammit, sometimes I just don’t want to spend all my hard-earned money on it! And that’s where my grand idea comes in: the Cheap Momma’s Guide to Parenting. “Necessity is indeed the mother of invention” someone old once said (presumably a parent). I’m so tired of the “First I take my kids to violin lessons, then soccer, then ballet and on the weekends we go out of town” conversations. You lose me after

the word “First” because that implies you are doing more than one thing. Lots of days I have one thing on my list: nap. Check.

BUT on the days I have the energy and time (2 important variables in the parenting equation), I strap my little buddies in their boost- er seats and head off in search of something cheap--- or free.

About a year ago, my husband and I took the kids to the zoo. It was awesome. It was so big, we only got around to half of it. So we bought seasons passes. For a whole year, we could visit the zoo without paying another nickel. Great idea. The bad idea, though, was not taking into account the drive to the zoo, the time off work for my husband (heaven forbid I venture alone), and that a year is only 365 days. How am I supposed to fit 1 more day of zoo fun in that amount of time? Needless to say, the year came and went and we never saw the other half of the zoo. The good mother in me wanted my kids to have an animal experience (not to be confused with the current though fading animalistic/bath salts experience). The really, re- ally good mother in me saw an easy way out: PetSmart. That’s right, bitches. PetSmart. I would like to emphasis the word “smart” here.

I can’t take all the credit, though. From my home in the glori- ous Villa Heights Neighborhood to the bustling Cotswold shopping center, housing PetSmart, is about a 5 mile drive. Because of the recent closing of the Ghetto-Teeter on Central, I had to haul ass over there to pick up some diapers anyway. On our way out, I saw two 12-year-old boys beaming lovingly at plastic bags filled with Charlotte’s finest tap water and little baby goldfish.



As I looked down the way, it’s like heaven’s light shone on the entrance of PetSmart. I’d like to think we hit it on a good day. There were a couple of white fluffy pooches being groomed, 2 double-leashed police-looking dogs, a rather large guinea pig, and the fish. Oh, the fish. Who needs an aquarium trip when you can be up-close and personal with 100s of tiny goldfish? An old man asked my 5 year old “Young lady, do you think you could count all those fish?” No, sir. No she could not. Because believe you me there were fishies a-plenty. (But, if you wanted to kill time, you could certainly have your little one count them over and over again. It is up to your discretion.)

We watched as an awkward teenage girl picked out some over priced marine life. We walked to the kitties and watched them jump from stand to stand. Bubbles would have been proud. We saw the parakeets chirping and fighting over something.I felt like we’d seen it all. Fish, mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians. And right up close and personal. Not all distant and neck-craning as the zoo. Certainly not under the blaring August sun. And all within the comfort of your own city!

So, for those needing this guide to be in guide-format, here is a Cheap Momma’s How-to for a Zoo-like outing: Pick a hot/rainy day where being outside is miserable so you don’t feel so bad about skipping the regular zoo. Google Maps your nearest PetSmart location, so as not to waste a drop of the liquid \$3.72/gallon gold. Get your little ones amped up about all the species of animals living in said pet store. Take your own snacks (optional) Make laps. Mostly because there are only about 5 sections that house animals and you need to make it worth your while. Repeat as necessary. And there you have it. The first installment of the Cheap Mom- ma’s Guide to Parenting. Stay tuned: you never know where the cheapness will lead us.

# Truck Stalking

by : Ellen Gurley

Charlotte has been my home for thirty six years. In that time I have seen A LOT of restaurants come and go. For some Char- lotte restaurant owners, the “coming and going” is what keeps them afloat. I’m talking food trucks. And I have learned that if you want to find these trucks, you’ve got to follow them on twitter.

In my stalking of the truck I have found a few favourites; Papi Queso, Maki Taco and my top favourite is numnum a GoGo. I had a “Yeeeah Dog” from them the other night that did me right. It was a deep-fried and seasoned all beef hotdog



wrapped in a spiral cut po- tato on a skewer. And I had a yummy Philly Quesadilla.

