

Find update on DCCC volleyball team's recruiting for 2010 in today's Sports.



See Page 7

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Thursday, July 15, 2010

THOMASVILLE TIMES

Sunset Sounds
Scott Huffman Band
takes the stage at
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ARTISTIC IMPRESSIONS

Muralist adds new dimension to Cates Alley

BY ERIN WILTGEN
Staff Writer

The streets of downtown Thomasville just got a little brighter.

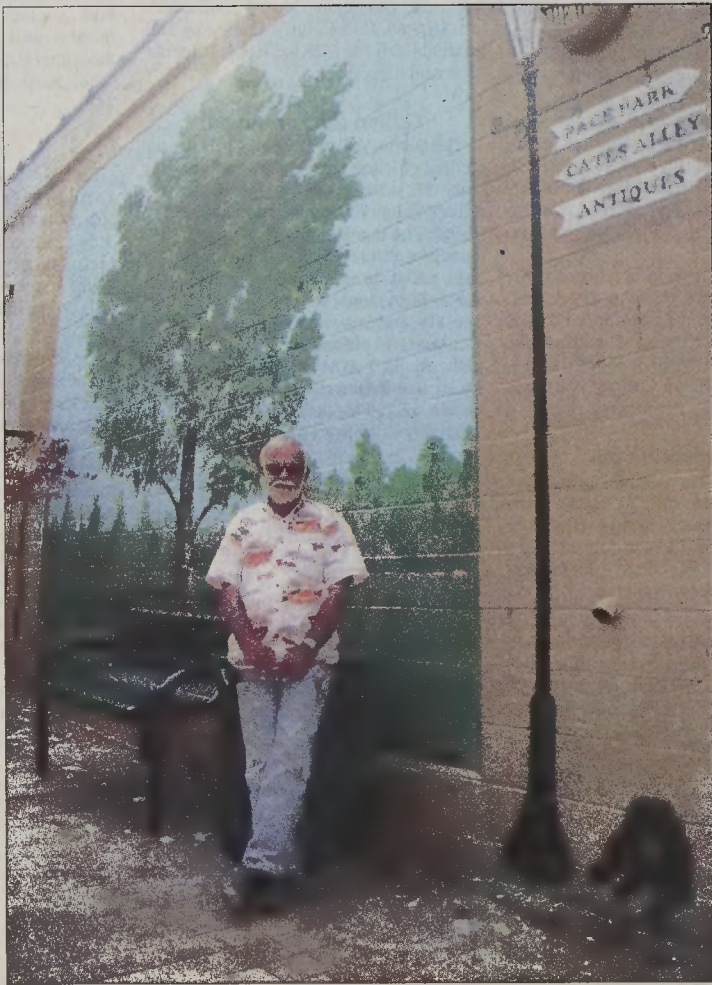
Phil Christman, the artist of three of Thomasville's murals, returned to paint yet another scene on one of the Chair City's downtown alley walls. Set on Cates Alley, which is just off Commerce Street near the Farmer's Market, the mural depicts a sturdy oak tree with a tire swing, a lamp post and a dog.

"It's a real asset to that area," said Sue Hunter of Thomasville's People Achieving Community Enhancement (P.A.C.E.), which commissioned the project. "Everyone's been so pleased with what he's done."

The scene took Christman only five days to complete. It sits just a ways down from a mural of children already painted on the wall of Cates Alley — the only mural in Thomasville that's not an original Christman.

"We just wanted something to brighten that alleyway," Hunter said. "There's the children's mural, and this connects the two. That was just an ugly wall, and a lot of people walk up there. We thought that would be a real interesting place to have something."

Though the other murals Christman has painted depict historical scenes, his latest doesn't carry any real significance or references to the past. Hunter says that P.A.C.E., which comes up with subjects for the murals, wanted something



TIMES PHOTO/ERIN WILTGEN

Artist Phil Christman Wednesday stands in front of his most recent Thomasville mural in Cates Alley, just off of Commerce Street.

simple to accompany the children's mural.

