



Today at 6 p.m. at Thomasville Police Department on West Guilford Street.

Tuesday, August 3, 2010

THOMASVILLE TIMES

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TPD works to strengthen community ties

BY ELIOT DUKE
Staff Writer

When Thomasville Police Department divided the Chair City up into three districts, the goal was to create a setting where citizens and law enforcement interacted on a more personal level, sharing information and concerns about what can be done to improve the quality of life for everyone.

'We want to meet the people so we can work on their problems together.'

— Lt. Donnie Rowe
District 2 Commander

In an effort to bridge the gap between community and police, district commanders are venturing into neighborhoods and hearing community concerns about what can be done to make Thomasville a better place to live. Lt. Donnie Rowe,

commander of District 2, which encompasses much of northeast Thomasville from Main Street to Ball Park Road, is holding a community meeting next Monday at 7 p.m. in the council chambers at TPD where citizens are asked to at-

tend and give input as to what their neighborhood concerns are and how police can help. By giving citizens the chance to express whatever concerns or problems they may have, Rowe said TPD will be able to develop a better understanding of what needs exist in a particular part of town.

"We want to meet the people so we can work on their prob-

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County schools see significant increase in AYP scores

BY ERIN WILTGEN
Staff Writer

Davidson County Schools had 29 of the 33 schools make Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP), reaching 87.9 percent, staff told the Board of Education at its Monday night meeting.

The achievement ranked the district eighth in the state and marked a dramatic improvement from last year, a jump up from 75 percent.

"We are extremely proud," said Assistant Superintendent Dr. Sandi Lee. "That is quite a distinction for Davidson County Schools."

AYP is defined by various subgroups, comprised of 40 students, meeting standards set by the state. Davidson County met 438 of the 446 goals — 98.2 percent of the targeted goals. All 18 elementary schools met AYP goals along with five of the six middle schools and five of the eight high schools.

"We believe that we're on the right track," Lee said. "We've increased our proficiency scores, and all of our grade levels have made significant improvements."

In 2010, grades 3-8 math scores increased from 86.5 percent to 87.3 percent and reading scores increased from 75.6 to 76.7 percent. Grade 5 science scores increased from 67.3 to 76.6 percent. Grade 8 science scores increased from 82.9 to 84.8 percent.

In high school, overall End of Course proficiency increased from 74.2 to 87.8 percent.

"We're extremely proud of our proficiencies, especially our high school proficiency, which went up sufficiently," Lee said. "I want to congratulate all of our teachers, but especially our high school teachers and administrators."

Lee says that the continued improvement seen in the school system is a tribute to not only the staff but also the students and parents involved in education.

"I think it really is a tremendous tribute to our teachers and administrators as well as to our parents and students," she said.

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Grant keeps TCS children eating healthy

BY ELIOT DUKE
Staff Writer

Raising healthy, happy children is the goal of any parent. Getting children to eat healthy food, on the other hand, is an entirely different matter, as candy and sugar snacks almost always trump grapes and apples.

Thomasville City Schools encourages eating healthy among its students, and a recent grant will enable the school system to continue teaching children the benefits of good nutrition.

Thomasville Primary School and Liberty Drive Elementary School will be participating in the United States Department of Agriculture Fresh Fruit and Vegetable program for the second straight year, offering even more variety and education to children who may not always be getting what they need at home on a regular basis.

"It's a good program and we're all about wellness and nutrition," TCS Superintendent Keith Tobin said. "Our food and nutrition folks do a great job with that. When you look at childhood obesity and the problems we have there, we really want to emphasize healthy living

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COURTESY PHOTO

IT'S A GIRL

ASHEBORO — A chimpanzee was born early Monday at the North Carolina Zoo, the first of its species to be born at the zoo in 12 years. The yet-to-be-named infant is a female and was delivered around 7:30 a.m. The mother is Maki, a 16-year-old female who was born at the N.C. Zoo. The father is Sokoto, a nine-year-old male who came to Asheboro in 2007 from the Miami Metro Zoo. Both mother and infant were in good condition Monday afternoon. They are expected to be on exhibit when the zoo opens at 9 a.m. today. Mondays birth brings the number of chimps in the N.C. Zoo to 13 and remains the largest chimp troop in U.S. zoos.

Rustic photos earn spot in 'Our State'

BY ERIN WILTGEN
Staff Writer

Jennifer Westmoreland had her first camera at age 6 — a twin lens reflex she used to document her whirlwind of a childhood, beginning with slanted photos and progressing to more advanced composition.

"My dad used to give me film, and I would play with the camera," Westmoreland said, reflecting on how she grew away from

her passion as she got older. "You get lost in what you enjoy doing, and there are boys and there's high school."

By the time Westmoreland entered college, she had all but forgotten about her earlier dreams of photography. She pursued a political science major, and viewed the art form as a hobby.

"I took one photography class, and it just sort of fizzled on me," she said.

It wasn't until coming out of

the Army — which she joined right out of college at age 21 — that she found the will to pursue her childhood passion. Westmoreland graduated from Randolph County Community College in 2000 with a degree in photography, using her GI check to pay tuition.

And the time and effort seem to have paid off.

Westmoreland, who also owns

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Photographer Jennifer Westmoreland sits in her studio at 32 W. Main St. Her rustic photographs recently were selected for a layout in 'Our State' magazine.



TIMES PHOTO/ERIN WILTGEN

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