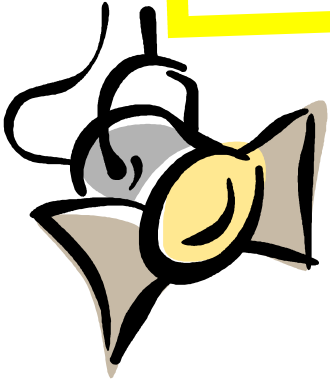


WCCA



Bridges

"People helping people...
...building bridges to a better future!"

January
2006

Spotlight on Paul, new Section 8 homeowner!

Paul C. has always dreamed of being able to build his own home, and with the help of WCCA, the Housing Assistance Corporation, First United Methodist Church, BRCC's College Carpentry Class, and other community partners, that dream came true for Paul last fall.

Paul first took Homebuyer's Education, offered by Housing Assistance to prepare him for the process of purchasing and owning a home, and to make him eligible for down payment and other funding assistance. He met with architects, because he wanted to play an active role in the design and construction of his home. Labor was provided from volunteers at FUMC and BRCC's Carpentry class. The result is a lovely two bedroom, one and a half bath home that is specially designed to accommodate Paul's wheelchair, including a roll-in shower, appliances, countertops, and switches adjusted for height, and other special touches.

With the help of WCCA's Section 8 Homeownership voucher, Paul is able to make the mortgage payment on his home each month.

Paul has settled nicely into his new home, and has adopted a rambunctious kitten, Sam, to keep him company. He remains a powerful local advocate for individuals with disabilities to achieve independence. WCCA is proud to have been able to help Paul achieve his dream of homeownership!



A NOTE FROM THE FSS COORDINATOR



Since I took over the Coordinator's position from Amanda Gaines last fall, I have had a terrific time getting to meet many of you and starting to work with you towards achieving the goals you have planned. I look forward to meeting the rest of you soon!

Please remember that it is important for us to receive regular updates from everyone on the FSS, SavingsPlus, and Section 8 Homeownership Programs so that we can keep up with your progress! If you change jobs, start or finish school, get married, have a baby, or decide you'd like to change your goal plan, we need to know!

Please give me a call or stop by to say hello anytime, Monday through Thursday, 8-5 pm!

Want to know how YOU can get involved in the FSS, SavingsPlus,
or Section 8 Homeownership Programs?

Call Megan Manuel at 693-1711, ext 122 for details!

Space is limited, so DON'T WAIT!

WANT A GOOD MEXICAN MEAL IN BREVARD?

CHECK OUT
THE CRAZY DONKEY, "
OWNED BY FRANCISCO,
ONE OF OUR RECENT
SAVINGSPLUS GRADUATES!



NEXT TO THE DOLLAR TREE
ON HWY 64
NEAR DOWNTOWN BREVARD!



DON'T FORGET TO PICK UP YOUR GARDEN
VOUCHER BEGINNING APRIL 1ST THROUGH
MAY 15.

ALL FAMILIES ELIGIBLE FOR SECTION 8, FSS,
OR SAVINGSPLUS ARE WELCOME TO PICK UP
A VOUCHER WORTH \$25 TO GROW A
VEGETABLE GARDEN.

GREAT TO DO WITH YOUR CHILDREN!



CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR
2005 HOMEOWNERS!

GAD & SUSANA SHARON

PAUL BONNIE

MARGARET TERI



"There are two ways of exerting one's strength:
one is pushing down, the other is pulling up."
~Booker T. Washington (1851-1915)

SAVE \$\$\$ WITH FREE TAX PREPARATION SERVICES

Take advantage of FREE tax prep services offered by trained specialists!

Henderson County—

Location: Blue Ridge Mall (beside Walden Books and GNC)
Four Seasons Blvd.

Dates: February 1st- April 17, 2006

Hours: M-F 9-4pm, Tues 9-7:30 (by appt only), Sat 9-1pm

Spanish translators: Mon 9-12:30, Thurs 12:30-4pm, Fri afternoons

Bring: All 2005 Tax documents, 2004 Tax Return, SS card, photo I D

No appointment required except on Tuesday evenings

For more info call 698-6213

Transylvania County—

Location: Sharing House, Main Floor

Dates: February 1st to April 17th, 2006

Bring: 2005 Tax documents (all W-2s!), 2004 Tax Return, ALL income
information, list of any charitable donations made, SS card, & a photo I D

**e-file services also available for quick refunds!

Appointment required. Call 884-3219 to schedule.