Get your own favourite food truck and follow them on twitter.

Auto Burger & Fry Guys > @AutoBurger  
Cupcake Delirium > @onthegocupcakes  
Gourmet Goombahs > @ggoombahs  
Heban Legend, the > @herban\_legend  
Homegrown Crepe > hgcrepe  
JJ’s Red Hots (Frank the Tank) > @JJsRedHots  
King of Pops > @KingOfPopsCLT  
Maki Taco > @makitacotruck  
Napolitano’s > @NapolitanosMkt  
numnum a GoGo > @numnumagogo  
Papi Queso > @papiquesotruck  
Plated Palate, the > @PlatedPalette  
Roaming Fork > @roamingforkNC  
Sal’s Roadside > @SalsRdsideEatery  
Salts of the Earth . @saltsearthllc  
Smoke & Go > @smokengocafe  
Southern Cake Queen > @southern cake  
Sticks & Stones > @SticksAndStones  
Tin Kitchen, the > @TheTINKitchen  
Turkey And > @TurkeyAnd  
Wafflez & Wingz > @WafflesandWingz  
Wingzza > @WingzzaTruck

Here are some other ways to stalk the trucks; @cltfoodtrucks  
@mobilecuisine @EatsTweet @FoodTrucksCLT @mycitychar- lotte , but if you’re too lazy to investigate, Fridays in Southend (at Camden & Park) are “Food Truck Fridays”. Happy eating.

# Elizabeth Antique Restoration

*Repair and Refinishing for Furniture & Fine Antiques*

**Brian Snyder**  
**(704) 293-3244**

**Pick Up & Delivery Available by Appointment Only**

*Locally Owned & Musician Operated*



Follow us as My City Magazine becomes the newest member of the Charlotte media market, which, by the way, boasts a list of over one hundred wonderful print publications. My City Magazine is the latest magazine to hit the streets and is proud to be alongside so many other worthy media members.

