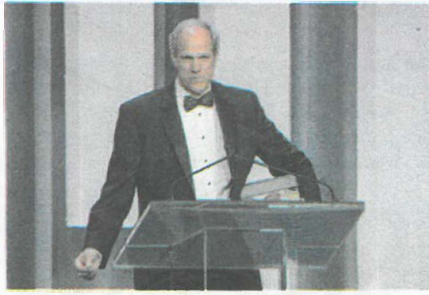




BIZ: A QUICK GLANCE AT TRIANGLE HAPPENINGS

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► IMPRESSIVE



C/O SCP PHOTOGRAPHY

Scott Duckworth, chairman of the Triangle Heart Ball.

LOCAL GALA GENERATES BIG HAUL TO HELP HEARTS

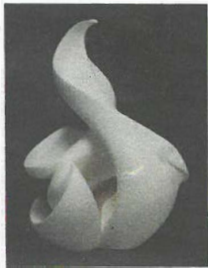
Scores of business leaders and Triangle luminaries flooded the Raleigh Convention Center on Feb. 24 for the annual Triangle Heart Ball, helping the **American Heart Association** up their fundraising game a whopping 26 percent over last year's gala.

The 600 people in attendance nibbled on beef tenderloin and scallops and cast bids at a silent auction, followed by a live auction. The evening ended with everyone on the floor dancing to **Sleeping Booty**, a 12-piece band with a full horn section. Spotted among the crowd were **PNC Bank** Regional President **Jim Hansen**, **Crabtree Valley Mall** developer **Sam Longiotti**, prominent residential real estate company owner **Don Walston**, **UNC Rex Healthcare** President **Steve Burriss** and **Advance Auto Parts** CEO **Tom Greco**.

The event netted \$1.26 million to support research, advocacy and awareness of heart disease and stroke.

► ART SCENE

TOP ARTISTS DISPLAY THEIR WORK AT RALEIGH FINE ARTS EXHIBIT



An exhibition of some of the area's top artists kicks off March 4 when the **Raleigh Fine Arts Society** holds its 40th North Carolina Artists Exhibition at the **Duke Energy Center** for

Performing Arts.

The exhibition opens March 4 with a preview at 3 p.m., lecture and awards at 4 p.m. and then a reception at 5 p.m. The free events are open to the public.

The exhibition, in the **Betty Ray McCain** Gallery, runs through April 22. **Bonnie Medinger** of the RFAAS says 455 artists – the highest number in recent memory – applied to be in this year's show. A total of 71 were selected by juror **Jennifer Dasal**, the associate curator of contemporary art at the **North Carolina Museum of Art**. "We've really tried to spread the word about this event," Medinger says. "We want to get young artists, emerging artists, students and established artists who are North Carolinians. And there is such a wealth of talent out there."

Awards include the **Joyce Wilkins Pope** award for \$3,000 and three juror's choice awards worth \$1,000 each.

COOL STUFF



C/O JULIE KNIGHT

NASCAR racing legend Richard Petty is set to auction off some cars.

The King of NASCAR to sell some of his prized possessions

Want to drive like **Richard Petty**? Now's your chance.

The **NASCAR** legend from Level Cross is selling off much of his memorabilia – even some cars.

Petty is also selling trophies and other stuff this spring in a May 12 auction, to be conducted by **Julien's Auctions**. The auction will be live from Las Vegas as well as online.

Among the items up for auction include multiple cars, including the 1974 Dodge Charger that he drove to victory at the Daytona 500. The car is expected

to bring more than \$400,000. Also being auctioned off is his Daytona 500 trophy from 1981, his seventh and last victory in that event. Julien's expects that trophy to fetch at least \$200,000.

Other cars being sold are a 1978 Chevrolet Monte Carlo and a 1992 Pontiac Grand Prix.

"We're putting some pretty good stuff out there, some winning Daytona cars, some rings, some watches, some knives," Petty, 80, told *The Associated Press*. "We feel like we've got enough stuff in the museum and none of my kids really want it."

► CONNECTING

N.C. State looks to prep grads for industry

There's a new way to graduate at **N.C. State University** thanks to a growing program called **Accelerate to Industry**, or A2i.

The program – according to **Laura Demarse**, assistant dean of the Graduate School at N.C. State – is rooted in helping graduate students and postdoctoral researchers explore career opportunities beyond academia alone.

And following a pilot **Industry Immersion Week** that accepted 50 student applicants last year, 60 students are slated to be accepted for this year's event at the end of summer. Modeled to be more in-depth and personal than a career fair, students participating in the program partake in training and one-on-one relationship-building sessions with industry partners, who use it as a talent development program. For example, founding sponsors such as **Lord and Eastman Chemical** have already committed to a return this year.

"Right now, we do have a lot of inter-



BECKY KIRKLAND, N.C. STATE

N.C. State University's **Accelerate to Industry** program in 2017.

est from other universities," Demarse says of the innovative, and now trademarked program, slated to be implemented on other college campuses.

The program, she says, is ultimately about "helping students find meaningful outcomes for their graduate degrees," which are then "economic drivers" in regions.

► NEW HOME



DANE HUFFMAN

The **Daily Tar Heel** has moved into a new office on Franklin Street.

UNC STUDENT PAPER MOVES IN FACE OF REVENUE CHALLENGE

The Daily Tar Heel, the student newspaper at **UNC-Chapel Hill**, celebrated its 125th birthday Feb. 24, but the swank gala at the Carolina Inn came at a time of real challenge.

The *DTH* is independent of the university and no longer receives student fees or direct financial support from the school. A decade ago, the newspaper had \$1 million per year in revenue and moved into expansive offices on Rosemary Street. But national advertising in particular eroded once the recession hit, and *The DTH* blew through its reserve – losing \$300,000 in fiscal 2015-16 alone.

It slashed the professional staff to one full-timer, General Manager **Erica Perel**, and now prints three days per week. In February, *The DTH* moved into smaller offices on Franklin Street, cutting rent by two-thirds.

The current budget is \$700,000 and Perel says her goal is to eventually return to campus. "There are a lot of wonderful things that come with being independent," she says. "But it comes with its challenges."

Print revenue still drives its funding, but Perel says, "The future is going to be revenue streams that come from different areas. It might not be selling them a rectangle – an advertisement. We have to be more creative in the solutions we are offering."

► SHE'S IN CHARGE

FORMER AT&T LEADER TAKES OVER NBA TEAM

You may remember **Cynthia Marshall**, who once led **AT&T's** North Carolina operation.

Today, she has a new gig, having recently been hired by the **Dallas Mavericks** – the **NBA** team owned by "Shark Tank" shark **Mark Cuban**.

Marshall, who ceded her role over AT&T's North Carolina business to current leader **Venessa Harrison** more than five years ago, moved on to become vice president of human resources and chief diversity officer at that company.

Now, she's interim executive chairwoman, running non-basketball operations for the Mavericks.

She takes the job in the wake of a *Sports Illustrated* report Feb. 20 on the Mavericks' "hostile work environment."

