

# MyCity



May / June 2016

# Letter From The Editor

**May / June 2016**

Hi Charlotte,

Thank you for picking up this copy of My City Magazine. As the editor of My City Magazine and having been born here, I am a little obsessed with regional literature. I like to learn about this great state and read stories of its people. I apply this same curiosity to each issue of My City. The staff and I aim to bring you informative articles each time so that you learn something about Charlotte and the surround. We aren't a breaking news publication, we don't chase ambulances, and we don't print bad reviews. We think that Charlotte offers enough by way of dining and entertainment options and we just want to share the good word with you.

In this issue we find out what Charlotte's surf rock band the Aqualads are up to. We tip you off to Free Comic Book Day and The Company Store. Our music writer, Becky, brings us a review of a split album by local bands No Anger Control and Drunk in a Dumpster. She also introduces us to Sext Message and the owners of the World Famous Milestone Club. We walk through the new location of the Last Word and our beer girl, Amanda, gives us a heads up on the opening of the Thirsty Nomad Brewing. We take a tour of Doc Porter's Craft Spirits and, as always, Martin "the Clown" Barry gives us his advice column and his comic strip. There are a few choice events in the area that we share with you as well as some farms with fruit picking schedules. We give you a preview of a book recently published by local photographer Gene Lazo and Mandi introduces us to one of her favourite local farm-to-forks: Pure Pizza. We hope you enjoy this issue and thank you for reading it. Check out the exhaustive event listing on [MyCityMagazine.net](http://MyCityMagazine.net), farms open to the public on our venue page online, and subscribe to our weekly newsletter while you're there.

Enjoy today and every day,  
Ellen Gurley and the other My City Magazine personalities

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This month's cover is [www.FreeComicBookDay.com](http://www.FreeComicBookDay.com)



Ellen Gurley



# Behind My City



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Columnist



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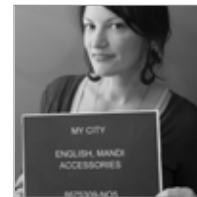
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Owner / Editor



**Martin Barry**  
Columnist / Comics



**Becky Huskins**  
Columnist



**Mandi English**  
Columnist

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# Free Comic Book Day Charlotte Edition

By Ellen Gurley



Charlotte has many wonderful, locally owned businesses. There are four, however, that promise to facilitate hours of enjoyment with which to escape this digital world using vivid imagery, historical and mythological references, and exciting storylines. Nothing is finer than thumbing through the pages of a comic book. This is especially true for adults that read them in their childhood, but there is no more perfect age to start reading them than now (no matter how old you are).

If you're not sure about comic books but would like to give this new suggested hobby a trial run, Free Comic Book Day is an ideal time to indulge in this curiosity. And if you're already into comic books and live here but didn't know about this holiday, this is nationally celebrated event wherein you can visit your local, participating comic book store and leave with a stack of free comic books. Heroes, of course, is the largest store. This means the line are more free comics here and that people in cosplay. I have never been to this holiday but I do know that they have and are connected to an ice cream shop. were nice enough seeing as I had two squealing kids in tow with me a few years back. And Rebel Base always promises the expectable; Star Wars characters in full-on get-ups for photo ops in the parking lot.



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Just look for the Free Comic Book Day logo on the front of selected titles and it is yours. Of course, it is wonderful and highly suggested that you support these locally owned business every other day of the year, but this holiday is a wonderful way to begin or supplement your collection. See you there.



SATURDAY MAY 7TH 2016 [FreeComicBookDay.com](http://FreeComicBookDay.com) @

- A.Pennyworth's Comics & News | 11025 Monroe Rd., Suite C, 28105, 704-849-2287, [APennyworthsComics.com](http://APennyworthsComics.com)
- Heroes Aren't Hard to Find | 1957 E.7th St., 28204, 704-375-7462, [HeroesOnline.com](http://HeroesOnline.com)
- Rebel Base Comics | 701 S.Sharon Amity Rd., 28211, 704.442.9660, [RebelBaseComics.com](http://RebelBaseComics.com)
- Spandex City Comic Book Lounge | 2914-A Mt. Holly-Huntersville Rd., 704-909-7168, [SpandexCity.com](http://SpandexCity.com)

Don't forget about the annual [HeroesOnline.com](http://HeroesOnline.com) Convention  
June 17th-19th @ the Charlotte Convention Center.


