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THOMASVILLE TIMES



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Saturday, October 16, 2010

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ALL-AMERICAN

Ledford High School student Dewey Mullis Tuesday is presented a jacket by U.S. Army Lt. David Pumphrey (left) and Sgt. Scott Owens. Mullis has been selected to be a member of the 2011 U.S. Army All-American Marching Band. He will join an elite group of musicians who will perform during halftime at the U.S. Army All-American Bowl on Saturday, Jan. 8, 2011, at the Alamodome in San Antonio, Texas. See Story, Page B5.

Vigil to honor victims of domestic violence

BY ELIOT DUKE
Staff Writer

October is domestic violence awareness month and Thomasville Police Department is honoring victims of this national epidemic with a vigil next Thursday.

TPD is holding a vigil called "Love Should Not Hurt" Oct. 21 at 6:30 p.m. in front of the department's headquarters at 7 W. Guilford St. to honor victims and survivors of domestic violence and also to raise awareness that help is out there for people who feel trapped in a destructive relationship.

"We wanted to do something to show our stand against domestic violence," TPD Lt. Kimberly Sebastian said. "It is an ongoing issue and has been for a long time. Domestic violence for years was just kept hidden. It was kept in the home and nobody talked about it. It was just one of those things. More people are starting to take notice and are trying to do something about it."

Joining TPD at the vigil will be Family Servic-

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Race for District 81 seat heats up

Holliman looks to continue work in House

BY ERIN WILTGEN
Staff Writer

LEXINGTON — Hugh Holliman came into Tuesday's candidate forum at Davidson County Community College with as grim an outlook as any about the challenges facing North Carolina in the coming year but also trumpeting successes of the past.

As Holliman, D-Davidson, finishes off his fifth term as the representative for North Carolina House District 81, the politician looks to return strong and finish what he started — and not without a few tips from those who put him in office.

"We've always managed our budgets well in this state, and we always will, and we are moving forward," Holliman said. "It won't be easy. It doesn't matter who's doing it. We all need to come to the table with ideas to improve how we run this state."

A small business owner of 25 years, Holliman says he has felt the pain of the struggling economy and understands the plights of independent business owners in North Carolina.

"We didn't ask for this recession, none of us did, and we are all here to deal with it," he said. "It's been a strange recession. It's deeper than most, and it's probably going to last longer than most."



TIMES PHOTO/ELIOT DUKE

Republican challenger Rayne Brown and House District 81 Rep. Hugh Holliman square off recently at a candidates forum.

Economic development remains high on the list of issues facing the state as unemployment remains lower than pre-recession rates. Part of that process, Holliman says, is offering incoming companies incentive grants.

"I support economic development incentives, not because I'm crazy about giving away money," he said. "It's the game we have to play. I'd be more than happy to make an agreement with other states to say let's do away with this, because I think we'd do great in North Carolina without it. I like a level playing field."

That being said, Holliman

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Brown vows to protect private property rights

BY ERIN WILTGEN
Staff Writer

Brown, however, says job creation shouldn't stay in the hands of the state government.

"I don't believe that government creates the first job other than more government jobs," she said. "What government can do is create the atmosphere that fosters job growth. Regulation is killing us."

As a one of the most regulated states in the union with one of the highest tax rates — and as the only state in the nation that raised four basic taxes this past fiscal year — North Carolina shoots itself in the foot as far as economic development is concerned, Brown said.

"If you want more job creation, then you're simply going to have to take the tax burden off small business, off the corporations, off the individual," she said. "We wonder why our job creation is lagging behind. It's not just a number — these people are not statistics."

And since government shouldn't play a role in job creation, Brown says government incentive grants are also not a part of her vision.

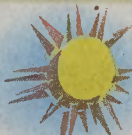
"I don't like to play games," she said in response to both Holliman's and N.C. House District

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Today's Weather



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