



CHEROKEE WEEKEND

Today
■ Bingo: Loyal Order of the Moose presents bingo at 7:30 p.m. Fridays; Women of the Moose presents bingo at 3 p.m. Sundays at the Canton Moose Family Center, 278 Moose Loop Road. Cards start at \$7.50. (770) 479-6651.
■ Crafts: Michael's at RiverStone Plaza offers kids' craft classes for ages 3 to 12 from 5 to 8:30 p.m. Fridays. Cost is \$3. The store is at 1445 RiverStone Parkway, Canton. (678) 493-0984.
■ Dance: The Holly Springs American Legion presents music and dancing for all ages from 7 to 11 p.m. Fridays with a DJ and Saturdays with Gone Country at 120 Rachael Dr. Admission is \$5. Children 12 and younger must be with an adult; no alcohol or smoking. Refreshments for sale. (770) 479-0622.
■ Exhibits: Exhibits are on display at Cherokee County public libraries from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Mondays through Thursdays, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays, 2 to 6 p.m. Sundays. Admission is free. (770) 479-3090.
■ GED: Free GED test preparatory classes are offered to people 18 and older from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Fridays at MUST Cherokee, 141-B W. Marietta St., Canton. (770) 345-7060.
■ Karaoke: Norm's Place at Cherokee Lanes presents free karaoke at 9 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays. The bowling alley is at 1149 Marietta Highway, Canton. (770) 345-2866.
■ Movies: The Lodge at Bridgmill will present free Movies Under the Stars at dusk on Fridays in June. Today's movie is "City Slickers." There will be free popcorn and soda. The community is at 10451 Bells Ferry Road, Canton. RSVP. Allison Field at (770) 479-4639.
■ Music: The Alley at Woodstock presents live music at 9:30 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays, cover charge varies; and a blues jam at 8 p.m. Sundays, no cover charge. The restaurant is at 12195 Highway 92, Woodstock. (770) 924-5594. www.woodstock@thealley-bars.com.
■ Music: Bogey's Neighborhood Bar & Grill presents live music from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. Fridays. No cover charge. The restaurant is at 1085 Buckhead Crossing, Woodstock. (770) 926-7755.
■ Music: Holly Springs United Methodist Church will present free coffeehouse open mic nights for high school and college students from 7:30 to 10:30 p.m. Fridays this summer. The church is at 2464 Holly Springs Parkway. The Rev. Pat Dunbar at (770) 591-5887; pastorpat.hsumc@gmail.com.
■ Music: Iron Horse Steakhouse presents live music from 8 p.m. to midnight Fridays and Saturdays. No cover charge. The restaurant is at 5343 Old Highway 5, Toonigh. (770) 592-3966.
■ Music: Patrick Dennis plays music from 6 to 10 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays at Olde Towne Café, 8496 Main St., Woodstock. No cover charge. (770) 926-6246.
■ Music: Jazz pianist Michael Ewbank plays 6 to 9 p.m. every other Friday at Rainbow Asia, 3725 Sixes Road, Canton. No cover charge. (770) 345-2032.
■ Music: The Right Wing Tavern presents live music at 9 p.m. Fridays. No cover charge. The restaurant is at 251 E. Main St., Woodstock. (678) 445-2099; www.rightwingtavern.com.
■ Music: The Serene Bean presents music at 8 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays. No cover charge. The café is at 105 E. Main St., Woodstock. (770) 924-8433.
■ Music: Slapshots Sports Bar & Grille presents live music from 9:30 p.m. to 1 a.m. Fridays and Saturdays. No cover charge. The restaurant is at 185 Woodstock Parkway. (770) 516-4921.
■ Music: Winchester Woodfire Grill presents live music from 7 to 9:30 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays. No cover charge. The restaurant is at 110 Mountain Vista Blvd., Canton. (770) 345-8000.
■ Music: The Wild West Bar & Grill presents live music and line dancing from 9:30 p.m. to 2 a.m. Fridays and Saturdays with free dance lessons from 7 to 8 p.m. Admission is \$1 and older after 9 p.m.; \$8 cover charge after 8 p.m. The bar is at 350 Ronnell Road, Holly Springs. (770) 345-9663; www.wild-westbarandgrill.com.
■ Poker: The Wild West Bar & Grill presents free Texas Hold 'Em poker at 7:30 p.m. Fridays, with sign-up at 7 p.m. The bar is at 350 Ronnell Road, Holly Springs. (770) 345-9663; www.wild-westbarandgrill.com.
■ Tours: Tanglewood Farm offers tours from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Wednesdays through Fridays; 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays; last tickets sold at 4 p.m. Tickets \$9, free for infants 1 and younger; hayrides \$5. The farm is at 171 Tanglewood Drive, Macedonia. (770) 667-MINI.

Saturday
■ Art: Woodstock Art Center offers smART Saturdays classes for age 6 to 12 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturdays. Cost is \$15. Pre-registration is required. The center is at 205 Arnold Mill Road. (678) 754-8482; www.artsallianceof-ga.org.
■ Author: J.L. Miles, author of "Cold Rock River" and "Roseflower Creek," will sign copies of her latest book, "Divorcing Dwayne," at 1 p.m. Saturday at FoxTale Book Shoppe, 105 E. Main St., Woodstock. (770) 516-9989; www.foxtalebookshoppe.com.
■ Authors: The Main Street Sessions will present free readings by local authors at 1 p.m. the third Saturday of every month at Dean's Store, 8588 Main St., downtown Woodstock. This month's speaker is Joe Dabney. (770) 924-0406; visitorscenter@old-etownewoodstock.com.
■ Bingo: American Legion Thomas M. Brady Post 45 presents bingo at 6 p.m.

