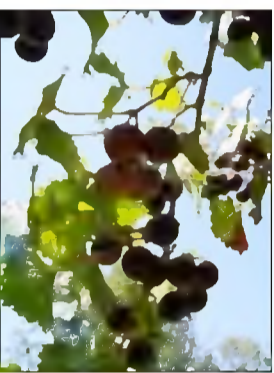


The Courier-Times



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Rockets head to Durham Friday seeking 1st win in league opener **A6**



VINE TO WINE:
Upcoming year to be 'best yet' for Person County grapes **B1**



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Council names Stephen Steese city manager

South Carolina native will begin duties Nov. 12

BY PHYLISS BOATWRIGHT
COURIER-TIMES STAFF WRITER
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Roxboro City Council named a new city manager during its regular September meeting last night.

Stephen Steese will take over as manager on Nov. 12.

Currently, Assistant City Manager Tommy Warren is serving as interim manager. He has held that position since former manager Jon Barlow left in March to assume the role of Fuquay-Vari-

na town manager.

Steese was born and raised near Florence, S.C. He graduated from Clemson University in 2000 with a bachelor's degree in political science, and earned a master's degree in public administration from Clemson in 2010.

His wife, Brooke Steese, was born and raised in Spartanburg, S.C. The couple has two sons, four-year-old Nathan, and Samuel, who is 16-months-old.

Steese is currently serving as manager of the city of Woodruff, in the upstate area of South Car-

olina. There, he is a member of Rotary, serves as the president of the Woodruff Area Chamber of Commerce, and is on the board of the Spartanburg County Chamber of Commerce.

He has worked as a planner in the Spartanburg County Community and Economic Development Department, and as the procurement director for Spartanburg Community College.

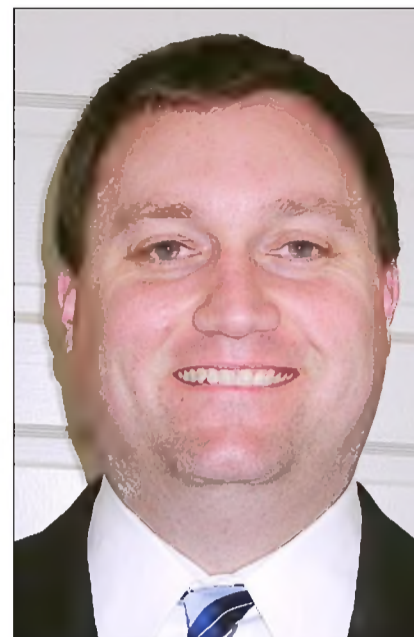
Roxboro Mayor Samuel Spencer said he and council members were excited about hiring Steese and were "quite impressed" by

him.

Spencer said many might not understand why Steese would not be in the office of manager before the Oct. 11 municipal elections, which could result in an entirely different make-up of council.

"When changing political jobs," Spencer said, "you have to give reasonable notice when you leave" a position.

He commented that Steese had visited Roxboro several times and seemed "very interested in



Stephen Steese

See **STEES**, Page 10



CAROL GARRETT | COURIER-TIMES

Harvesting time

As the official start of autumn draws near, Person County farmer Pete Thomas was seen harvesting a field of corn off U.S. 158 East Friday. Thomas said the corn would be used as feed for his family's farm animals.

City to donate siren to museum

BY PHYLISS BOATWRIGHT
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Roxboro City Council will donate the city's old civil defense siren to the Person County Museum of History. Interim City Manager Tommy Warren said the siren.

See **SIDEWALKS**, Page 10

Eat – Shop – Enjoy!

RDG introduces new marketing strategy

BY GREY PENTECOST
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"Eat – Shop – Enjoy!" Using this theme, Roxboro Development Group (RDG) has organized a special committee to implement a new marketing program for local businesses in Roxboro and Person County.

See **RDG**, Page 10

Phillips named BHCS Teacher of the Year

BY GREY PENTECOST
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When it comes to teaching, Bethel Hill Charter School (BHCS) teacher Angie Phillips is most inspired by her students, especially when they have that "aha" moment at the point of first grasping a concept.

Because of her efforts in the classroom, Phillips was named BHCS Teacher of the Year last week.

"I was very humbled and very honored that my co-workers chose me," Phillips told *The Courier-Times* this week. "To me it means a lot when your co-workers see you that way."

Phillips is in her sixth year at Bethel Hill and is currently teach-

ing fifth-grade math, but said she has taught at every grade level except kindergarten since she began teaching in 1993.

Phillips is also leading the team that is working on Bethel Hill's two-year reading plan, and is working with the school's Race to the Top committee in organizing staff development for common core standards for math.

Over the years Phillips has learned that flexibility in the classroom is a big part of teaching. Every year the students are different, she said, and something a teacher did one year may not work the next.

Phillips said it was important to "grab those teachable moments," when opportunities



GREY PENTECOST | COURIER-TIMES

Bethel Hill Charter School Teacher of the Year Angie Phillips gives her fifth-grade students a hands-on lesson in figures and geometry.

See **BHCS**, Page 10