

The Charlotte Observer

Kids love trucks - even more if they're 'green'

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Here's a quick look at business news from around the south Charlotte suburbs:

Child's Play Communications and The Goddard School in Matthews teamed to have preschoolers test eco-friendly toys recently. The tots' pick? Green Toys Recycling Truck (\$24.95), by Green Toys Inc., for ages 3 and up. www.green-toys.com/recycling .

Marvin photographer Mimika Cooney of Photo Lyrical Photography has created a charity calendar featuring children ranging from newborn to age 7 dressed as treats (banana split, lemon sherbet, cherry parfait) or movie stars (Elvis, Audrey Hepburn). Calendars are \$10 and proceeds benefit Mothering Across Continents, which helps orphans and vulnerable children in Africa and the world. For calendar orders, go to www.photolyrical.com. For more on Mothering Across Continents, go to www.motheringacrosscontinents.org.

Jewelry Artists of Charlotte, presented by I.C. London boutique owner Shelly Domenech, is a pop-up store open through Dec. 31 at 14825 John J. Delaney Drive, Suite 120, in Ballantyne Village. The store spotlights 15 jewelry designers from Charlotte who had to audition. Hours: 11 a.m.-7 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday, 1-5 p.m. Sunday: www.360charlotte.com/ClothingApparel/ICLondon.html .

Angie Lucas recently introduced Cupcake Creations Bar, a south Charlotte-based Web business. Hire the business to set up a bar at your next party, where a representative will "fill the orders" for each guests. The event host pre-selects two cupcake flavors, two icing flavors and six toppings. Or shoppers can order a minimum of two dozen cupcakes to be delivered to a home or business. See more: www.cupcake-creationsnc.com .

Union Oral Surgery & Dental Implant Center recently opened its new office and surgery center: a 4,500-square-foot facility at The Park at Monroe, 1851 Wellness Boulevard in Monroe. Dr. Steve Patty and Dr. Kelley Lybrand, along with office manager Dia Patty, held an informal ribbon-cutting. 704-291-7333.

Matthews resident Jill Long recently purchased a KidzArt franchise and is serving the south Charlotte and Waxhaw areas. KidzArt is a children's art education company that provides drawing instruction for kids at their schools. Information: contact Long at 704-941-0074 or visit www.kidzartsouthcharlotte.com .

Staff writer Olivia Fortson contributed.