See Weekend, Page 9B



Bead by bead



'The colors are endless because you can take two and mix them.'

Mary Guay of Woodstock
Founder, Glassbaker Inc.



Woodstock woman turns hobby into a family business and leading supplier of handmade glass beads

Left: Melissa Hodges of Woodstock shows off a Chamilla bracelet, made with Endless Summer and Aqua Swirl glass beads manufactured by Glassbaker Inc. **Above:** Brent Guay of Marietta makes a glass bead at Glassbaker Inc. in northeast Cobb County. **Top:** A box of finished glass beads.

Cherokee Tribune photos by Amber M. McCloskey

By Donna Harris
Cherokee Tribune Staff Writer

What started out as a scratch for a creative itch turned into a fun business for Mary Guay and her family.

Thinking she wanted to retire, the Woodstock resident took a class in hot-glass work at the Spruill Art Center in Dunwoody as an outlet for her creative energy, but what she found was a new career as a glass-bead maker.

Mrs. Guay and her son and daughter-in-law, Brent and Analisa Guay of Marietta, own Glassbaker Inc., a company in northeast Cobb that produces 30,000 handmade glass beads a month for jewelry that's sold all over the world.

"We're expanding to three times that (amount) by the end of the year," Mrs. Guay said, noting the company is the leading producer of handmade glass beads in the country.

Right now, she has 38 trained artists, mainly in north Cobb and Cherokee counties, who make the beads by hand at home and sell them to the company.

"The beads we do can't be done in a factory or by a machine," she said, noting her son, Chris Guay of Marietta, is "our best artist." "Every one is made one by one by a real person."

Beads are made from long rods of glass — mostly Murano glass from Italy but some American-made glass — in every color imaginable.

"The colors are endless because you can take two and mix them," Mrs. Guay said, noting some glass also changes color when it's heated. "(In some rods) colors are encased in glass, and that makes swirly designs."

Small pieces of glass are shaped into a circle around a mandrel, and decorations like small dots, 24-karat gold, sterling silver and copper are added.

"We use 24-karat gold leaf, the same as our Capitol dome," she said, noting they have four designs made with gold. "A lot of designs have ster-



Mary Guay stands in front of shelves of the glass rods the company uses to make beads.

ling silver in them."

Then a strip of clear glass encircling the bead is added, and it's melted down into its final form.

The company has almost 100 standard designs that are sold in all 50 states as well as Spain, Denmark, the Netherlands, England, Germany, Australia, Canada and Puerto Rico.

"We're adding products all the time," Mrs. Guay said. "We add three to 10 new designs every quarter. The possibilities are just endless for what we can make."

All beads are subject to strict quality-control standards, and those that are the wrong size, have a core that's not just right or have even a "miniscule" crack in them are tossed aside as seconds, she added.

The beads are given creative names like Cheeta Spots, Orange Meringue, Moody Blues, Red Energy, Endless Summer, Spring Fling and Aqua Swirl and are individually packaged. There's also a Disney line that has Mickey Mouse and Minnie Mouse ears.

The company sells wholesale to distributors only, though it used to do retail sales until it could

no longer meet the demand.

"The end product is sold in jewelry stores," said Mrs. Guay, who hopes to get back into retail some day. "The beads get in the stores through distributors."

Bracelets, necklaces, pendants and earrings made with their beads retail for \$20 to \$30, she added.

The business started in 1999 after Mrs. Guay took a two-hour class to learn how to make glass beads with her daughter-in-law, who was then her son's girlfriend.

"We never let it go," she said, noting she immediately went out after the class and bought everything she needed to make the beads at home. "It just caught our eye."

Beadmaking wasn't common then so they took what they learned and experimented.

"Most of what we've done, we figured out ourselves," she said. "A lot of the products we use today weren't even available then."

They began making beads and selling them on eBay out of Mrs. Guay's basement, and it "grew from there," even though they never really intended for it to become a full-time business.

"When we started, I had just left my job, and I just wanted something creative to do," she said. "We sold a lot on eBay, more than I thought. We worked with individual jewelry artists, and it was a lot of fun."

Then their products were picked up by a new New York-based jewelry distributor, Chamilia, and "we started working together," she said.

Six months ago, the owners opened a training center in northeast Cobb where they taught artists how to make the different designs of beads, but they were "tripping all over each other" after only a few months, Mrs. Guay said.

Last week, they moved to a larger warehouse facility but "didn't skip a beat" in getting out their

See Beads, Page 9B



Steve Carell and Anne Hathaway star in the new comedy, 'Get Smart'

■ The Associated Press

'Smart' clever, but no love for 'Guru'

By Roger Ebert
Universal Press Syndicate

"Get Smart"
(Comedy, PG-13, 110 minutes).

Steve Carell makes an ideal Maxwell Smart, the bumbling but ambitious and unreasonably self-confident agent for CONTROL, a secret U.S. agency. Anne Hathaway is his sidekick, Dwayne Johnson is their fellow agent, Terence Stamp is the Russian villain and Alan Arkin heads the agency. It's funny, exciting, preposterous, great to look at, and made with the same level of technical expertise we'd expect from a new Bond movie.

Rating: Three and a half stars.

"The Love Guru"
(Comedy, PG-13, 87 minutes).

What is it with Mike Myers and penis jokes? Having created a classic funny scene with his not-quite-visible penis sketch in the first Austin Powers movie, he now assembles, in "The Love Guru," as many more penis jokes as he can think of, none of them funny except for one based on an off-screen "thump." He supplements this with countless awful moments of defecation, the passing of gas and elephant sex. Co-starring Jessica Alba, Justin Timberlake, Ben Kingsley. Rating: One star.