

**SPORTS**  
DCCC takes over No. 1 spot as they head to UNC to face the Wolfpack.  
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# THOMASVILLE TIMES



**FOCUS**  
Uncle Bill Hill offers a humble take on a classic threat.  
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Saturday, November 27, 2010

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## Walser presides over final board meeting

BY ERIN WILTGEN  
Staff Writer

LEXINGTON — Commission Chair Dr. Max Walser joked that more Democrats crammed the small commissioners' chamber in Lexington Tuesday evening than ever before.

But whether it was the abnormal leftist population in the room of the brief luau in the hallway before the meeting, no

doubt lingered that something different was happening at Tuesday's Davidson County Board of Commissioners meeting.

Walser, commissioner for eight years and public servant since he began his teaching career in 1962, presided over his last meeting of county government. For the time being, anyway.



Walser

"I hope that I have the good grace and the support of my heavenly Father to go home and let all this stuff go finally," Walser said. "I've never been able to do that, but I'll really try this time."

Walser added to those he thanked for campaigning for him so many times, "If I say do that

'I hope that I have the good grace and the support of my heavenly Father to go home and let all this stuff go ...'

— Dr. Max Walser

again, you run as hard as you can."

Walser thanked not only his family and his supporters but also his fellow commissioners.

"I think we've got along very well," Walser said.

"We've been very civil. The last really contentious year we lived in was the Civil War. I think we're living in one again, and in all levels of government. We need to be more civil to each other

and live with each other and be kind to each other."

Walser's comrades had much to say to him, too. Vice-Chair Sam Watford presented him with the official former commissioner plaque, Commissioner Billy Joe Kepley bestowed the board's personal gift of a wooden gavel hand-carved in native North Carolina red

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### GREETING THE SEASON

Uptown Thomasville will continue its holiday festivities this weekend as the first official tree lighting ceremony will take place at 6:30 p.m. today at the bandstand. Santa will be there to read 'Twas the Night Before Christmas' and illuminate the tree with the toss of fairy dust. Snapshots with Santa will return from 5:30 to 8 p.m. today at the bandstand, and Sunday from noon to 4 p.m. at the Big Chair. City Beautification Committee also has caught the holiday spirit as they have busily been bringing back to life the window decorations that once graced the downtown Belks storefront. The animated decorations will light up from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. daily beginning today in the old Roses building on Main Street.

TIMES PHOTOS/LISA WALL/LARRY MATHIS



### 'Adopt-A-Child' program brings Christmas to less fortunate in Thomasville

BY ERIN WILTGEN  
Staff Writer

In an effort to spread the joy of the season as far and wide as possible, Cooperative Community Ministry (CCM) will again hold its Adopt-A-Child program this year, bringing gifts to those families struggling to meet even the basic needs.

Adopt-A-Child, a program that has been operating since CCM's inception in 1995, accepts applications from parents in the community and then seeks individuals, businesses and churches to provide clothes and toys either through donations or purchases.

"It's an opportunity for folks to be able to help give back to some folks in the community," said Chris McCullough, chair of the Missions Committee at Memorial United Methodist Church which

sponsored about 25 children this year. "Economically, the community is a bit depressed right now, and for the folks to be able to anonymously give is a fulfilling thing."

CCM has received 300-plus children this holiday

'It's an opportunity for folks to be able to help give back to some folks in the community.'

— Chris McCullough

season, an increase from last year, said executive director Aurelia Sink.

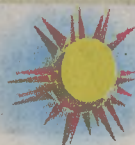
The organization accepts applications from local families and determines need based on client income and an interview process. The fam-

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#### Today's Weather



Sunny, 56/29



### High-tech items top this year's 'wish lists'

BY ERIN WILTGEN  
Staff Writer

High-tech gadgets seem to control the holiday shopping this year, from the Apple iPad to the Kinect for Wii and Xbox.

The Christmas craze has begun, and in a frenzy. And with some Black Friday sales beginning early, shoppers everywhere got an even further head start than usual.

So what's top of the toy list in 2010? Believe it or not, the toy that's all the craze for little boys is a garbage truck.

Stinky the Garbage Truck moves and talks and is flying off the shelves at a rapid pace.

"He seems to be doing really well," said Dawn Buckner, Zone Merchandise Supervisor for the Thomasville Walmart. "He's personified, and he talks to you. Little boys have been loving this little thing."

Buckner says ride-on cars, regular cars, bikes and dinosaurs have also been

a big for young boys so far this season.

Little girls, on the other hand, seem to be loving Furreal Friends dolls, stuffed animals that make real sounds and movements. Though the doll comes as a panda, dog and monkey, the GoGo My Walkin' Pup seems to be the most popular, Buckner said.

"That is really hot," she said. "They can actually walk it with its own little leash."

Other toys Buckner has noticed as popular for girls include kitchen toys and, of course, Barbies.

Other popular children's toys include Fisher price's Sing-A-Ma-Jig toy, the Meowic Keyboard, Toys Story Inflatable Jet Pack, Fisher Price Kids Digital Camera and Harry Potter Lego sets.

For teenagers and adults, technology is, hot items include the newest model of the Apple iPod touch, smart phones,

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TIMES PHOTO/LISA WALL

Margaret Brower of Trinity gets a head start on Christmas shopping on Black Friday by taking advantage of Peebles department store's specials.

**11th Annual Christmas Trees of Davidson County**  
**Light Up Your Holiday!**  
You are cordially invited to the official lighting of the holidays on November 30th @ 6:30 pm

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