ITALIC TEAL	BOLD GREEN	Italic Brown	Orange	Bright Green	Bold Red	Violet	Pink	Bold Blue	Black
Upscale	Health, Outdoors	Travel, Visitor Newcomer, (Regional NC)	New Homes Apartments Automobiles	Political	Dining	Ethnicity Interest	Women Parents	Younger Demo-graphic, Alternative Lifestyle, Gay	Other local news
<b>GLOSSY PRINT</b> @ Home All About Seniors <b>Apartment Finder</b> <b>Apartments for Rent</b> <b>Apartment Guide</b> Associated Press Charlotte Guide 2012 <b>Auto Guide Auto Search n Find</b> <i>Ballantyne Magazine</i> <i>Barbara McKay's Premier Bride</i> Blu Magazine <b>Blue Ridge Outdoors (half glossy, half newsprint)</b> <b>Breathe</b> <i>Business North Carolina</i> <i>Carolina Bride</i> <i>Carolina Country</i> <i>Carolina Living</i> Carolina Panthers ROAR Carolinas' Full Throttle, the <i>Charlotte Drive Times</i> Charlotte Endurance <b>Charlotte Epicurean</b> <b>Charlotte Health &amp; Fitness</b> <i>Charlotte Living</i> <i>Charlotte Magazine (also publishes half page mag: Local Flavor)</i> <i>Charlotte Newcomer</i> <i>Charlotte Uptown</i> <i>Charlotte Parent (part glossy, mostly newsprint) (also publishes full glossy: Baby Guide, Education Guide)</i> <i>Charlotte Style Magazine</i> <b>Charlotte Taste</b> <b>Charlotte Urban Home</b> <i>Charlotte Wedding</i> Charlotte Where Currents Dashboards And Saddlebags <b>Delicious Living</b> <b>Edible Charlotte</b> <b>Elevate</b> <i>Exceptional Child Expectant Mother's Guide</i> <b>Foodie Call</b> <b>Four Magazine</b> <i>Greater Charlotte Biz</i> ICU 2DAY (Independent Contractors United LLC) & Entrepreneur <i>Iredell Living</i> <i>Kid's Directory</i> <i>Lake Norman Magazine</i> <i>Lake Wylie Living</i> <i>Life in Myers Park, the Little Ones</i> Living Here (an Observer magazine) <i>Mecklenburg Go Magazine</i> MY CITY MAGAZINE My School Rocks! Magazine N Focus New Home Guide New Homes Observer Homes (an Observer magazine) Our State (North Carolina) Pocket Rocket Guide		Pride QC Exclusive Real Estate Book, the Real Estate Magazine (Rock Hill) Road Trips (an Observer publication) Scout Guide Shuffle Society South Charlotte Living Southern Sports Journal South Park Magazine Speak Up Stonecrest Magazine Today's Charlotte Woman Today's Custom Home University City Magazine Urban Home Direct Vibrant Living Visit Charlotte / Charlotte's Got a Lot  <b>NEWSPRINT</b> Asian Herald, the Charlotte Business Journal Charlotte Hospitality News Charlotte Jewish News Charlotte Observer (plus special advertising sections i.e. "Bike Charlotte") Charlotte Post Charlotte Weekly Civita Capitol Connection Coffee News Creative Loafing Crowd Surfer Fort Mill Times HOLA Noticias Job Finder Lake Wylie Pilot La Noticia Matthews-Mint Hill Weekly Mecklenburg Times Metro Proponet Mint Hill Times Mi Que' Pasa Migente Mountain Island Weekly Natural Awakenings Healthy Living (Charlotte Edition) NoDa News North Carolina Antique & Collectible PEDDLER PRICK Q-Notes Rhino Times Slammer, the South Charlotte Weekly Southern Brew Union County Weekly  <b>COUPON Magazines or Mailers</b> Charlotte Executive Savings Magazine Clipper Explore Your Hood Live. \$ave. Share. Money Mailer Our Town Shop Wise Value Pak and / or Valpak Weforia Door Hanger Direct	<b>WEBSITES &amp; SOCIAL MEDIA PAGES</b> www.360Charlotte.com www.704Events.com www.About.com Carolinas Informed www.CarolinaNightlife.com www.CharlotteBeer.com www.CharlotteBeerBabes.com www.CharlotteCenterCity.org www.CharlotteCultureGuide.com www.CharlotteHappening.com Charlotte Music Blog www.Charlotte-Nightlife.com www.CharlotteOneStop.com www.CharlotteOnTheCheap.com Charlotte Postpunk Gothic & Shoe gaze www.CharlotteRestaurantTraffic.com www.CharlotteRunning.com www.CharlotteSeen.com www.CharlotteSkateboarding.com www.CharlotteStyleMag.com