"Children would go under a tree and swing on a dog," Hunter said. "We just thought that this is what this wall needed. Some of the other murals are so detailed. We thought this one would connect with the children's mural and just be what we needed to sit and relax."

P.A.C.E.'s original directions came very basic, instructing Christman

only about the oak tree.

"They give me the artistic license, if you will, to be creative," the artist said.

Christman framed the mural like an opening, as if the viewer looked through something to see the scene. He also added Hunter's dog, shaggy, as well as the tire swing to give the picture life.

"It leaves a little something to the imagination, with the tire swing in there," Christman said. "It adds character."

A mural painter since 1985 and commissioned to his first Thomasville scene in the early 1990s, Christman says he tries to fit the painting to the surrounding area.

"I try to tie the colors in to the buildings that surround the mural and the colors around the area," he said. "It adds life. It adds color to the wall."

Staff Writer Erin Wiltgen can be reached at 888-3576 or at newsdesk@tvillettimes.com.

Man pleads guilty in 2009 death of infant

BY ELIOT DUKE
Staff Writer

A man indicted by a Davidson County Grand Jury for killing a baby girl last November pleaded to second degree murder Wednesday morning in Lexington.

Travis Christopher Lemmond, 20, of 2220 Billy Howey Road, Cabin 17, in Mineral Springs, entered a guilty plea to second degree murder for the death of Lilly Grace Cowell, a 21-month-old girl who died at Lexington Memorial Hospital from blunt force injuries to her head on Nov. 20, 2009. Lemmond was baby-sitting Cowell at the time of her death while the child's mother, Lemmond's girlfriend, was at the movies. Lemmond will avoid receiving a life sentence and will face a maximum of 198 months in jail due to the plea agreement. Lemmond is scheduled to be sentenced the week of Aug. 31.



Lemmond

See GUILTY, Page 4

LOST AND FOUND

Years separate father and son reunion

BY ERIN WILTGEN
Staff Writer

Editor's note: This is the first in a three-part series. Look for the following in Saturday's edition.

The scene unfolds like a Hollywood drama.

Enter a young man, dressed smartly in the shined black boots and crisp white uniform of the U.S. Coast Guard. Finishing up his service that began in 1964, Patrick White traveled to the Pacific islands of Hawaii after two years on the East Coast.

The islands were beautiful, a paradise, but not as beautiful as the young Hawaiian woman Keonaona, or Kay, he met there. Six months later the couple married.

In 1968, Patrick was discharged from the Coast Guard. He brought his new bride back home to Monterey, Calif. About 13 months later, the couple became a family with the birth of John Patrick Kalemalo White.

"I hung JP on him as a nickname," Patrick said.

See YEARS, Page 4

TCS testing results a mixed bag

BY ELIOT DUKE
Staff Writer

Thomasville City Schools Board of Education got some good news and some bad news Tuesday night when it comes to end of grade testing, overall growth and adequate yearly progress (AYP).

James Carmichael, TCS associate superintendent, presented board members with a state-of-the-system rundown that showed all four city schools made growth for the first time, with Thomasville High School making high growth. End of grade scores, for the most part, went up across the board with

'We feel good about how we did this year. I think we're heading in the right direction.'

— James Carmichael
TCS Associate Superintendent

sixth grade showing vast improvements in both reading and math.

"We feel good about how we did this year," Carmichael said. "I think we're heading in the right direction."

Overall performance improved in

reading and math for grades four, six and eight from a year ago. Third and fifth grades improved in math but not reading, and seventh grade scores went up in reading but saw a slight drop-off in math. Grades 5-8 all made expected growth in both reading and math, while fourth grade didn't in reading alone. The growth ratio for eighth grade came in at 3.82, meaning for every four students who made growth, one didn't.

"That's the type of thing we're looking for," said Carmichael.

Overall performance at THS im-

See RESULTS, Page 4



COURTESY PHOTO

Patrick White sits with his son JP during his visit only childhood visit in 1982.

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Today's Weather



Partly Cloudy
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Full Forecast Page 2

What's Inside

Weather	2
Business	3
Opinion	5
Obituaries	6
Sports	7
Comics	8
Classifieds	10

