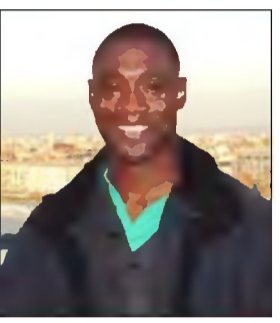


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T.R. Brady is cooking up old-fashioned pork skins in Person County **A9**



TRAVELING:
Person County native teaches abroad, visits all seven continents **B7**



GOOD KNIGHT?
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SPOTLIGHT:
North End Elementary School is showcased in this week's edition **B3**

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 - William Lawrence Gentry, 65**
Roxboro
 - Madeline Tapp Grimes, 86**
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Our **129th year**
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New-look city council to be sworn in Tuesday

BY TIM CHANDLER
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The look of Roxboro City Council will change Tuesday night.

Roxboro City Council will meet in regular session Tuesday at 7 p.m. in council chambers at city hall.

Shortly after Mayor Sam Spen-

cer opens the meeting, he will hand the gavel over to Marilyn Newell, who was unopposed in her mayoral bid in October.

Spencer is stepping down after a lengthy political career. The former career educator did not see re-election in October to the post he assumed last year following the death of former Mayor Tom Brown.

Prior to becoming mayor, Spen-

cer was successfully elected to 14 consecutive terms on city council. Spencer first gained election to Roxboro City Council in 1983.

The council that will be sworn in by Chief District Court Judge Mark Galloway Tuesday will include two incumbents, one former councilman and two political newcomers.

Current councilmen James Allen and Ralph Clark were un-

successful in their bids for re-election in the non-partisan municipal election in October.

Among the council newcomers is Will Davis, 22, a Roxboro business owner, who led the balloting in October with 397 votes. Davis will likely be tabbed mayor pro-tem, a position that has traditionally been reserved for the leading vote getter in the local municipal balloting.

Mark Phillips, 52, a former member of council, was second in the balloting in October with 355 votes. Phillips formerly served three terms on council and was an unsuccessful candidate for mayor in 2009.

Incumbent Councilman Sandy Stigall, 73, was third with 313 votes. Stigall will be beginning

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MIKE FLOYD | COURIER-TIMES

Visiting with Santa Claus

Juliann Whitfield spends some time with Santa Claus during the Jingle on Main event Thursday night in Uptown Roxboro.

Heart disease continues to be leading cause of death in Person County

BY TIM CHANDLER
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Heart disease continues to be the leading cause of death in Person County, according to the 2011 Community Health Assessment, which was recently released by the

Person County Health Department.

Cancer, stroke, chronic lower respiratory disease and unintentional non-motor vehicle injury follow heart disease as the leading causes of death among Personians.

Mortality data reflected in the Community Health As-

essment is from 2005 through 2009. The rankings for these five leading causes of death have not changed since the previous assessment, which was conducted in 2007.

Diabetes, on the other hand, moved up from the seventh to the sixth leading cause of death in the most re-

cent assessment.

For all deaths combined, Person County males have a 46.1-percent higher mortality (death) rate than Person County females. Male mortality is significantly higher especially for non-motor vehi-

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New heating system being installed at BHCS gym

BY GREY PENTECOST
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Bethel Hill Charter School (BHCS) began installing a new gas pack heating system in its gymnasium Friday, replacing a furnace that was over 60 years old.

According to BHCS Principal John Betterton, the old gym furnace was unreliable, and after the April tornado caused roof and other major damages to the gym, the school decided to take the opportunity to replace the heating system while making other repairs.

Betterton said the school had looked at several options, includ-

ing a heat pump, gas furnace and geothermal system.

The geothermal system, which would involve digging wells to take advantage of the earth's underground heat, was an appealing option, said Betterton. He liked that it would cut the school's dependency on fuel, and would lower the school's heating expense in the long term, but said the up-front cost was too high.

BHCS decided to go with the gas pack system because, said Betterton, the up-front cost was less than that for the geothermal system, and it would be reliable and provide "good heat."

The system will initially run



GREY PENTECOST | COURIER-TIMES

Installation of Bethel Hill Charter School's new gas pack heating system began Friday.

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