Charlotte Viewpoint www.CharlotteVibe.com www.CLTBlog.com www.CLTFun.com www.CLTMusic.com www.ConcordFun.com www.CraftBeerCollective.com www.CrownTownHandmade.com www.EnjoyCharlotte.com www.Examiner.com www.FindYourCenter.com Good Eats Charlotte www.Groupon.com Heavy Metal in the Carolinas www.InTheseStreets.com www.LazyDay.net www.LiveLimelight.com www.LKNFun.com www.MyCityMagazine.net www.NCHistoricSites.org www.NittyGrittyCity.com Noda - Charlotte's Art & Entertainment District www.NodaNites.com Plaza Midwood Nites www.QueenCityBeer.com www.Rawporter.com www.RoamingHunger.com www.ScoopCharlotte.com ShomoLive Charlotte www.ShoppeCharlotte.com www.Shutter16.com www.SotacMag.com www.SouthendCLT.com www.SpiceCarolinas.com www.SportingNews.com Street & Smith's Sports Business Journal Daily www.TheBuzzOfCharlotte.com www.TwistedSouth.com Uptown After Dark www.UrbanSpoon.com www.VisitCharlotte.com www.VisitIndianTrail.com	www.VisitNC.com www.VisitRockHill.com  NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATIONS (MOST OF WHICH HAVE PRINTED NEWSLETTERS) Elizabeth, Plaza-Midwood, Third Ward Neighbors, Wilmore, Windsor Park Neighbors (Windsor Park, Darby Acres, Central Park, Robinhood Woods, Markham Village, Windsor Forest, Nettlewood Acres), Historic Arts District, Starmount, Merry Oaks, Sylvan Park, Selwyn, Belmont Community, Barclay Downs, Commonwealth Morningside, Fairmeadows, Lansdowne, Historic South End, Uptown Charlotte, Fox Glen, Back Creek, Turnberry, Sardis Forest, Chantilly, Downs Grant, Williamsburg, Coventry Woods, Green Acres, Oberbeck Farm, Camp Green, Madison Park, Wilmore, Myers Park (many other Charlotte neighborhoods may also have newsletters with advertisements i.e. NoDa, Dilworth, Midtown, South Park, University, Ballantyne)  OUTDOOR ADVERTISING Adams Outdoor, Advertise Outdoor, All Over Media, Arrow Billboards, Bedgood Outdoor, Billboard Connection, Carolina Mobile Billboards, CBS Outdoor, Departure Media, EMC and/or CMC Outdoor, Lamar Advertising, Moody Mobile, North Carolina Outdoor, Out of Home Billboard, Red Truck Outdoor Media, Rite Lite, Toby Outdoor, Viacom Outdoor, Visi Com, Visual Impact  OTHER ADVERTISING Charlotte Douglass Airport Yellow & White Pages  UNDERGROUND RADIO Plaza Midwood Community Radio www.PMCRadio.org  LOCAL / REGIONAL RADIO Clear Channel FM: WEND 106.5 (Modern Rock), WHQC 96.1 (Top 40/Pop), WKKT 96.9 (Country), WLYT 102.9 (Soft Rock), WRFX 99.7 (Classic Rock), WLNK 107.9 (Adult Contemporary), WXRC 95.7 (Classic Rock) CBS Radio AM: WFNZ 610 (Sports) wfnz.com, WBCN 1660 (News/Talk) americastalk1660.com FM: WBAV 101.9 (Urban Adult Contemporary) v1019.com, WKQC 104.7 (Adult Contemporary) k1047.com, WSOC	103.7 (Country), WNKS 95.1 (Top 40/Pop), WPEG 97.9 (Urban) Spanish WNOW 1030 AM, WNOW FM 105.3, WOLS 106.1 FM, WXNC 1060 AM, WGSP 1310 AM, WGSP FM 102.3 Religious WPZS 100.9 FM, WDEX 1430 AM, WMIT 106.9 FM, WOGR 1540 AM, WHVN 1240 AM, WRCM FM 91.9, WWLV 94.1 FM, WYFQ 93.5 FM and 930AM, WZRH 960 AM More WBT AM 1110 (News), 99..3 FM (News), WFAE 90.7 FM (NPR), WDTY AM 1220 (ABC), WAVO 1150 AM, WDAV 89.9 FM (Classical), WIXE 1190 AM (Country), WRHM-FM 107.1 (Country), WGFY 1480 AM (Radio Disney), WHKY 1290 AM (Talk), WNSC FM 88.9 (News, Rock Hill), WRHI 1340 AM (News), 94.3 FM (News), WTCG 870 AM (News), WZGV 730 AM (News), WRBK FM 90.3 (Oldies), WSGE 91.7 FM (Public Radio), WGIV 1370 AM and 103.3 FM (Urban Variety), WYLI-LP 93.7 FM (Variety) Radio One 105.3 (Urban)  LOCAL / REGIONAL TV STATIONS WCCB TV 18 (Fox), WCNC TV 36 (NBC), WJZY TV 46 (CW), WMYT TV 55 (MyTV), WSOC TV 9 (ABC), WTVI TV 42 (PBS), WBTV TV 3 (CBS), WHKY-TV 14 and / or News 14 Carolina, W21CK-D 21 (3ABN), WNSC-TV 30 (PBS/SCETV), WUNG TV 58 (PBS/UNC-TV), WAXN TV 64				