



IT'S ELECTION DAY!
DON'T FORGET TO CAST YOUR VOTE

THOMASVILLE TIMES



HEALTH
Dr. David Lipschitz discusses the benefits of a good night's sleep.
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Tuesday, November 2, 2010

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Party chairs encourage voter participation

BY ERIN WILTGEN
Staff Writer

Come one, come all. The 2010 General Election opens at polls today, featuring candidates for local, state and national races. Davidson County's more than 40 polls will open at 6:30 a.m. and continue to accept ballots until 7:30 p.m. "It's an American right, everyone should vote," said Davidson County Democrat Chair Roy Holman. "It's hard to convince people. They

think their vote doesn't count, but it does. Sometimes you can win by just a few votes. Everybody should exercise the right to vote."

In early voting, 12,610 county citizens came out to the polls said Ruth Huneycutt of Davidson County Board of Elections, which totals about 11.6 percent registered voters. In the Primary Election held May 4, about 20.5 percent of voters cast ballots.

Huneycutt says the numbers seem on par but

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— Lance Barrett
Davidson County Republican Party Chair

a comparison isn't exactly possible.

"I don't have anything to compare it to," she said, noting that the last major election involved a presidential candidate. "You can't compare it to presidential elections."

But despite the historic low turnout in these so-called off-year elections, candidates and political activities alike emphasize the continued importance of every vote.

"It's important for everyone to go vote so they

can make their voice heard, regardless of which side of the party line they're involved with," said Davidson County Republican Party Chair Lance Barrett. "The differences between the two parties have become much more clear than in the past, regardless of which side you're on."

Huneycutt says she expects about 32 to 33 percent turnout today, while Holman hopes for closer to 40 percent.

"This is an off election

somebody says," Holman said. "I don't think so. I think every election is very important, whether it's the presidential election or not."

Holman says he thinks Jason Hedrick, candidate for County Commissioner, will draw a crowd given his name recognition and involvement in Extreme Makeover: Home Edition. But both the Democrat and Republican chairs anticipate the most commotion around the High

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TMC events to honor veterans

BY ELIOT DUKE
Staff Writer

Ever since 2002, when less than a dozen people braved a cold, wet November morning, Thomasville Medical Center has honored those who served in the military on Veterans Day.

In the years that followed, TMC's Veteran's Day tribute has grown into the largest such event in the Triad, attracting servicemen and women from all four branches of the armed services. This year, TMC also will honor veterans with a special presentation of "An Evening of Music" where all the proceeds will go toward helping military personnel a half a world away.

"It's really important to us at TMC that we honor our veterans," Linda

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TIMES PHOTO/LISA WALL

FALL CHORES

Joe Hubbard of Mendenhall Street in Thomasville gets a head start on some fall chores Monday afternoon by clearing branches from tress and moving them to the curb.

Carolina Cancer Services lays off three employees

BY ELIOT DUKE
Staff Writer

Carolina Cancer Services, citing difficult financial times, has laid off its executive director as donations for the nonprofit have dropped off dramatically in the past year.

Caron Myers, CCS' executive director for the past year, and the nonprofit's finance director and Spanish translator, were laid off recently while the agency tries to continue providing services to its clients amidst the current national recession. Like many other nonprofits across the country, a lack of donations has forced CCS to make a choice between maintaining staff or serving its community.

"We just had to make some changes, financially," Mark Snyder, president of CCS' board of di

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Today's Weather



Mostly cloudy, 57/40



County schools receives grant to help lagging students graduate

BY ERIN WILTGEN
Staff Writer

LEXINGTON — Davidson County Schools received the 2010 North Carolina Dropout Prevention Grant which will be used to fund programs aimed at getting lagging students back on track to graduate.

The \$175,000 grant will be used to fund the Graduate With (your) Class program, which serves students who either lack the credits necessary to graduate or have fallen behind the class with which they entered high school.

Budget cuts had threatened the programs existence, but the grant money will be able to continue to fund the program.

"It helps to fray some things that we've had with cuts in the budget,"

said Dr. Sandi Lee, assistant superintendent of public instruction. "We'd be able to sustain that program."

Graduate With (your) Class puts children in contact with one of six student achievement coaches, one at each of the county's high schools. The grant money will help fund a coach at each of West, East and South Davidson high schools.

The program hopes to reduce the dropout rate to less than 4 percent for the 2010-11 school year and less than 2 percent in four years.

And Davidson County Schools aren't too far off the mark.

In the 2009-10 school year, the system had 258 dropouts for a total of 4.01 percent, although those statistics are unofficial. That number was down from

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COURTESY PHOTO

THE DOCTOR IS IN?

Doctors John McKinney and Sara Furr were in the Halloween spirit Friday as they, along with staff of Piedmont Internal Medicine, dressed in costume for the day.

Honoring Veterans through this major production!

Thomasville Medical Center Foundation presents

An Evening Of Music

Saturday 11/13 7pm • Sunday 11/14 3pm
Finch Auditorium, 406 Unity St., Thomasville

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476-2526 or
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