# Gene Lazo Book **Tic Toc 3:36**




Carl Jung spoke of the collective unconscious, those innate experiences which can be seen as the soul of humanity at large. The collective unconscious contains what Jung called "primordial images" or "archetypes". These archetypes only take form and enter consciousness in concert with an individual's life experience. But, according to Jung, these archetypes form a common foundation for all humanity upon which each individual builds their own self, shaped by culture and experience. Thus, while archetypes themselves may be conceived as a relatively few innate nebulous forms, they give rise to many images and words and symbols which have meaning that spans beyond an individual human lifetime. This may explain why certain words and images have such a powerfully profound impact on people. We may not understand why, or for that matter even what, they so deeply elicit. We just know that these archetypes do. This book is an exploration of these archetypes. It contains a series of original photographs paired with a single archetypal word. Consider these to be one word novellas telling a story based on each individual viewer's own experience.

- The paperback version is available to buy on Amazon. <http://amzn.com/1367895006>

- There is a special deluxe hardcover edition available at the publisher's sight. This location also contains a preview of the book. <http://blurb.com/b/7014577-archetypes>



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# Coming Soon: **Thirsty Nomad Brewing**

By Amanda Dickinson

I recently got a glimpse of what will surely be one of your favorite places to grab a beer. Still in the breweries infancy, one can tell it's shaping up to be a very cool spot. Brad Ledbetter, Michael Gellar, and Cannon Brent Tune came together a while back and decided on a Steampunk-themed brewing company. Brad and been traveling and home brewing for a while and knew he wanted to take it to the next level. He then brought in Michael and Cannon to flesh out other aspects of the business. The team of three has been brewing for festivals and benefits for a while now. They decided to bring in more investors to open up their own brick and mortar shop.

The interior of the taproom will house glossy wood topped bar, wall murals of clocks and gears, and their logo. They stressed that there will be no televisions in the tap room. The guys want to create a space where people will come and converse. They believe the focus should be on the people and the beer. The three barrel system will be housed just to the left of the bar, with plenty of room for expansion. Future plans include, adding in a bottling and canning line, increasing production, and an addition of a dog park area.

While Thirsty Nomad's main focus is on consistently good beer, they plan on offering



**THIRSTY  
NOMAD  
BREWING CO.**





wine, cold pressed coffee, and adding some non-alcoholic sodas to their lineup. There won't be any food prepared on site, but they will be providing light snacks behind the bar and will be hosting food trucks from time to time. Some of their past brews have included Cap'n Sour Ale, Seeker Pale Ale, Valkyrie Chocolate Stout, Codger Old Ale, and Buccaneer Amber Lager. As of right now, the guys are forecasting the opening of the taproom to be sometime in June of this year. We can't wait!

- Sample Thirsty Nomad at the [South End Hops Festival.com](http://SouthEndHopsFestival.com) on Saturday, May 14th from 2-6 pm at 308 West Carson Boulevard.
- Follow Thirsty Nomad's progress on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter.
- More information is also available on their website: [ThirstyNomadBrewing.com](http://ThirstyNomadBrewing.com)



# Ask The Clown

Advice from Martin "The Clown" Barry



Q

Dear Clown,

There is a man in my life that I admire deeply. We met years ago participating in the same organization. I feel like he has known me all my life. I am thinking I would like to move things forward with this person, but there is something that others may see as a problem. There is a significant age gap between us. I won't say how many years, but it would be something my parents would not readily accept. What is a girl to do?

Sincerely,  
May B. Tuyung

A

Dear May,

This topic, oddly enough, is timeless. You fear what others will think, but you hold a sincere love in your heart. Step one: Discuss this with the gentleman in question. Teamwork overcomes obstacles. In the instance that he does not want to pursue a relationship with you, at least you opened up the topic and you have an answer. If there is a step two, the two of you will handle it as need be.

Much love,  
The Clown

Q

Dear Clown,

I have a conflict with a friend I have known since we were children. She has recently married and joined her husband's church. My conflict is that she has adopted the views of that organization and now denies science and logic. We had the same education and we used to be like sisters, but this is tearing at my patience. What can I do?

Sincerely,  
Evolved

A

Dear Evlved,

It is a pity that we live in a world where some people think that their opinion is just as good as a researched fact. Anti-intellectualism is tragic and it dulls useful minds. To preserve your friendship, stick to your common ground. Be honest when the religious topics come up and tell her you do not want to discuss that part of her life. If it drives her away, that is a sad thing, but enlightenment is a slow process.

