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# South Charlotte WEEKLY

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## IN THE KNOW

### PHOTO OF THE WEEK



Summer campers at Chesterbrook Academy Preschool on Beverly Crest Boulevard delivered nearly 100 items to Bright Blessings of Greater Charlotte on July 20. The donations benefits the charity's Bless-A-Baby and Tots of Love program, which provides care and support to homeless and impoverished children. Photo courtesy of Chesterbrook Academy Preschool.

### MOST POPULAR STORIES

1. 'Worst Cooks' alum competing on 'The Great Food Truck Race'
2. Southern Mecklenburg High School Football Preview
3. Atrium Health collaborates with Haitian hospital
4. Novant Health raises minimum wage
5. New stores coming to SouthPark

### TWEETS OF THE WEEK

• 'We have this nice city in NC called Charlotte but these artists and promoters always wanna book concerts in Raleigh and Greensboro. Lol that's cool but I'm not pulling up' - Andrea (@bemah.)

### UPCOMING EDITION

• Aug. 31: Arts & Entertainment

### SAVE THE DATE

The September is for Seniors Expo will have dozens of vendors, informative break-out sessions, raffles, breakfast and lunch - all for free. Mark your calendars for g.a.m. Sept. 28 at Calvary Church, 5801 Pineville-Matthews Road, Charlotte. People interested in attending have to register (so we can plan for food) by calling 704-849-2261 or emailing kate@cmgweekly.com.

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## NEWS BRIEFS

### Carolinas Medical Center tops city hospital rankings

CHARLOTTE - Atrium Health's Carolinas Medical Center was recognized as the 'Best Hospital' in the Charlotte Metro region by U.S. News & World Report's annual rankings.

Its orthopedics was also ranked among the top 50 programs in the nation.

Carolinas Medical Center was also recognized for high-performing programs in cancer, gastroenterology & G.I. surgery, neurology & neurosurgery, pulmonology and urology.

"In a growing community, our world-class team of more than 1,100 providers is dedicated to providing the best clinical programs to our patients and this a reflection of their commitment and skill," Chief Medical Officer Gary Little said.

### Study: Charlotte homes aren't slow sellers

NEW YORK - It's easier to sell a home in Charlotte than most North Carolina cities, according to a new study by SmartAsset.com.

The financial technology company created an ease of sale index that factored in average days on market, average years living in home, average homes with negative equity, homes decreasing in value and home costs as a percentage of income.

Carboro topped the list, followed by Matthews, Durham, Charlotte and Monroe.

### Advocacy leads to more food, shelter funding

CHARLOTTE - A coordinated effort between United Way of Central Carolinas and nonprofit and political leaders has resulted in \$628,068 of Emergency Food and Shelter Program funding for Mecklenburg County.

The funding comes after the news in May that Mecklenburg County no longer met funding thresholds. The county had been award EFSP funding from FEMA for 21 years, including \$273,365 last year.

The loss of EFSP funding would have deprived local organizations that provide food and shelter for the county's most vulnerable residents. Those organizations began advocating to elected officials.

After advocating at the state level, Mecklenburg County received \$135,975 from state set-aside EFSP funds.

U.S. Rep. Alma Adams then contacted FEMA in June challenging the criteria used to determine the allocation of EFSP funding. United Way applied for unclaimed funds at the federal level and was awarded \$492,093.

"When we come together as one, we are truly advocating for our neighbors most in need," said Laura Clark, chief impact officer

for United Way. "While we are all working to address our community's economic mobility challenges, advocating for and providing a safety net for those that face unexpected life challenges is of utmost importance."

### First Tee celebrates 15 years

CHARLOTTE - The First Tee of Greater Charlotte has influenced thousands of youth in the community through its life skills education and character training since 2003.

The youth development organization celebrated its 15th anniversary Aug. 15 at its Learning Center, 2661 Barringer Drive.

"Every child wants and deserves mentorship that promotes positive reinforcement and creates self-confidence," Executive Director Jane Myers said. "We are proud our chapter is in its 15th year providing critical guidance and a strong environment for the youth in our greater Charlotte community."

The program introduces youth to golf while emphasizing nine core values (honesty, integrity, sportsmanship, respect, confidence, responsibility, perseverance, courtesy, judgment) at every level of instruction.

Since opening, The First Tee of Greater Charlotte has expanded its reach to include six program locations.

The chapter has also helped facilitate the launch of The First Tee National School Program at 188 elementary schools. The First Tee DRIVE is offered at 14 youth-serving locations.

Visit [www.thefirstteegreatercharlotte.org](http://www.thefirstteegreatercharlotte.org) or call 704-348-2515 for details.

### Texas Hold'em raises \$45K for cancer foundation

CHARLOTTE - The Isabella Santos Foundation has received a \$45,000 donation from the All-In to Fight Cancer 2018 Texas Hold'em fundraiser.

"The Isabella Santos Foundation is a wonderful beneficiary partner and we are thrilled to be able to support their mission and make an impact on our local cancer community," said Steve Amedio, co-founder of All-In to Fight Cancer.

The donation to Isabella Santos Foundation will support research for neuroblastoma and other rare pediatric cancers, including two endeavors at Atrium Health's Levine Children's Hospital: the MiBG Suite, a specialized therapy program under construction, and the Isabella Santos Foundation Rare and Solid Tumor Program announced earlier this year.

"The All-In Texas Hold'em fundraiser is a terrific event that brings the community together to make incredible things happen for cancer patients in our Queen City," said Erin Santos, executive director of the Isabella Santos Foundation.

WALTONWOOD COTSWOLD

## Early Bird Fitness

