
NEWS SERVICE

DURHAM

Where great things happen



DURHAM CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU

January 6, 2009

IN THIS ISSUE:

[Convenience Store Sense of Place](#) ~ [MLK Tribute Act Chamber's DCVB Role](#)

[DPAC's Silent Partners](#) ~ [School Score Comparatives](#)

REGULAR FEATURES: [Knowbulls](#) ~ [Community Event Calendar](#) ~ [Factoid](#)

[Forward to a Friend](#) ~ [Printer Friendly Version](#)



Convenience Store with a Sense of Place

Typically convenience stores and filling stations don't share a community's unique sense of place. But thanks to M.M Fowler, Inc. they do in Durham. Renovating one of its Family Fare stores featuring Shell, Durham's Barnes family is demonstrating an admirable sensitivity to Durham's unique cultural identity during their recent renovations.

The popular Shell station in the historic Brightleaf District of Downtown is being reconstructed with a treatment that emulates some of the unique architectural detail of the districts historic tobacco warehouses, turned offices, shops and restaurants.



[click to enlarge](#)

The "new" store while contemporary in every other way will architecturally blend into the district as though it has been there for a hundred years.

Family Fare is owned and managed by M.M. Fowler, Inc. with Marvin Barnes as CEO and Lee Barnes President. Durham visitors spend \$104.2 million annually on local transportation expenses.

One Exceptional Actor, Three MLK Tribute Events

Gifted Nashville actor, [Barry Scott](#), is set to re-create the Civil Rights Era, conjure the spirit of Dr. King, and lead a dialog about the true color of race relations when he visits Durham January 8 and 9, 2009. Scott's engagement, part of the Carolina Theatre's Pathways to Understanding Series, will include three different presentations. Bookending a month of tributes, the MLK parade has been rescheduled to January 31th.



"Barry Scott is an authority on the life and works of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.," said Connie Campanaro, president of the theatre management company. "This program, a tribute-festival of sorts, was chosen to coincide with what would have been King's 80th birthday."

The MLK tribute events include: an [interactive workshop at 5:30 p.m. on the 8th](#), on the [9th an 11:00 a.m. presentation](#) that combines an educational lecture with authentic reenactments of King's speeches, and a [full-scale theatrical work at 8 p.m. on the 9th](#) based on the 1960s era, when the struggle for racial equality became a lightning-rod issue and forced the eyes of America to focus on events in the South.

Tickets can be purchased at the box office located at 309 West Morgan Street in Downtown Durham, by phone 919-560-3030 or online www.carolinatheatre.org. Box office hours are Monday-Friday, 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. and one hour before show time.

Barry Scott's engagement and The Carolina Theatre presented MLK Tribute events are sponsored by The Herald-Sun and North Carolina Mutual Life Insurance. This performance is funded in part by a grant from the Southern Arts Federation in partnership with the National Endowment for the Arts and the North Carolina Arts Council. Student discount is made possible by the generosity of Duke University.

[Other events in Durham honoring Martin Luther King, Jr. include:](#)

["Ain't Got Long to Stay Here" Play](#), January 9, 2009

["The Life of Dr. Martin L. King, Jr." Play](#), January 13, 2009

[Durham City-County Government Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration](#), January 14, 2009

[Martin Luther King, Jr. Commemoration at Duke](#), January 18, 2009

[Sermon by Rabbi John S. Friedman](#), January 18, 2009

[28th Annual Martin Luther King Triangle Interfaith Prayer Breakfast](#), January 19, 2009

[Annual Martin Luther King Jr. Day Parade](#), January 31, 2009

The Chamber Took Key Role in Founding DCVB

January 6th marks the 20th anniversary of the first meeting of the Tourism Development Authority, governing board of the Durham Convention & Visitors Bureau, Durham's marketing agency.

Former Greater Durham Chamber of Commerce executives Bob Booth and Frank Smiley, working with Karl Lack, General Manager of the then Governors Inn in RTP, now called the Radisson RTP, represented the private and independent sectors in getting DCVB off the ground.



[Click here to continue reading.](#)

Millions of Silent Partners Finance New Projects

Nearly 1.5 million overnight visitors to Durham each year will pay the lion's share of debt to construct the new Durham Performing Arts Center through a special 1% tax on guest rooms, nearly 30,000 of which will be generated by the facility itself. DCVB is also teaming with Nederlander/PFM to promote packages that will draw even more.

The same could be said of the new RDU Terminal 2 where visitors drawn to Durham and more than two dozen other destinations make up half of enplanements generating fees the airlines pay to service the debt.

But visitors aren't the only silent partners in the \$44 million DPAC.

There are several people "behind the curtains," and each of them had to say yes at various critical milestones for the DPAC to become reality.



[Click here to continue reading.](#)

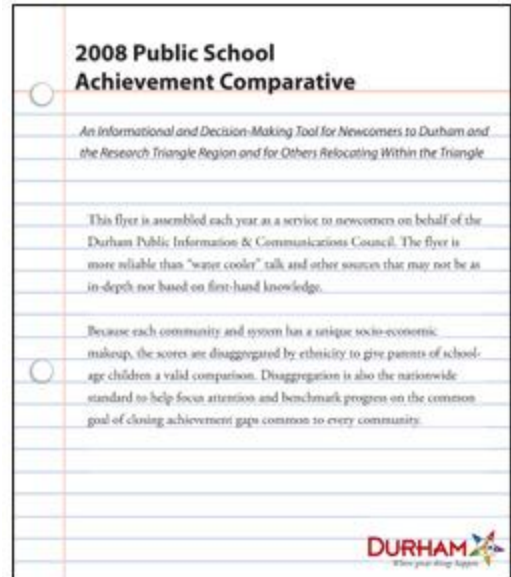
Student Achievement Tool for Newcomers

Comparing student achievement scores from community to community can be misleading. Aggregate comparisons fail to reflect that communities have very different socio-economic make up.

Following a national best practice reflecting a study by the Brookings Institute in the 1990's, the 19-organization Durham Public Information & Communications Council produces a tool that gives newcomers perspective by showing student achievement benchmarks disaggregated by ethnicity if not many other socio economic factors.

The disaggregation also gives parents and officials benchmarks in the effort to close achievement gaps. The Student Achievement Comparative flyer shows state and national averages as well as averages in the Durham NC MSA, other nearby communities, most of the Research Triangle Region, and major urban districts across the state.

The information also informs otherwise distorted conversations on the web and around the water-cooler that are often misleading to visitors. The statistics are gathered by the Durham Convention & Visitors Bureau on behalf of the Council from each individual district and in some cases the State.



[click to enlarge](#)

REGULAR FEATURES:

[Knowbulls](#)

Recent Changes, Promotions, and Awards

[Durham Community Event Calendar](#)

Searchable Durham Event Calendar & Upcoming Events

[Feedback](#)

Comments from Residents, Civic and Business Leaders, and Visitors

[Factoid](#)

Blogging and Marketing

[Durham News Service](#) is a service of the Durham Convention & Visitors Bureau, an internationally accredited local tourism development authority and the official destination marketing organization for Durham, North Carolina, including Research Triangle Park.

[Subscribe](#) ~ [Unsubscribe](#) ~ [Manage Your Profile](#) ~ [Past Issues](#)



AN ACCREDITED DESTINATION MARKETING ORGANIZATION

101 East Morgan Street, Durham, NC 27701 USA
(919) 687-0288 | (800) 446-8604
TDD (919) 688-8680 | FAX (919) 683-9555

www.durham-nc.com