Knowledge is power,  
The Clown

---

Do you have a question for The Clown? Write him at [Martin@MyCityMagazine.net](mailto:Martin@MyCityMagazine.net)

---

Q

Dear Clown,

I am overweight and I feel helpless in the battle to recover. I used to be quite active, but work, family, and other obligations got in the way. What can I do to change this?

Sincerely,  
Fat

A

Dear Fat,

I will not call you that because you are more than the current situation. So many of us try to accomplish everything for others and forget to care for ourselves. I struggle with the same thing. Consult your doctor and find a path forward. Stick to this path because you are important. Even if this means adding one activity at a time, you will reach your goal and maintain your health.

Cheering you on,  
The Clown

# Events In Your City

By Ellen Gurley

My City Magazine has the most exhaustive event listing in town. We kid you not and we know that we do as we've seen all of the rest. Why go to all the websites when you can go to just one and see the only go-to event listing in town? Subscribe to the weekly event newsletter while you are there. You can do this at the bottom of any page. We spend a lot of time on our list and want you to be able to enjoy it. We no longer have room to list all four pages of events that we normally run in our print edition but we urge you to go to [MyCityMagazine.net](http://MyCityMagazine.net) and subscribe today.

## Here are just a few events in the Charlotte area for the months of May and June 2016:

**Tues., May 3rd @ the Neighborhood Theatre**  
Shooter Jennings, the Loose Lugnuts

**Sat., May 7th on [www.WFNZ.com](http://www.WFNZ.com) 610 AM Sports Franchise Radio**  
10-11am [MyCityMagazine.net](http://MyCityMagazine.net)'s Ellen Gurley with guest: owner of [AbariGameBar.com](http://AbariGameBar.com) (Zach Pulliman)

**Sat., May 7th @ the Gateway Village Promenade**  
[AIDSWalkCharlotte.org](http://AIDSWalkCharlotte.org)

**Sat., May 7th : [www.FreeComicBookDay.com](http://www.FreeComicBookDay.com) @ Heroes Aren't Hard to Find'**  
[RebelBase](http://RebelBase.com), [Spandex City](http://SpandexCity.com), & [A.Pennysworth's](http://A.Pennysworth.com)

**Sat., May 7th @ 308 W.Carson Blvd**  
2-6pm [SouthEndHopsFestival.com](http://SouthEndHopsFestival.com)

**Sat., May 7th @ Symphony Park**  
12-6pm [BeerAndBourbon.com](http://BeerAndBourbon.com) Fest

**Fri., May 13th @ Petra's**  
The Aqualads

**Sat., May 21st @ the Grady Cole Center**  
11am-4pm [CharlotteVegFest.com](http://CharlotteVegFest.com)

**Sat., May 21st @ the Fillmore**  
[CharlotteBOBAwards.com](http://CharlotteBOBAwards.com)

**Tues., May 24th @ Belk Theater**  
the Monkees

**Tues., May 24th @ PNC Music Pavilion**  
[Daryl Hall & John Oates](http://DarylHall.com)

**Sat., June 4th @ PNC Music Pavilion**  
Journey, the Doobie Brothers

**Sat., June 4th on [www.WFNZ.com](http://www.WFNZ.com) 610 AM Sports Franchise Radio**  
10-11am [MyCityMagazine.net](http://MyCityMagazine.net)'s Ellen Gurley with guest: owner of [Facebook.com/MoveThatDoughBakingCo](http://Facebook.com/MoveThatDoughBakingCo) (Kacie Smagacz)

**June 10th - 12th**  
[TasteOfCharlotte.com](http://TasteOfCharlotte.com)

**Mon., June 20th @ Belk Theatre**  
Chris Cornell

**Mon., June 20th @ PNC Music Pavilion**  
Weezer & Panic! At the Disco

**Thur., June 23rd @ PNC Music Pavilion**  
the Cure, Twilight Sad

**Thurs., June 30th @ PNC Music Pavilion**  
Bad Company, Joe Walsh

**Farms with Fruit Pickin'**  
Carrigan Farms  
1261 Oak Ridge Farm Hwy., Mooresville  
704-664- 1450 [CarriganFarms.com](http://CarriganFarms.com)  
(strawberry : spring)

