



Thomasville, East Davidson face off in CCC semifinals.

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Thursday, February 18, 2010

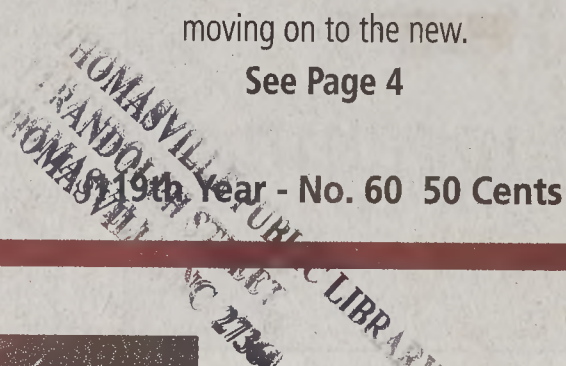
# THOMASVILLE TIMES

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## Inside Today

Business Columnist Marilyn Taylor ends series on the Paper Room and moving on to the new.

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## Stimulus funds request for Yadkin Bridge rejected

BY ERIN WILTGEN  
Staff Writer

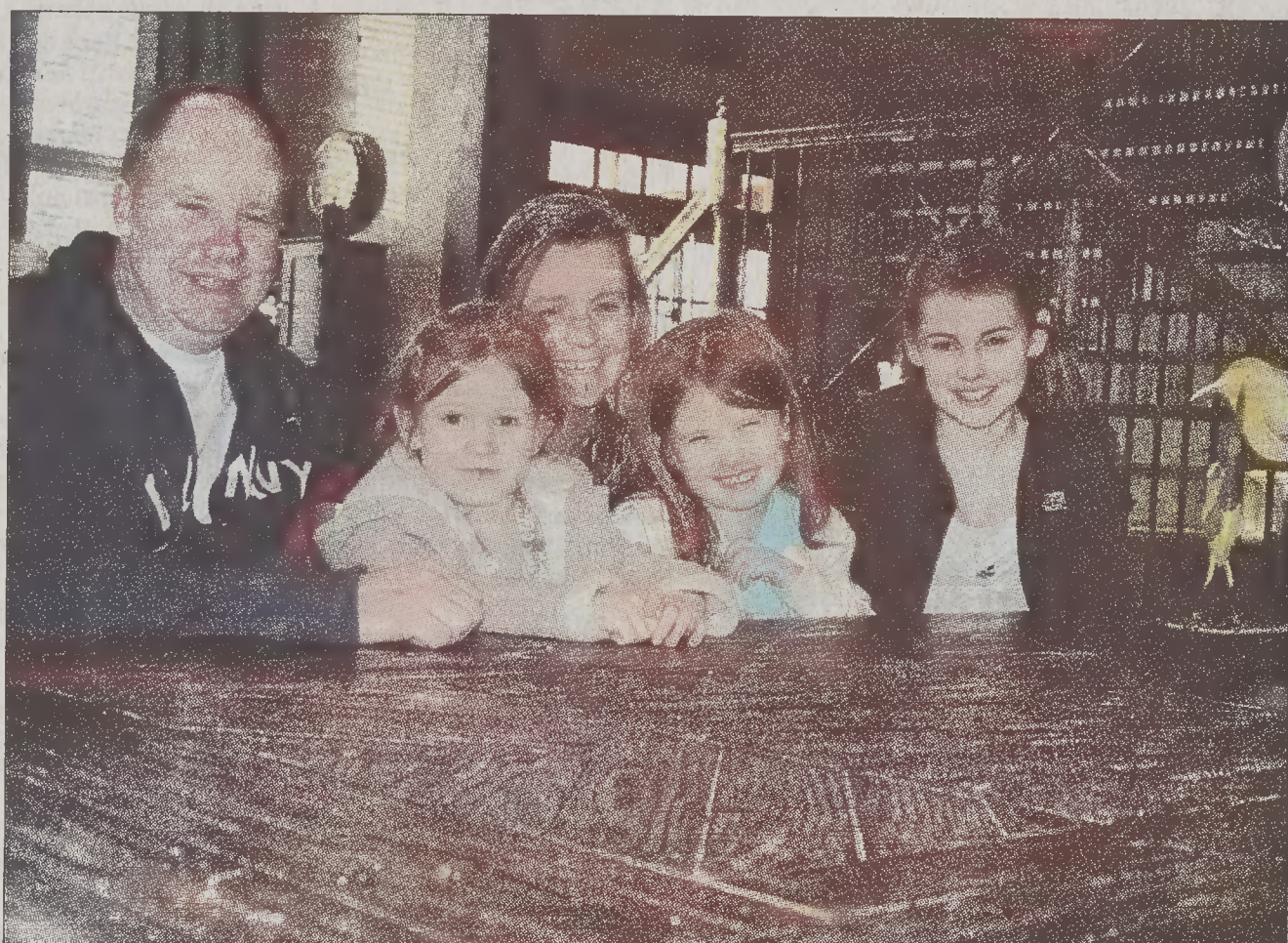
Raleigh officials announced Wednesday that the White House denied North Carolina's stimulus grant funding request for the Interstate 85 Yadkin River bridge replacement project despite months of hard work by the state's national, state and local government officials.

Even after multiple trips to Washington, D.C., by Davidson County Board of Commissioner Chairman Dr. Max Walser and Gov. Beverly Perdue, as well as the approval of all 14 North Carolina Representatives, the federal government decided to grant North Carolina only \$10 million of the \$300 million requested last summer. The remainder of the burden will fall to federal bonds and to the state.

