



Creasey family Extreme Makeover to air Sunday at 8 on ABC.

THOMASVILLE TIMES

Inside Today

DCCC Storm Coach Matt Ridge looks back on big win against Tar Heels JV squad. See Story, Page B1

Saturday, January 30, 2010

119th Year - No. 52 50 Cents

www.tvilletimes.com

The Running Man

Local resident stays healthy through jogging regimen

BY ELIOT DUKE
Staff Writer

An old suit hangs in Jamal Toshumba's closet on Hillside Park Drive that only comes out once a year. For the past four decades, whenever May 2 rolls around, Toshumba, despite pleas from his wife Roberta, pulls out his "birthday" suit and spends the day styling like it's 1972.

"All I need is some platform shoes and I'd be right," Toshumba said.

Toshumba isn't out to make a fashion statement, but in wearing the suit, the 63-year-old running retiree is making a point.

"When I was in my mid-20s, I said to myself that if I ever lived to be 50, I didn't want to look like it," said Toshumba. "I asked myself what could I do that is cheap and convenient."

In 1972, Toshumba took up running, starting off slow with a mile here and a mile there. Nearly 40 years later, Toshumba is running eight miles a day and isn't slowing down a bit. His yearly wardrobe choice is a testament to that.

"I am the same size I was 37

See **RUNNING**, Page A4



Jamal Toshumba waves at motorists as he jogs down Holly Grove Road Thursday afternoon as part of his daily 8-mile run.

TIMES PHOTO/ELIOT DUKE

Creasey family excited over Extreme Makeover premiere

BY ELIOT DUKE
Staff Writer

The wait is almost over for the Creasey family.

On Sunday night, ABC's Extreme Makeover: Home Edition will premiere the episode where Tricia Creasey, a teacher at Brown Middle School who is battling cancer, and her family got the surprise of a lifetime — a new dream house.

"We're excited," Creasey said. "It has been wonderful. We're adjusting to the new house and it's starting to feel like home."

Following weeks of anticipation and secrecy, viewers will finally get to see the full transformation of what was once a fixer upper into a brand new home for a family that has seen their share of adversity. The Creasey home has

been finished for a couple of months now, but the family was sworn to secrecy about revealing details of what designers did to the inside. Tricia did say that her three children — 13-year-old Brittany and 5-year-old twins, Makenzie and Makayla — are enjoying their new rooms.

"The kids love it," said Creasey. "I don't know if the twins comprehend everything that's going on, but they love their new room. Brittany is loving the fact she has her own private space. In our old house, she couldn't really get away from anybody."

BMS Principal Randy

Holmes said things have settled down at the school of late, but that wasn't the case when Makeover host Ty Pennington and songwriter Jewel made an appearance shortly after Christmas. The duo spent a couple of hours at BMS, shooting scenes from the show with some of Creasey's students.

"It was a little bit of a circus atmosphere," Holmes said. "We had a lot of cafeteria workers wanting to see Ty and if he really was that cute. It was a bit of a circus for about an hour and a half."

Holmes said he and a few other co-workers got a sneak peek at the new house, but he, too, isn't allowed to say that much about the job designers did. Like the many others who took part in the show, Holmes is ready to see the finished

'It has been wonderful. We're adjusting to the new house and it's starting to feel like home.'

— Tricia Creasey

product. "The show really works hard to make each individual space for the child in tune with that child," said Holmes. "In this situation, that's no exception. Brittany's room is really arts and dancy. It's really neat."

"There are a lot of anxious people who are really wanting to see it. We don't know how it will all be pieced together. I loved all the wood working stuff they did. That's where the celebrities were really out there working up to their elbows. They put a lot of time and energy

See **MAKEOVER**, Page A4

County unemployment rate on the rise

BY ELIOT DUKE
Staff Writer

High unemployment doesn't appear to be going anywhere any time soon.

Davidson County's unemployment rate jumped to 13.4 percent in December, according to the latest statistics released by the North Carolina Employment Security Commission on Friday.

Unemployment climbed .4 percent from November as Davidson was one of 86 counties across the state which saw a rise in the rate.

Total employment decreased by 48,924 workers in December, with a reported 2,628 coming from Davidson County.

"The recession continues to affect North Carolina's economy," ESC Chairman Moses Carey Jr. said. "Virtually every major job sector has been impacted. The ECS continues to work hard in providing many services to the citizens of North Carolina. Whether it be job search assistance or the issuing of unemployment benefits to those who are eligible, the ESC remains

committed to the citizens of our state."

Total unemployment in the state neared half a million workers in December, and the ESC paid out more than \$213 million in benefits. There are 10,197 people actively seeking employment in Davidson County, where the labor force is 76,099. The unemployment rate also climbed in Guilford, Rowan and Forsyth county. Orange County reported the state's lowest unemployment

See **RATE**, Page A6

Fashion show to raise funds for arts

BY LISA WALL
Editor

One Thomasville resident has found a way for her passion for antiques to help raise funds for her passion for theatre.

In partnership with The North Carolina Shakespeare Festival (NCSF), Sue Hunter will host Vintage Threads on Wednesday, Feb. 10 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the NCSF Sprint Center located at 807 W. Ward Ave. in High Point.

The fashion show will offer the chance to take a trip back in time

WANT TO GO?
What: Vintage Fashion Show
When: Feb. 10,
11 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Where: NCSF Spirit Center

and see a variety of vintage clothing, some dating back as far as the 1800s, and to help raise funds for the Shakespeare to Go program. Tickets are \$40 and lunch is included.

Shakespeare to Go is an NCSF program that brings six actors to

North Carolina area schools, performing edited versions of entire plays. It offers educators the opportunity to provide their classes with performance experiences of Shakespeare's world and work created especially for students.

Silva says the Shakespeare to Go program is a useful tool for bringing the arts to life in area schools.

"We'll be traveling over 12 weeks to a few dozen middle and high schools across the state introducing students and teachers to the joy and wonder of Shake-

See **SHOW**, Page A4



TIMES PHOTO/ELIOT DUKE

ABC will air the Creasey family Extreme Makeover: Home Edition on Sunday at 8 p.m., with a pre-show at 7.

Community Sponsor

Thomasville MEDICAL CENTER
Remarkable People. Remarkable Medicine.

Today's Weather

Snow Likely
28/14
Full Forecast Page 2

What's Inside

Weather A2
Opinion A5
Obituaries A6
Religion A8
Sports B1
TV Listings B4
Classifieds B6