Cotton Hills Farm  
2575 Lowrys Highway, Chester  
803-581- 4545 [CottonHillsFarm.com](http://CottonHillsFarm.com)  
(strawberry : spring / peaches : summer)

Hall Family Farm  
10713 Providence Rd. W.  
704-562- 4021, [HallFamilyFarm.com](http://HallFamilyFarm.com)  
(strawberry : spring)



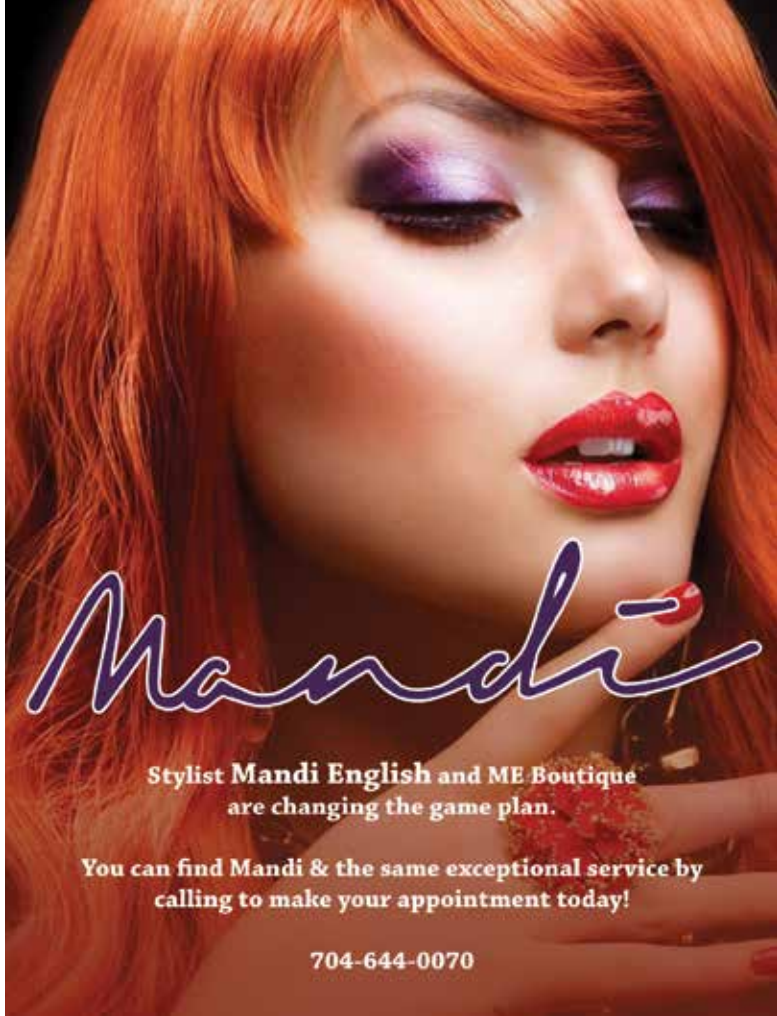
M & M Farms  
7208 Alexander Farm Rd., Monroe  
704-574- 9200  
(strawberry :spring)

McCurry's Blueberry Farm  
735 Wise Rd., Lincolnton  
704-735- 0338  
(blueberry :summer.)

**Events on our website include:** sports (for January & February: Checkers, Hornets, Panthers), activities, live music, plays, poetry readings, book signings, comedy, theatre, symphony, opera, dance, museums, art, philanthropy, trade & interest shows, radio, festivals, dance music, DJs, burlesque, karaoke, speakers, film, fashion & so much more. Here are just a few for this issue.

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# AQUA



# LADS



# AQUALADS

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By Ellen Gurley

In DC Comics, there is one Aqualad (well, two, if you count Kaldur'ahm). In Charlotte, NC, there are four Aqualads who have been making waves in regional music for decades. Jimmy King, Greg Walsh, Darrell Ussery, and Jeremy DeHart aren't man-mermaids but they do love the water. So much so that they committed long ago to the salt life paying homage to the surf since 1996.

If it feels like they've retired to the coast sipping drinks and doing nothing, guess again. They have been working on their seventh album and have promised their biggest fan (me) that they will be playing more shows.

