

The Courier-Times



1,000-PLUS!

Senior running back Thurman Clayton nearly rushed for 1,500 yards **A6**



FALL COLORS:

A trip to the Nature Trail at PCC produces multiple scenic photos **B1**

C-T READERS' FOOTBALL CONTEST RESULTS

TIE FOR 1ST:

Rice, Stamey share top spot in 7th week of C-T's football contest **A2**

100 YEARS:

Mamie Horton will celebrate her 100th birthday on Friday, Nov. 11 **B6**

MONUMENT:

What's Going On feature focuses on Korean War Monument **A3**

DEATHS

Nannie Lou Duncan Bowes, 83
Roxboro

John Haskins Holder Jr., 52
Roxboro

Margot Schubert Oakley, 79
Timberlake

Rev. William Devine Sabiston III, 76
Durham

See page A11

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Our 129th year Number 90

Three sections 22 pages

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Jim Stovall: Person County needs a full-time economic development director

BY TIM CHANDLER
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"The will to win is the will to prepare."

Jim Stovall, former chairman of the Person County Economic Development Commission (EDC) quoted those words once spoken by legendary collegiate football coach Paul (Bear) Bryant Monday evening.

Stovall and members of the EDC were meeting with the Person Board of County Commissioners in a special joint session. The plea from Stovall and

other EDC members to commissioners was for funding for a full-time economic development director for Person County. The

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Jim Stovall



A Sunday afternoon fire caused major damage to Ephesus Baptist Church in Semora.

TIM CHANDLER / COURIER-TIMES

'We just hope we can build back and go on'

Sunday fire causes extensive damage to Ephesus Baptist Church

BY TIM CHANDLER
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"Seeing all that work going down was not easy to watch. A lot of old work, a lot of new work. It was not easy to watch."

Rev. Leonard Watlington uttered those words this week when discussing a Sunday afternoon fire at Ephesus Baptist Church in Semora. The blaze destroyed the sanctuary of the church, which sits just off of Ephesus Baptist Church Road in Semora.

Watlington recently celebrated his 33rd anniversary as pastor of Ephesus Baptist. Shortly after 1 p.m. Sunday, he had to look on as fire ravaged a good portion of

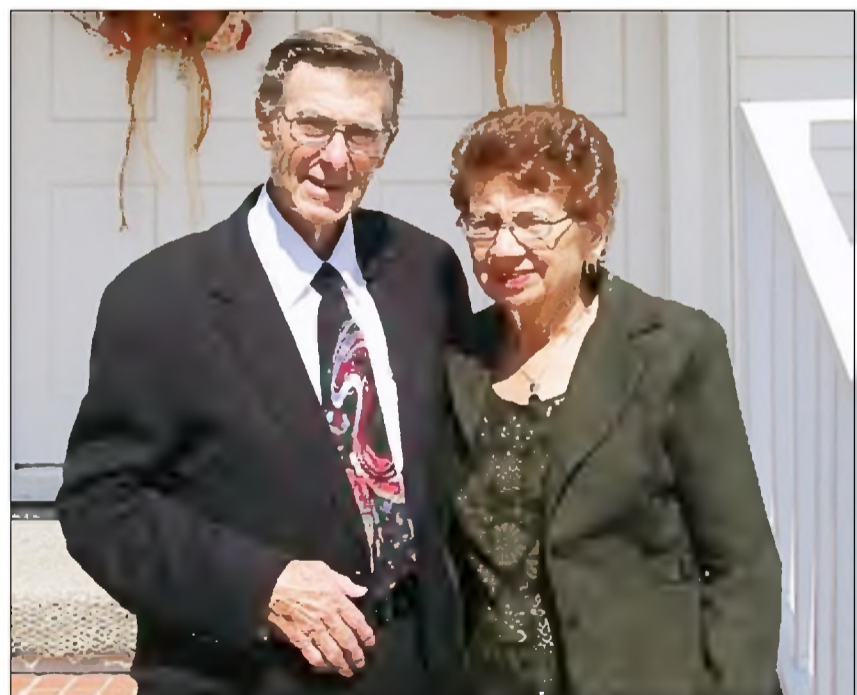
the church, which was founded in 1834.

"The Lord knows best," Watlington said. "He is in charge. He gives and He takes away. He is in charge."

"We just hope we can build back and go on," Watlington added. "I hope I will see the church rebuilt. It holds a special place in my heart."

Blake Whitt, chief of the Ceffo Volunteer Fire & Rescue Department, said the Sunday afternoon blaze remains under investigation, but added that the nature of the fire is not suspicious. Whitt did say that one possible cause of the fire was faulty electrical wiring.

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Pastor Leonard Watlington and his wife, Helen

SUBMITTED

School board to revisit commissioners' request for former Helena School site

BY GREY PENTECOST
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The Person County Board of Education will meet on Monday, Nov. 14 at 9 a.m. to accommodate the observance of Local Government Day.

The meeting will be held in the board of education boardroom, located on the ground floor of the Person County Office Building at 304 S. Morgan St.

The board will hear from Smith Sinnett Architecture on plans for the transition of Person County Learning Academy from

the old Helena school building to the VFW property.

Person County Schools Executive Director of Program Services Marionette Jeffers will present changes to the 2012-13 CTE (career and technical education)

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Mike Floyd

'This is the perfect spot for me to grow'

Danville, Va. resident Mike Floyd named staff writer at C-T

BY GREY PENTECOST
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The Courier-Times welcomed its newest staff writer, Mike Floyd, this week from Danville, Va.

Floyd's prior work experience spans a wide-range of fields, including time spent as a professional baseball player, chef, advertising representative, and

freelance journalist and photographer.

Floyd knows the Roxboro area through previous delivery and advertising sales work, and noted the friendliness of the people, the way the community pulls together, and the energy of the town, describing Roxboro as "Americana done right."

Floyd said he is happy to now be at The Courier-Times.

"This is the perfect spot for me

to grow," he said, "because I do have knowledge in a lot of different subjects. I'm a photojournalist too."

Floyd earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in public business management in 1978, with a minor in journalism.

He said he enjoys using his interviewing skills to "bring the story out of people," and then putting that story down on paper.

Prior to moving to Danville in

1995, Floyd lived in California, and said he learned a lot from interviewing blues musicians there.

"They were the hardest people to crack open, but once they opened up, then you could get the story," he said.

Floyd also photographed a lot of blues musicians in the late 1980s, such as B.B. King, starting

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