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COMMUNITY...	PEOPLE...	PICTURES...	SAVINGS...	ADVERTISING...
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Thursday, MAR 12, 2009
NEWS INDEX

- [Front Page](#)
- [Sports](#)
- [Editorial](#)
- [Events](#)
- [Cartoon](#)
- [Ask Ed](#)
- LOCAL COLUMNS
 - [The Golf Column](#)
 - [HGTC - The community's college](#)
 - [Porter's Point](#)
 - [Faith Takes Root](#)
 - [Feeling Fit - Looking Fabulous](#)
 - [The Internet Column](#)
 - [My Senior Moment](#)
 - [Strand Tennis](#)
 - [Doug on Golf](#)
 - [Friends & Neighbors](#)
 - [Around Town](#)
 - [TV Talk](#)
- BUSINESS JOURNAL
 - [B. Journal Front Page](#)
 - [Coastal Carolina Real Estate](#)
 - [Realtor of the Week](#)
 - [Pulse of the Strand](#)
 - [Power of Attorney](#)
 - [The Voice of Small Business](#)
 - [Mud Puddle Real Estate](#)
- ANNOUNCEMENTS
 - [Classifieds](#)
 - [Obituaries](#)
 - [Birth Announcement](#)
 - [Wedding](#)

Improv class opening up

By Heather Gale
The Herald

HORRY COUNTY—Another round of classes meant to build confidence, teamwork and boost creativity is coming up, but space is limited, so do not wait.

The Carolina Improv Company is currently registering interested adults for the Improv 101 class that is scheduled to be held from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. every Monday starting March 30 and ending May 4 at the Theatre of the Republic.

Gina Trimarco, founder of Carolina Improv Company, said improvisational comedy classes is a tool that people of all ages can use in their business or everyday life.

"For those unfamiliar with the art of improv, the quickest way to explain it is to equate to the television show "Whose Line Is It Anyway?" in which actors instantly invent unrehearsed skits, games or songs, relying only on their quick wit and improvisational skills," Trimarco said in a press release. "Improv classes are not just for actors because they provide the tools for anyone interested in learning how to think quick on their feet, be spontaneous, be more creative, become more flexible and much more."

The upcoming class, Improv 101, explores the basics of comedy improvisation including team building, trust, speed, status, active listening and agreement.

"Students learn to be fearless and have fun on stage and in life using what they learn in class," Trimarco said. "Currently, I am teaching a class with all different kinds of people in it from attorneys and sales people to students and moms. Each of them comes to the class for a different reason."

Trimarco, a Chicago native, said she studied improv at Second City, where many famous actors got their start. After looking to continue her improv classes in Myrtle Beach, she found no such classes existed and decided to start Carolina Improv Company in September 2008.

"Improv is such a part of me and helps me reenergize," she said. "What started out as a hobby has turned into a foundation for everyday life. I have learned to say 'yes' in life and many interesting things have come my way."

While doing improv classes for adults, Trimarco said she is also looking to expand her business by teaching to students and to



Announcement

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- [Where To Buy the Myrtle Beach Herald](#)
- [National News](#)
- [Social Security](#)
- [Hurricane Preparedness](#)
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corporations looking for team building activities. "I have had many requests for a youth program and I would love to start one," she said. "But, in order to have more classes I need a building or space I can use to teach the students." In coordination with working with youth, Trimarco also said she would love one day to have a nonprofit sector of the company that helps at-risk teens improve their confidence through improv classes. The Improv 101 class is six weeks and costs \$150 for approximately 12 hours of training. To register, call the theatre directly at 488.0821 or CIC at 1.843.597.6393. For more information about improv or to register, visit www.carolinaimprov.com.



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- 12.MAR.09 [Tree moratorium extended — again](#)
- 12.MAR.09 [Bikers will face highly flexible traffic patterns and enforcement in May](#)
- 12.MAR.09 [Gilland traveling to Middle East](#)
- 12.MAR.09 [Improv class opening up](#)
- 12.MAR.09 [A determined fight for a light](#)
- 05.MAR.09 [Harley bike festival founder leaving Myrtle Beach](#)
- 05.MAR.09 [Two in a row for Christian Academy](#)
- 05.MAR.09 [SWA contract questions broadened by FBI investigation](#)
- 05.MAR.09 [Agapé Senior honors local doctors](#)
- 05.MAR.09 [One man's life is changed by marathon](#)
- 05.MAR.09 [Money will not be a problem](#)
- 05.MAR.09 [Long Bay Symphony brings World of the Dance](#)
- 05.MAR.09 [Local woman holds appreciation dinner](#)
- 05.MAR.09 [Horry County moves forward on flow control](#)
- 05.MAR.09 [New Early Sabbath service for Presbyterians](#)
- 26.FEB.09 [Motorcycle noise ordinance tweaked, helmet law stays](#)
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