

'Get Patriotic in Person' See page A8 for info

# The Courier-Times

Weather Outlook

TODAY: Hi 67 Lo 54  
SUNDAY: Hi 81 Lo 62  
MONDAY: Hi 84 Lo 58  
TUESDAY: Hi 73 Lo 50

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75¢

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Three Sections — 22 Pages

www.personcountylife.com



Rockie Dennis Wilborn

## Young county man charged with seriously injuring 20-day-old son

■ Child suffered multiple skull fractures, severe retinal hemorrhaging

By TIM CHANDLER  
Courier-Times Editor  
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A Person County man remains

jailed on a felony child abuse charge stemming from an incident that took place early last month.

Rockie Dennis Wilborn, 23, of

181 Robert Reed Lane is charged with a felony count of child abuse, inflicting serious bodily injury in connection with injuries sustained by his son, Cameron L.

Wilborn, who was 20-days-old at the time.

Wilborn was jailed on the felony charge on March 30 and he made an appearance in Per-

son County District Court this week. The incident that led to the charge against Wilborn report-

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## Public hearing set Thursday for BOE's budget

■ Citizens can address 2011-12 funding issues

By GREY PENTECOST  
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The Person County Board of Education will start its meeting Thursday with a public hearing concerning the 2011-12 budget. The meeting will begin at 6:30 p.m. in the auditorium of the Person County Office Building, and move to the boardroom after the first portion of the meeting.

The 2011-12 local budget request is scheduled for approval during the meeting.

In other business, the 2011-12 cooperative program agreement between Person County Schools (PCS) and Piedmont Community College will be presented for approval, along with a few new policies and policy updates.

Policies to be revised include those concerning "professional personnel reduction in force" and "ethics and the purchasing function."

A new policy recommended by the North Carolina School Boards Association will offer guidance on the "processes and procedures to be utilized when considering a reduction in force of classified personnel," according to Human Resources Director Dan Holloman, who will be presenting the policy.

A proposal to require that all students successfully complete at least one online course prior to graduation from high school will be presented for discussion by Program Specialist Harriett Tillett. Implementation of the requirement would begin with the incoming freshman class (fall 2011).

Tillett said PCS believes the requirement will benefit students by helping them to be competitive both career-wise and in post-secondary studies. No action will be taken on the proposed require-

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## SPRING IS BLOOMING IN ROXBORO



Photo submitted by Susan Bowen

MASTERFUL COLORS — The colors of spring in Uptown Roxboro are evident nearly every where you look. Susan Bowen submitted some pictures of the scenes of spring this week. In the photo above, an azalea blooms on Main Street. At right, wisteria hangs from a branch over Main Street, just south of Barrister's Bed And Breakfast. More scenes of spring from Bowen will be published in the Wednesday, April 13 edition.



## Person's jobless rate decreases to 10.5% in February

By TIM CHANDLER  
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After experiencing unemployment rate increases for three consecutive months, Person County saw its jobless rate decrease in February, according to numbers released Wednesday by the Employment Security Commission (ESC) of North Carolina.

Person County's unemployment rate dropped 0.7 percent in February, according to Wednesday's numbers, falling from 11.2 percent to 10.5 percent.

The jobless rate decrease in February

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## Privilege licenses to be discussed by council Tuesday

By PHYLISS BOATWRIGHT  
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Roxboro City Council and Mayor Samuel Spencer will recognize the contributions the late Bobby Hall made to the city during next week's regular council meeting.

Hall served on the planning board for 17 years. Planning Director Julie Maybee will present a plaque honoring Hall to his family members at the beginning of the Tuesday night meeting.

Police Chief Todd Boycher will also recognize Police Chaplain Keith Kimball.

Other matters on the agenda include discussion of privilege licenses in the city. Under the current structure, businesses in the city pay a flat fee to operate here. Last fall, council members heard a presentation on a sliding scale under which some businesses would pay a minimum fee of \$50 for gross receipts up to \$500,000 and 50 cents for every \$1,000 over \$500,000.

The matter was tabled after a con-

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## Alisa Mitchell Black becomes newest ADA for District 9-A

Alisa Mitchell Black, the newest assistant district attorney (ADA) for District 9A, which serves Person and Caswell counties graduated from new prosecutor's school Friday.

Black, who is currently employed as an assistant superior court ADA, completed the one-week course at the Institute of Government in Chapel Hill.

After being sworn in as a prosecutor for District 9-A, Black said, "I feel humbled and

blessed to work in the DA's office here in this district."

During her 11 years of private practice, Black was an advocate in juvenile DSS cases.

"My mother was a social worker and supervisor in child protective services, and retired after 32 years in that job," Black said. "She instilled in me the need to protect the children of Person County."

Black was raised in Person County and grew up in the Woods-

dale Community. Her parents, Fred and Alice Mitchell, still live in that community. Black also has ties to Caswell County. Her grandfather, Phillip Fergus, lived on Highway 119 in Caswell County.

Black graduated from Person High School in 1986 and then attended Johnson C. Smith University, her mother's alma mater, where she graduated fourth in her class.

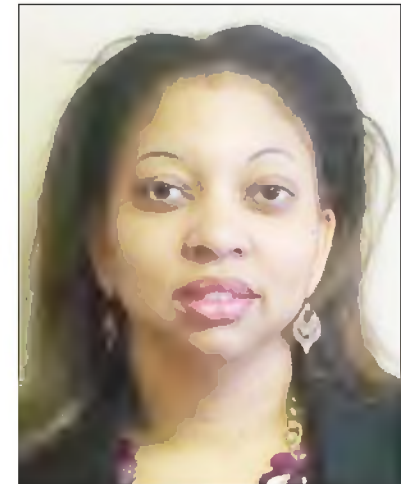
After graduating, Black

worked in Raleigh for the Institute of Government in the legislature. There she recorded the passing of house bills and assisted with the publication, *The Legislative Bulletin*.

Black comes to the DA's office with a variety of legal experiences. She worked for the Washington law firm of Howery & Simon in asbestos litigation. She also worked for Moore & Van Allen in the corporate, civil and real estate departments.

Black attended the University of North Carolina School of Law. She also attended summer law school at Duke University and then applied to Duke's International Law School in Brussels, Belgium. She received a scholarship to study international banking. She went to the International Court of Justice in Luxembourg to observe the various nations arguing their cases.

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Alisa Smith Black