The music they play is not without its obvious influences and the sound truly is cross-generational - with the author's parents in their late 70's and kids under ten mutually enjoying it. Shuffle Magazine called them "tight", a Punch The Floor writer called them "middle-aged", they call themselves "Alads", and I call them surf rock. Old or not, they're not played out and sure are easy on the eyes.

Sometimes with background dancers and never with lyrics, these nautical nuts want to be taken seriously though they definitely know how to have a good time (letting me clown them all and give them Smurf names in our interview). My City Magazine has no idea why these guys aren't playing all over the US, but with careers of their own (and some with families), Charlotte gets to keep them. We are willing to share them with other cities that want to host them, but you've got to send them back to us.

[www.Facebook.com/Aqualads](http://www.Facebook.com/Aqualads)  
[www.ReverbNation.com/Aqualads](http://www.ReverbNation.com/Aqualads)

## DISCOGRAPHY

- Aqualads Xmas (1998)
- Hotbox (1999)
- Revenge (2000)
- Surf! Surf! Surf! (2004)
- Treasures (2011)
- Aqualads & Friends (an Oso Grande Christmas) (2012)

## UPCOMING SHOWS:

- @ PETRA'S ON FRIDAY, MAY 13TH and
- @ SNUG HARBOR ON FRIDAY, JULY 1ST

You can fish for videos and audio links of the Aqualads by googling but if you're a bum, here are a few.

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gyKgaeE0E5c> (Washout)
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fbqYGEHByAA&nohtml5=False> (Vientos Del Sur)
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bGuEZGhq0xw> (Reef Rider & Snake Eyes)



# Sext Message

by Becky Huskins



Maybe only a husband/wife duo could pull this off: a poppy synth recording with keytars, auto-tuning, and sexy business time lyrics. When Jonathan Battleship Hughes passed this CD over to my husband at The Milestone one night, he warned him not to play it if we didn't "want more babies". Who wouldn't be intrigued, right?

Hughes and his wife and musical partner, Stephanie, have managed to pull off something few people could: creating a fun and sexy version of dance music for grown-ups. And in a world so obsessed with the youth culture of kids under 25, how refreshing is that?

Songs like Robot Party remind us that while we like to have fun, we're still grown-ups with lines like "we're calling in to work tomorrow, robot party all night". I can't help but think that this and Space Adventure have a little bit of a Yo Gabba Gabba influence. This is what happens when we become parents, people.

The song A for Effort is made for karaoke lovers and pretty much tells you it's okay to be your weird self and still loving Tears for Fears. Need You Tonight is exactly what you hoped for: a cover of the classic INXS hit with Stephanie's sweet but spicy vocals mixed with Jonathan's auto-tuned "I'm lonely" in the background. All I can say is, Michael Hutchence would love it.

Krazy With a K is a little sexier but even the more erotic songs like this and Earn It are still tinged with the humor that is running between this couple. It's like the perfect kind of music for making out with your nerdy husband/boyfriend. You could be 17 or 47.....it just works.

I'm going to guess that Last Call is definitely based on the Hughes joint experience as bartenders and owners at the Milestone, a Charlotte institution for lovers of music and PBR. I'm sure they've seen this desperation play out in front of them countless times. "Gotta get one more.....gotta get one more.....race against last call....." We've all been there, right?

I have to say, it's nice to hear music that was created by those of us that came of age in the 80's and 90's and still like that kind of sound and are damn proud of it! This CD is really fun and the old school influences will really take you back and make you feel young again. Maybe that was what Jonathan's warning to my husband was all about. Hmmmm. Now you've been warned too.

Jonathan and Stephanie Hughes are owners of the World Famous Milestone Club. There is an effort underway to "Save the Milestone". You can do this by donating to the account so that they may do many much needed repairs and renovations. [GoFundMe.com/SaveTheMilestone](https://GoFundMe.com/SaveTheMilestone)

# Pure Pizza

By: Mandi English



Farm to table. Environmentally friendly. Green revolution. These terms all get thrown around like it's nobody's business. Juli Metacalf Ghazi has made it her business. She has tossed these concepts along with her heart and soul into Pure Pizza.

Prior to this interview, my experience with this lady was only in passing, but she always treated me as if she has known me my entire life. Her energy and passion is infectious and it shows in what she does with her (now) two locations. She is passionate about food and community and truly loves the people who work with her (she doesn't consider them as working "for" her). As she readied for our chat, I watched her clear tables and talk to her customers (it was beautiful to watch the exchanges). Everyone there is kind, the customer service is impeccable, and the food could not be more fresh and delicious. It just "feels" good to be there.

