



Newsire for March 2006...

Providing information on Vision Partner activities, needs, and successes

Thomas Jefferson Classical Academy is accepting applications for the 2006/07 school year for students entering grades 6-12. Applications can be printed from the school's website, www.tjca.org, or by calling 657-9998 x0. Please join us for an Open House on Friday, March 31 between 9AM and 4PM.

Hospice of Rutherford County events:

HOPE Support Group: This is a six week support group for any adult in Rutherford County who has lost a loved one. The group is offered consecutive Tuesday's beginning April 25 either at 10 am or 6 pm.

ON MY OWN SERIES: Scrapbooking Memories March 9 and April 13 from 9 am until 12 pm.

PROMISE Support Group: Conducted the first Monday of each month at 7 pm. The group is for any parent who has lost a child at any age.

Widow/Widower's Lunch Bunch Meeting: Third Friday of each month at Spindale Restaurant. Dutch treat from 11:30 am until 1 pm for anyone in the community who has lost a spouse.

VOLUNTEER TRAINING: April 3 - April 5 at Mountains Branch Library in Lake Lure from 10 am until 3 pm and April 10 - April 13 at the Hospice Annette Cash Whitaker Center of Living from 6 until 9 pm. Call Hospice at 245-0095 to register for any of the groups or programs.

United Way: The Annual Meeting and Awards Luncheon will be held on Thursday, April 20th at 12:00 Noon, Florence Baptist Church in Forest City.

Kidsenses Activities for the Month of March:

Read Across America - All month

KidSenses celebrates the world of reading during the month of March. We'll have a special storytime daily at 11 am. On Saturdays, we'll have special readers from the community.

Dr. Seuss' Birthday - 2nd - 4th

Join us for fun as we remember one of the most influential authors in history. We'll have special appearances by The Cat in the Hat!

Star Spangled Fun - 4th

The RS Central brass ensemble will join KidSenses for musical fun in honor of Francis Scott Key who wrote the Star Spangled Banner. At 11 am there will be a musical showcase in Lights

St. Patrick's Day - 17th

KidSenses will celebrate this special day by giving \$1 off general admission to anyone wearing green.

Michelangelo: Upside-Down Art: Super Art Saturday - 18th

Isn't it amazing how Michelangelo painted the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel while on his back. We'll have everything set up from 11 am-2 pm, so just bring yourself and your artistic side. Note: All paint will be washable, but older clothes might be better

The Magic of Science: Super Science Saturday - 25th

Is there science in Magic? Absolutely! Find out how to do some tricks and see some of our favorites. From 11 am-2 pm.

All free with paid admission. Members are free.

Rutherford County Animal Protection Alliance is partnering with Dr. Jill Bradshaw, Dr. Michelle Toms-Greene, and Dr. Lanny Walker to sponsor a USA Spay Clinic from February 27-March 3. RCAPA has issued 62 vouchers for spay surgeries. RCAPA's mission is to alleviate animal suffering as a result of human neglect and indifference by providing rescue and rehabilitation to adoptable animals and by reducing the destruction rate of adoptable animals through the implementation of aggressive spay and neuter programs.

Rutherford County Schools will be well represented at the North Carolina Middle School Association annual meeting on March 14th in Greensboro. The 6th grade "Raiders" instructional team from East Rutherford Middle School will be recognized as the Region 8 Team of the Year. Also, Lead Literacy Teacher Robyn Elliott was named Support Person of the Year for Region 8, which encompasses the western school districts of North Carolina.

- Rutherford Electrical Membership Corporation has awarded "Bright Ideas" grants to four Rutherford County schools. The Bright Ideas grant program, sponsored by North Carolina's electric cooperatives, strives to improve education in North Carolina classrooms by awarding grants to teachers for innovative, classroom-based projects in grades K-12 that would not otherwise be funded.

The Rutherford County Schools web site has recently been redesigned. Please update your Bookmarks/Favorites on your next visit to <http://www.rutherford.k12.nc.us>. The 2004-2005 Report to the Community is now available.

Mountain Brach Library: Sunday, March 12th at 2:00 - Elderhostel Information Program, Ann and Dick Gundel – Presenters - Free and Open to the Public

Foothills Connect Business and Technology Center and The Small Business Center of ICC are hosting an information session on the NC REAL program. This information session is scheduled for Tuesday, March 7, 2006 at 6PM in the Woodrow Jones Community Hall .The next class will be March 13 at ICC. (March 21 @6:00pm: Webpage Basics for Small Businesses AND Thursdays in March @ 12 Noon: March 16 - Networking Basics for Home & Business and March 30 - Get Listed on Rutherfordinfo.com

Rutherford Housing Partnership is planning its 2nd Annual Benefit Garden Tour for Friday & Saturday, June 16-17, with Historic Downtown Cliffside as tour central. Gardens in the Southern portion of the county will be featured. Tickets are \$20, or \$15 each for a group of 10 or more. All proceeds benefit RHP, a local nonprofit providing urgently needed repairs to the homes of low-income homeowners. Volunteers are needed in a variety of capacities for the garden tour. Call Nell Bovender, 248-3431.

Isothermal Community College will be offering the 3rd Annual Writers Workshop. It will feature some of the regions top authors. This group of renowned published writers will gather for a daylong workshop on April 1, 2006. The registration fee is \$20 (Lunch included). For information call 286-3636, ext. 355 or 360.

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