"I am disappointed that the Administration did not fund the reconstruction of the I-85/Yadkin River Bridge," said Sen. Kay Hagan. "I-85 is one of the Eastern Seaboard's most important economic corridors. Upgrading our nation's decaying infrastructure was one of the goals of the Recovery Act, but the Administration did not make this crucial project a priority. I have spoken with Administration officials and state leaders and look forward to working with them and our congressional delegation to determine the best way forward for this essential project."

Gov. Perdue's office selected the replacement of the I-85 bridge as North Carolina's only submission to the Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery

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TIMES PHOTO/ELIOT DUKE

From left, William, Makayla, Tricia, MaKenzie and Brittany Creasey sit at their new dining room table hand-crafted by the Extreme Makeover: Home Edition team.

# Creaseys opening home to community

BY ELIOT DUKE  
Staff Writer

LEXINGTON — Now that the Creasey family has finally settled into their new dream house, they are ready to welcome all those people who made it possible.

This Saturday and Sunday, the Creasey family is holding an open house for the public to see what Extreme Makeover: Home Edition designers accomplished in the span of a few short days. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for children, and all proceeds will benefit Carolina Cancer Services, formerly known as Davidson County Cancer Services, and Relay For Life. Tickets will be sold at the home on Allred Road in Lexington and all parking will be at Central Davidson High School on N.C. Highway 47. The event will run from 9 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. on Saturday and on Sunday from 12:30 -6:30 p.m.

"We love the new house, it's beautiful," Tricia Creasey, a teacher at Brown Middle School who is battling stage 4 colon cancer, said. "It's exactly what we would've done if we could've built it."

"The show was very flattering. There's definitely a lot more cleaning but we really needed the extra space."

In the days leading up to the show's premiere last month, the Creaseys had to live in secrecy and not let any details out of what the house looked like on the inside. With the show over, the Creaseys are hoping their new 3,100-square-foot home will help even more people who need it.

"We wanted to open our home to the community because, after all, they are the ones who built the house for us," said Tricia. "What better way than to support the fight against cancer and let people see the home."

Tricia said her favorite part of the two-story log-cabin style house is the center where the living room, dining room and kitchen are all open and connected with a vaulted ceiling. In the middle of the room sits an old table made from remnants of their former home's porch. Decorators gave the space a classic, southern-style flavor, complete with brand new appliances that match the design. Bookshelves line the wall, filled with mementos and Tricia's collection of cookie jars. Slightly above the kitchen counter is a cookie jar of two girls holding an umbrella that was donated to Tricia from actress Reese Witherspoon.

"It's somewhere we can all have family time together," Tricia said. "That's what I like about it."

William, Tricia's husband,

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## Vendors sought for annual Spring Daze

BY ERIN WILTGEN  
Staff Writer

While winter weather still lingers, the city of Thomasville is eagerly preparing for warmer weather and the seventh annual Spring Daze.

The festival, which will take place May 1 from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m., has already begun its search for vendors. Area businesses are invited to buy one or more spaces on East Main Street and the adjacent parking lot until April 15.

"We're always looking for new things if someone has something unique and different that they want to do," said Carol Brown, chairman of the City Beautification Committee, which sponsors the event. "Everybody's wanting to get out, especially now after the winter we've had. They're ready for their gardens."

Spring Daze started in 2004 as a gardening festival because Thomasville had no real spring event to bring people downtown.

"It was just a way to kick off spring," said Tourism Director Mark Scott. "People could buy the plants that needed to be planted at that time of year. I think it filled a niche that Thomasville didn't have."

With free admission and a rain or shine date, the event has expanded since its origins of mostly food and plant vendors to include live music and stands boasting the works of various arts and crafts-men.

Other organizations set up informational booths, such as Relay For Life's stand on cancer aware-

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TIMES PHOTO/ELIOT DUKE

From left, are David Thomas, HiToms President Greg Suire and C.J. Beatty.

# HiToms unveils new apparel line

BY ELIOT DUKE  
Staff Writer

H.T. Authentic Sportswear, a new local company founded by Thomasville HiToms president Greg Suire, unveiled its line of custom moisture management apparel Wednesday afternoon at the HiToms clubhouse on Ballpark Road. Offering a greater selection at a cheaper price, hopes are the H.T. Authentic Sportswear will not only

support other area businesses, but could lead to job creation as well.

"If this product improves, we can put people back to work in the community," Suire said. "That's extremely important. Everybody plays sports in this area. If we can get people in this area who play sports to look at our product we can put people to work. It will take some time, but down the road the build up will help everybody in

the area."

With the help of former HiToms stars turned models David Thomas and C.J. Beatty, those in attendance got a firsthand look at both the apparel fabrics and the line. What separates H.T. Authentic Sportswear from other brand names is the selection, Suire said. H.T. Authentic offers 15 color choices, five apparel fabrics and five different lines, available to both men and women.

"I can't wait to get a shirt with green sleeves," said Thomas, a former Ledford standout who is currently in the Oakland As organization. "I really like it. The gear is comfortable and fits great."

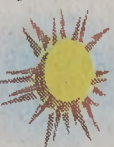
Suire partnered with Carolina Safety Sport in Thomasville and Talent Sport Inc. in High Point to handle the product manufacturing. The two partners will manufac-

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