Like many people, after the recession, Juli was in search of something outside of the corporate sector. She was interested in doing something she was passionate about. Many things came to mind. She was a mom who had tried her hand at homemade, organic baby food, but, like most of us moms, she realized that was a harder sell than one might think. Other ideas came along, but, ultimately, her path led her to pizza. "Everyone loves pizza", she says. "It is not trendy." It's not a passing notion. "It is always a food that people come back to".

Pure Pizza was one of the first stalls set up at the 7th Street Market along with Not Just Coffee, and Cloud 9 Bakery. The market was a fresh, new kind of place for Charlotte. It is a big open area with lots of community seating and several vending areas serving prepared food and sundries. There is a farmers market every Saturday. No one knew about the market at that time, they just took a chance and Juli says they gave away A LOT of free pizza. She knew if folks just tried it they would LOVE it. And love it they did. Pure Pizza contains all fresh ingredients - from the salads to the dough. They offer gluten and dairy-free and Juli (literally) knows first hand where every single bite originates (the person who grew or raised it). They leave a clean carbon footprint and that is the whole idea.

With this kind of commitment, delicious food, and hard work, Pure Pizza now turns out over 1,000 pizzas

out of their 250 square foot space on the weekends. With that kind of volume, it was time to look into another location. She turned to the Plaza-Midwood area. The wonderful Lulu's was closing after several years and she was fortunate to step in and take over that spot. The dedication that Juli has for her community is seen in everything she does. This is reflected in the people she hires and from whom she orders. Pork products come from Wild Turkey Farms. They are a family farm in Salisbury that uses ethical practices for raising their animals (and happen to be a My City Magazine favorite). She also supports Wincrest Farms, which is one the largest organic, local farms. She recently started carrying a new dessert option which is a gluten-free brownie made by a young entrepreneur in town (Cara Jorgensen of Gateau Baking Co.) She will be adding a small farmers market out back of the Central Avenue location soon. It will include kid's yoga and an open air market with local growers.

The people of Plaza-Midwood made jokes about having another pizza place in the hood. They stopped chuckling once they got to know Juli and Pure Pizza. Upon trying the food, it is quite evident that this is NOT just another pizza place. Supporting the community and being regionally sustainable is the mission and they just so happen to make a damn fine pizza.

Plaza Midwood : 1911 Central Ave., 28205, 980-430-1701

Mon-Sat | 11am-10pm / Sun | closed

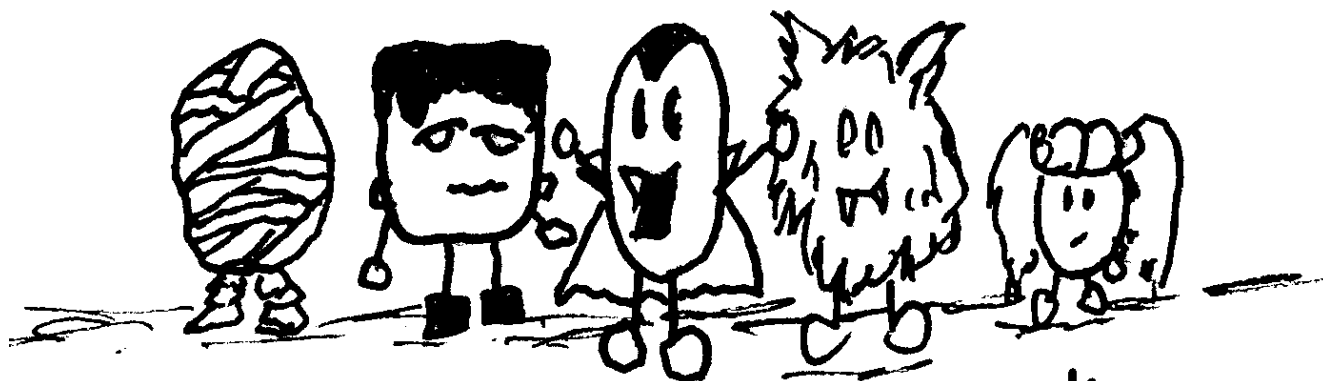
7th St. Market : 224 E. 7th St., 28202, 980-207-0037

Mon-Thurs | 11am-7pm / Fri-Sat | 11am-8pm / Sun | Closed [PurePizzaCLT.com](http://PurePizzaCLT.com)

## Micro Monsters

by Martin Barry

Male? Female? Other?