Spring 2006 Workshops

WCCA workshops:

College Funding Ideas

Thursday, February 23, 6:15-8:15 pm (snow date on the 28th)
Blue Ridge Comm. College; WCCA 2nd floor Conf. Room

How to Be a Smart Consumer

Tuesdays, March 7, and 14, 6:30-8:30 pm
N.C. Extension Service, Community Services Bldg., Brevard
(We'll take a van to Brevard from our Hendersonville office)

Manage Your Money (Stop Laughing! It's Possible....)

Tuesdays, April 4, 11, and 18, 6:30- 8:30 pm
Consumer Credit Counseling, WCCA 2nd floor conf. room

Credit: Getting it, Using it, Keeping it

Tuesday, May 9, 6:30- 8:30 pm
Consumer Credit Counseling, WCCA 2nd floor conf. Room

DON'T FORGET TO REGISTER IN ADVANCE!
693-1711 OR 866-670-9222, EXT 122

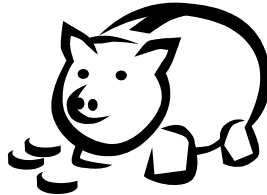
Other Workshops in the Community:

Craving Savings??

Thurs, Feb 2, 6:00-7:00 pm

Stretch Those Dollars!

Tuesday, March 7, 6:00- 7:00 pm
BOTH at Consumer Credit Counseling, 50 S. French Broad,
Asheville
Call 255-5166 to register, for directions, or more information!



Website spotlight!
www.annualcreditreport.com

Beginning September 1, 2005, every person is able to receive a FREE copy of their credit reports from the three reporting agencies:

Experian
Equifax
Transunion

You can also order by phone:
1-877-322-8228

Want some help?

Call Megan to make an appointment to pull your credit report, and we'll go over it together!

Congratulations to Natasha, who graduated with a nursing degree in August 2004, and got her LPN licensure in March of 2005! We're so proud of ALL your accomplishments!



Self-Sufficiency Participant Wins NATIONAL Award!



Joelle Gunter has made tremendous progress during her term on the FSS Program! Joelle was a divorced, low income mom with a newborn in the ICU when she first began working with WCCA. Since then, she earned her BA degree in nursing, got a great job as a Hospice nurse, purchased a home using funds from her FSS Escrow account, remarried, and recently had a new baby. She has won local, state, and regional awards for the great strides she made while participating on the Family Self-Sufficiency Program.

In Fall 2005, Joelle became the recipient of the prestigious Sargent Shriver Achievement Award, a national award bestowed upon her by the Community Action Partnership. Joelle accepted her award in Orlando, FL, last December after the original conference date in New Orleans was cancelled due to Hurricane Katrina. We are very proud of Joelle and her family, and all they have accomplished!

HOW TO CONTACT THE FSS COORDINATOR:

PHONE: (828) 693-1711 OR (866) 670-9222, EXT. 122
FAX: (828) 697-4277 **EMAIL:** mmanuel@wcca.net
VOICE MAIL AVAILABLE 24 HOURS A DAY

US MAIL: PO BOX 685, HENDERSONVILLE, NC 28793

220 KING CREEK BLVD, H'VILLE 28792



LADIES!

COME PICK OUT A NEW SPRING WARDROBE!

WHEN: Tuesday, March 28, 2006

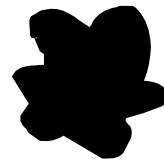
5:00– 7:30 pm

WHERE: My Sister's Closet, Room 402

First United Methodist Church in downtown H'ville
(Corner of 6th Ave W and Buncombe St.)

Call Megan at 693-1711 or 866-670-9222, ext 122

Reserve your slot—by appointment only!



**HOME BUYER'S
EDUCATION**

In Hendersonville:

Thursdays

March 2, 9, 16, 23

May 4, 11, 18, 25

July 6, 13, 20, 27

6:30-9 p.m.

Taught by: Housing Assistance Corp.

Location: Hillside Commons

Community Room

(call for directions)

Fee: \$30.00 per family

(includes textbook)

Phone: 692-4744 to register

*Contact Megan if you cannot
pay the \$30 fee (693-1711)*

Inside this Issue!

- How to pull your free credit report
- Upcoming Money Smart workshops
- Free tax preparation information
- Information about our newest award winners, homeowners, and business owners!
- Don't forget— we still have plastic available at our H'ville Program Services Building, and at Tiger Town Thrift Store in Rosman!