

The Courier-Times



MUSEUM OFFERING

The Yankee who came to Roxboro and stayed B1



DO YOU KNOW?

Do you recognize these basketball players from BHHS 1936-37? A2



BOAT WRITES:

Has Washington gone too far? A2

CONTEST WIN:

'Create our Video' winners awarded B2

DEATHS

- Willis Cleave Briggs Sr., 57 *Burlington*
- Beverly Meloy Cavalier, 80 *Leasburg*
- Bennett Edward Downey, 57 *Rougemont*
- Thomas Frank Harris Sr., 84 *Roxboro*
- Mary Satterfield Leach, 35 *Roxboro*
- James Raymond Nelson, 83 *Oxford*
- Steve Pergerson, 61 *Graham*

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Our 129th year Number 62

Two sections 22 pages

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Occupancy tax increase approved

BY PHYLISS BOATWRIGHT
C-T STAFF WRITER
pboatwright@roxboro-courier.com

On Oct. 1, Person County will begin assessing a six percent occupancy tax on hotel, motel and bed and breakfast rooms, and other lodging.

County commissioners on Monday decided, by a 4-1 vote, to increase the occupancy tax by one percent, with proceeds going to the county Tourism Development Authority (TDA). Commission Vice Chairman Kyle Puryear cast the lone nay vote, saying he made a pledge while campaigning that he would not vote to raise taxes.

The commissioners voted on the matter during their regular meeting Monday night, following a public hearing in which several spoke in favor of the tax increase and no one spoke in opposition.

State Rep. W.A. Winkie Wilkins got House Bill 518 passed in the General Assembly in June, giving the county the authority to levy the additional tax, which only affects those renting hotel rooms or other lodging. According to the ratified bill, "Person County shall on a quarterly basis, remit the net proceeds of the occupancy tax to the Person County Tourism Development Authority." The bill goes on to state, "The Authority shall use at least two-thirds of the funds remitted to it under this subsection to promote travel and tourism in Person County and shall use the remainder for tourism-related expenditures."

Funds raised from the additional tax will go to support tourism and travel in the county. TDA will also use a portion of the taxes generated by the levy to provide funding for the Person County Museum of History. Members of the museum's board



The Person County Museum of History will benefit from a portion of the increased occupancy tax rate OK'd by commissioners this week.

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This county-owned house at 316 S. Morgan St. will soon be demolished and replaced by green space. County commissioners approved the project Monday.

PHYLISS BOATWRIGHT | COURIER-TIMES

County to replace vacant house with green space

BY PHYLISS BOATWRIGHT
C-T STAFF WRITER
pboatwright@roxboro-courier.com

Soon, an aging, vacant house will be gone and a "premier green space" will replace it.

The house, located at 316 South Morgan Street, is

owned by the county and has been used for storage for the past several years.

Ray Foushee, county general services director, said Monday, during the regular meeting of the Person Board of County Commissioners, that the house could be demolished for \$3,800. Foushee took

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Tax-free weekend to be held Aug. 5-7

BY GREY PENTECOST
C-T STAFF WRITER
greypentecost@roxboro-courier.com

North Carolina's tax-free weekend begins Friday and Roxboro shoppers can expect to find additional deals and even an extended tax-free period at some area retailers.

Bill Dallas with The Bootery said the store plans to hit the sales tax holiday "full-force," with plans to drop its sales tax starting today. He said the store would cover the tax Wednesday and Thursday, before the statewide holiday begins Friday.

The Bootery will also operate on extended hours this weekend: Friday from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Saturday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Other Bootery deals include 60 percent off of women's summer shoes, and 10 percent off Nike and New Balance shoes for men, women and children.

Peebles will also begin its no-sales tax offer today, giving shoppers five full days to take advantage of the savings.

The statewide tax holiday begins Friday at 12:01 a.m. and runs through Sunday until 11:59 p.m. Tax-exempt items include clothing, footwear, and school

supplies of \$100 or less per item; school instructional materials of \$300 or less per item; sports and recreation equipment of \$50 or less per item; computers of \$3,500 or less per item; and computer supplies of \$250 or less per item.

According to the North Carolina Department of Revenue, clothing accessories, jewelry, cosmetics, protective equipment, wallets, furniture, items used in a trade or business, and rentals are not covered by the exemption and will be subject to the applicable tax.

In addition to the tax exemption, Roses in Roxboro is offering a savings of 25 percent off school supplies, a current deal that will run throughout the month.

At Footwear Plus, customers who spend \$50 or more this weekend will receive \$10 off their entire purchase. The store is also running a sale on certain clothing items.

A press release from the North Carolina Retail Merchants Association stated, "The three-day exemption from state and local sales taxes was created by the North Carolina

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City Council considering manager applications

BY PHYLISS BOATWRIGHT
C-T STAFF WRITER
pboatwright@roxboro-courier.com

Mayor Samuel Spencer said Roxboro City Council plans to meet tomorrow to continue winning applications for city

manager.

An initial meeting was held July 26 to begin the process of looking over the qualifications of the 45 people who applied for the position.

Spencer said the Aug. 4 meeting would be "a continuation

of screening the applicants. We hope to complete the screening" tomorrow, Spencer said, "and begin setting up interviews."

He said council had already "narrowed down" the applicants. "We want to go back and take a second look" before moving fur-

ther, he explained.

Spencer said he did not foresee council taking any action following the special session on Thursday.

Advertisements for the position ran from April, shortly after former manager Jon Barlow

resigned, until July 15. The city advertised in the League of Municipalities' newsletter, Southern Cities, and in newspapers.

The mayor has said that he

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