You ALL taste great!! clown

# Doc Porters

by Ellen Gurley

Doc Porter's Distillery is one of the new players on the local alcohol scene. Located in South End, Andrew and Liz Porter's baby is open to the public for tours on Fridays and Saturdays. Recently having celebrated the birth of their distillery, they also just welcomed their second real bundle of joy into the world, too. All of this excitement has a cherry on top now with their booze being available in ABC stores.

Beginning your own brewery or distillery is not without its red tape and difficulties. Unless you've been living under a rock, you know that local breweries are battling state boards to remove a very ridiculous cap in their bottle production abilities. The same goes for distilleries in that you can only purchase one bottle per year from the distillery itself. None of these issues leave a bad taste in the Porter's mouths. They are excited to be a part of the new boom and to have a legacy to leave behind for their daughter (and possibly more children).

Supporting local isn't just a big thing for My City Magazine, North Carolina, as a whole, is hip to this notion. Andrew and Liz support regional, too, sourcing ingredients right here from our area whenever they can (i.e. NC wheat & more). They currently have a vodka and gin available while bourbon aging in barrels will be available later this year. They plan to keep things fresh with other product releases, so stay tuned. I like this idea of not limiting themselves. It took them three years to get this thing off the ground. Go give them a taste and a high five.

232 East Peterson Dr., 28217, 704-266-1399

[DocPorters.com](http://DocPorters.com)



# No Anger Control / Drunk in a Dumpster

By Becky Huskins

If you want to party, mosh and basically rock out like punks from the old days there are two go-to bands: No Anger Control and Drunk in a Dumpster. On their new split record, these two bands are like the perfect peanut butter and chocolate delight of underground punk rock.

Known for the powerful vocals of their lead singer, Tiff Tantrum, No Anger Control is famous for its fierce shows in the Queen City since 2012. Tiff and the rest of the guys, Levi, Jason and John are so tight they put your high school jeans to shame. Hypocrite begs you to sing along and Save Our Home became one of my instant faves. Any song with the opening line "consider this your warning song" gets my attention.

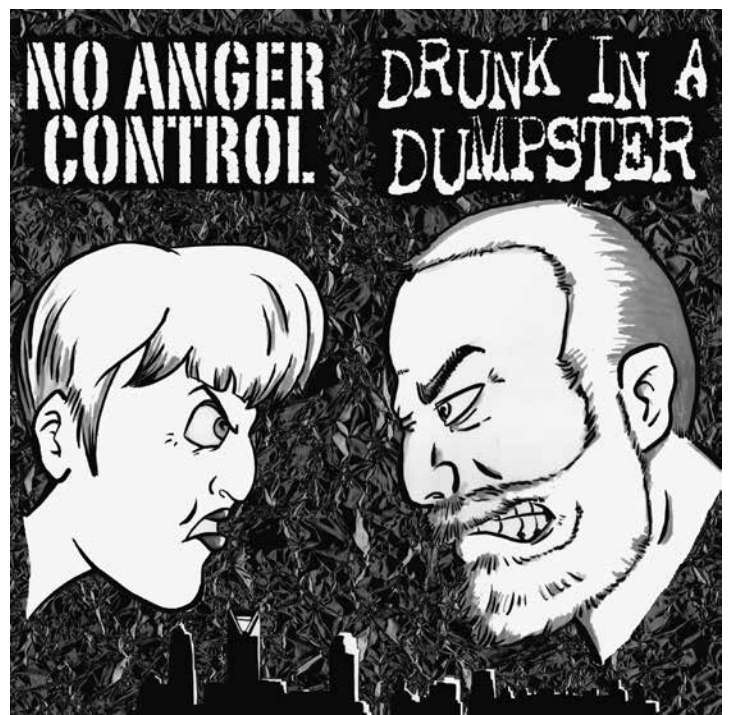
Drunk in a Dumpster definitely has an old school hardcore punk sound, but there's also a solid speed metal influence climbing through it. "You always complain about my drinking but never ask me about my thirst." No matter how you feel about drinking, that's just a great line (in the song "Beer Hunter"). And c'mon, you have got to love any band that lists Lindsay Lohan as their press agent and Charlie Sheen as their manager. Page, Stephen, Alex, Dave and Matt bring it as ferociously on this record as they do in their live shows.

