



Read tips for relieving holiday anxiety when shopping for gifts and coping with family drama. pages 6-7

the highLIFE

“The federal government proposed regulations pertaining to more blatant health warnings on cigarette advertisements and packaging. If such becomes law, it would be the biggest change in tobacco warnings in 25 years.”



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News

Organization NORML fails at polls to make recreational marijuana smoking legal in California.

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Opinion

Physically fit actors eating foods high in carbohydrates sends incorrect message in commercials.

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Features

Fall runways provide a myriad of fashions in different colors, styles, and cuts for the winter season.

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Sports

NFL athletes now suffer more injuries than previously recorded, so officials are beginning to suspend players for helmet hits.

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New access to grades earns both praise, disapproval based upon effort, accuracy

BY LINDSEY STADLER
Sports Editor

The new Parent Access module gives parents the opportunity to become more involved with their student's academic progress without going through a lot of trouble. This module gives parents a chance to access their child's grades, attendance information, high school credits that have been earned, and standardized testing information. Since this program is available for parents to check at any time, there will be no need for teachers to give out printed interim reports, however the school will continue to give out printed report cards. Other schools in Guilford County that currently have access to this module are Ragsdale High, Southern Guilford High, Northern High, Archer Elementary and Brooks Global.

Additional schools will be added as the year progresses.

Most teachers agree that the program is very helpful because it makes informing parents of their child's grades much easier. The module can be a hassle though when it comes to entering in grades since there are so many assignments throughout the quarter and it requires much time in updating them constantly so it can definitely be a timely process.

"As a teacher, it's nice not having to stop every 5 seconds to answer the question 'What's my grade in here?' Now I can simply direct them to check at home. It can be inconvenient, though if you have parents who check daily and are impatient when you don't input your grades the same day you make the assignment," says Teresa Whiting on the advantages and disadvantages of the Parent Access Module.

Also, when a grade for a task is left blank because it is missing, it is automatically calculated as a zero instead of omitted, which will seem to lower the student's average and give parents a false grade until the assignment is completed. This program allows the parent to become much more connected with their child's academic information. It is very helpful because some students try their hardest not to let their parents know what their true grades are or that they missed a class one day. The module lets parents know their child's actual grades and look up their attendance information as well. The module is not only very helpful for parents, it is also nice that students have this opportunity to check their grades much more often so that they are able to see what assignments they need to make up or which classes they need to

work harder in. Although this new module comes in handy, some teachers are unsatisfied with some of its features.

"[The] only disadvantage I see is the fact that sometimes grades don't reflect the true student and the parent might think the child is doing worse than they really are or better than they really are," says Lisa Stewart.

Some parents may be unaware of the program, which will only cause the teachers and them more stress since they are unable to view their child's grades without contacting the teacher through an email, phone call, or physically coming into school. The Parent Access Module may have a couple of glitches, but in the long run it will be very helpful with knowing grades at all time, meaning students always knowing what they need to do to achieve a higher grade.

Elections cause 180 turn in Senate

BY JACOB SECHTER
Reporter

Citizens across the nation visited the polls on November 2 to cast their votes for the 2010 Congressional elections, yet there were plenty who chose not to participate. Out of the 218,054,301 Americans eligible to vote, only 41.3% did so. Such numbers suggested that individuals were growing more apathetic regarding this civic responsibility; they did not care, so they saw no purpose in selecting candidates. In comparison to the hype of the 2008 elections, 2010 came up short.

Recent election results from 2010 implied there would be many changes taking place in Washington. Formerly dominated by Democrats, Congress will soon gain more Republican seats. Popular subjects candidates debated included the state of the economy, health care, and immigration reform. Many found themselves popular subjects in the news, such as the controversial female candidate from Delaware, Christine O'Donnell. She was a Republican candidate for Senate who, in the end, lost to her Democrat opponent Christopher Coons.

Results of 2010 Senatorial Elections

Alabama: (R) Richard C. Shelby	Montana: No election
Alaska: Undecided	Nebraska: No election
Arizona: (R) John McCain	Nevada: (D) Harry Reid
Arkansas: (R) John Boozman	New Hampshire: (R) Kelly Ayotte
California: (D) Barbara Boxer	New Jersey: No election
Colorado: (D) Michael Bennet	New Mexico: No election
Connecticut: (D) Richard Blumenthal	New York: (D) Charles E. Schumer
Delaware: (D) Christopher Coons	North Carolina: (R) Richard M. Burr
Florida: (R) Marco Rubio	North Dakota: (R) John Hoeven
Georgia: (R) Johnny Isakson	Ohio: (R) Rob Portman
Hawaii: (D) Daniel K. Inouye	Oklahoma: (R) Tom Coburn
Idaho: (R) Michael D. Crapo	Oregon: (D) Ron Wyden
Illinois: (R) Mark Steven Kirk	Pennsylvania: (R) Pat Toomey
Indiana: (R) Daniel R. Coats	Rhode Island: No election
Iowa: (R) Charles E. Grassley	South Carolina: (R) Jim DeMint
Kansas: (R) Jerry Moran	South Dakota: (R) John Thune
Kentucky: (R) Rand Paul	Tennessee: No election
Louisiana: (R) David Vitter	Texas: No election
Maine: No election	Utah: (R) Mike Lee
Maryland: (D) Barbara Mikulski	Vermont: (D) Patrick J. Leahy
Massachusetts: No election	Virginia: No election
Michigan: No election	Washington: (D) Patty Murray
Minnesota: No election	West Virginia: (D) John Manchin III
Mississippi: No election	Wisconsin: (R) Ron Johnson
Missouri: (R) Roy Blunt	Wyoming: No election