

The Courier-Times

3 incumbents announce new bids for city council

Filing deadline could be extended if all five openings are not filled by Friday

BY TIM CHANDLER
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"I have never known that to happen before."

Brenda Whitlow, director of the Person County Board of Elections, spoke those words this week when discussing the possibility that a sufficient number of candidates would not file for the five-person Roxboro City Council.

The filing period for the City

of Roxboro's non-partisan election for city council and mayor began on Friday, July 1, and is set to end Friday, July 15, at noon. The municipal election is scheduled for Tuesday, Oct. 11.

As of Tuesday afternoon, only three candidates had filed for city council — current Councilmen Henry Daniel, Sandy Stigall and Ralph Clark.

Daniel will be seeking a fifth two-year term on council and Stigall

See **ELECTIONS**, Page 12



Ralph Clark



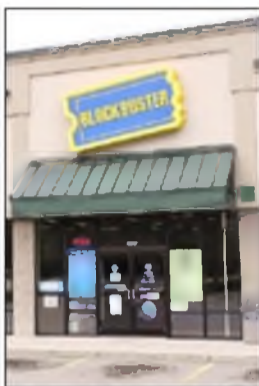
Henry Daniel



Sandy Stigall



CRUZ-IN:
 Friends in classic cars hanging out and having fun. **B1**



CLOSING UP:
 What's going on? Local Blockbuster store shutting doors at end of business day tonight. **A8**



CHAMPS:
 Roxboro squad rallies with 5 straight wins to claim another district title. **A6**

WHAT'S HOT:
 Grey Pentecost reviews "Beastly," which puts an intriguing spin on a classic to tell a modern day love story. **B2**

DEATHS

- Coy Odell Briggs, 83
Graham
 - Frances Chambers, 73
Timberlake
 - Frank Edward Gray, 74
Prospect Hill
 - Patsy Thomas Langley, 68
Roxboro
 - Frankie Roger Reaves, 61
Roxboro
 - Wayne Wilson, 61
Durham
- See page A11

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Chris Pearce got time off to visit the Acropolis and other historical sites while in Greece, volunteering with the Special Olympics World Games.

Fulfilling & rewarding

Chris Pearce volunteered to assist with Special Olymoics World Games in Greece

BY PHYLISS BOATWRIGHT
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Chris Pearce has volunteered with Special Olympics for 20 years and just returned from his

third World Games, which also marked the first time he'd ever smelled tear gas.

Pearce went to Athens, Greece two weeks ago as a volunteer platform manager in the powerlifting competition. He said that, while

walking around in Athens one day during some free time, he and a couple other officials detected an odd odor and their eyes and noses began to burn.

There were protests taking place during the World Games against the socialist government's proposed budget cuts, tax increases and privatizations to make the 230-billion-euro Greek economy more competitive, and stave off default. Political opposition and street violence resulted, including protests and the use of force by Greek riot police.

Pearce said, while he was there, he saw protestors and some skirmishes, but the problem did not seem to be nearly as bad as it had been portrayed by television news shows.

He said the worst problem he and his fellow World Games officials encountered was the Athens traffic when a strike by public transportation workers caused traffic tie-ups.

When he asked a Greek official what was going on, Pearce said the man shrugged and answered,



Chris Pearce, far right, is shown with fellow Special Olympics World Games officials Jim Hollis and Eli Frazier in Greece.

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GRAHAM MAN DROWNS SATURDAY AT HYCO

BY TIM CHANDLER
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A Graham man drowned Saturday evening at Hyco Lake.

Daniel Hopkins, 29, of Graham was reportedly in the water with an inflatable tube shortly before he began struggling in the water, witnesses told Person County Sheriff's Office officials.

Emergency crews were called to 205 Pointer Dr. at around 6:30 p.m. Saturday. According to a sheriff's office incident report, Hopkins, along

with his wife, daughter and other friends, had arrived at that location at approximately 2 p.m. Saturday.

Hopkins reportedly fell off the tube he was riding and began struggling in the water. Witnesses told sheriff's deputies they were unable to swim to Hopkins' aid in time to rescue him.

Emergency crews recovered Hopkins' body from the lake at approximately 2:30 a.m. Sunday, according to Person County Sheriff Dewey Jones.

Jones added that alcohol might have been a factor in the drowning.

Rougemont residents continue to speak out against incorporation

BY PHYLISS BOATWRIGHT
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Rougemont may or may not become an incorporated town after a vote by its citizens in November, but already three men and two women have filed for a seat on the five-member town council.

Jason Howe was the first to file on July 1, and Wallace W. O'Briant filed on July 8, following an information meeting held at Rougemont United Methodist Church on July 7.

Layton S. Oakley paid the \$5 filing fee and put his name in the hat on July 11, and Patricia P. Russell Denise A. Smith filed

yesterday. A second informational meeting was held at New Red Mountain Baptist Church Monday evening.

Large crowds at both informational meetings were told by members of the Rougemont Incorporation Steering Committee that about 900 residents in a 2.66 square mile area would be affected by the proposed incorporation. At both meetings, several residents spoke against the incorporation, citing the fear of additional taxes, bureaucracy and loss of the rural lifestyle they currently enjoy.

The steering committee said,

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GREY PENTECOST | COURIER-TIMES

Summer learning...

Person County Schools employees listen as Executive Director of the Public School Forum of North Carolina Jo Ann Norris presents on "Shifting Politics and Demographics of North Carolina" during the annual PCS Summer Leadership Conference Tuesday afternoon. The conference began Tuesday and will run through Thursday, featuring guest speakers during each day's noon session.