According to my husband (a man who knows) this is old school circle pit punk. Try arguing with that. And then there's that awesome vinyl sound. Anyone that collects records knows the sound I mean. This album is the reason independent record stores are still standing, and then will one day be selling this one as "vintage". Also, the little kid in me really loved all the "extras" contained in the album sleeve

including a fold-out with pics and lyrics. The cover art is clever and the actual record itself is beautiful with streaks of black and white across it with a pic in the center of Tiff on one side and Dave on the other.

Aside from all that, this release is just good punk rock thrash melt-your-face rock. If you love that kind of thing like I do, you'll love this record the minute you drop the needle. No Anger Control/ Drunk in a Dumpster Split Release Party (with The Not Likelys, From the Gun, and The Commonwealth) is on Saturday, May 7th at The World Famous Milestone.

<http://noprofitrecords.storenvy.com/products/15959469-split-lp>



# Company Store

by Ellen Gurley



Two of My City Magazine's favourite Charlotteans have opened a new spot that has quickly become one of the busiest (and hippest) places in the NoDa neighbourhood. Joey Hewell and Scott Lindsley are celebrating two months of the Company Store being in business. These two have been in all of the regional magazines as the face for gay marriage and featuring their Linwell Farms concept. Coupling their two last names with their green thumbs, they have an extensive edible garden in the backyard of their beautiful home on 36th Street. This love for growing led them to open [NoDaFarmersMarket.com](http://NoDaFarmersMarket.com) wherein you can find dozens of local vendors selling everything from produce to soaps from our area. Just a year after having launched this successful market, they decided to open the Company Store.



Located directly behind Smelly Cat Coffee, this mill-inspired beer, wine, and mimosa bar is always packed. With many local brews on tap and in bottles, they are continuing their love of all things regional. The fridges are packed with local pimento cheeses and bakeries are offering up delicious stuffed breads. As if they weren't busy enough with the market and Scott's real estate company ([www.JanusCLT.com](http://www.JanusCLT.com)), now they have a booming go-to spot that never runs out of seating. They have dozens of picnic tables and several swinging benches. The walls are covered in Charlotte art that hang for a month each time and it sure doesn't hurt that they've secured local tap maiden, Courtney Valvo, as a prized employee there, too. Whether you are heading to a show in the area and want to do a pre-drink or if you just want to make a night out of your visit there, it's a perfect place to stop and have a relaxing time. See you there.

**HOURS:** Tues 12-10 | Wed 12-10 | Thurs 12-10 | Fri 12-11 | Sat 11-11 | Sun 12-8

[TheCompanyStoreNoDa.com](http://TheCompanyStoreNoDa.com)

# The Last Word

by Ellen Gurley



The Last Word has opened its doors in a new, bigger space, located three miles from its former location. They are now housing their goods in a historic building, right on the light rail line, just shy of where Eastway hits North Tryon. Owners Elizabeth Pope, and sons Matthew and Marshall Hicks, opened the store in 2010, to sell the kinds of merchandise they love. The store has a casual, friendly atmosphere with music playing and plenty of seating. Attentive employees that you can tell are glad to be there are a wonderful touch.



If you want to buy and sell Magic The Gathering cards - this is your place. If you enjoy digging through crates of vinyl - this is your jam. If you need to update your video game collection - there's everything from old school to the newest thing. If you're just looking for some affordable DVDs - this is also a great spot for you. From anime, to cookbooks, to kids books, there is literally something for everyone. The buy counter is open six days a week to purchase your gently used items for cash and/or store credit, so the inventory is always changing.



This new space has more room for community events. Writers groups, poetry slams, art classes, book signings, as well as our own in-house bookclub, home school meetups, and Magic The Gathering tournaments, take place regularly. Future additions to the store include a coffeeshop to add to your in-store experience and selling local crafts to go with the local CDs and local author's books already for sale. The name of the store sounds like they're attempting to end an argument. I like to imagine it's an argument won - that people still read. Check their website for events and specials. Stop in and tell 'em My City Magazine sent you

HOURS: MON-THURS: 10am-9pm | FRI-SAT: 10am-10pm  
| SUN: 12pm-6pm (BUY AREA CLOSED MONDAYS)  
5744 N.Tryon St., [theLastWordCharlotte.com](http://theLastWordCharlotte.com)



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