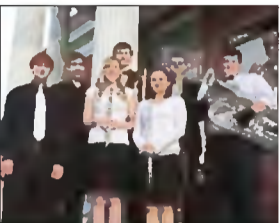


The Courier-Times

75 Cents



COUNCIL:
A gathering of Roxboro City Council—new and old—was held Tuesday **B1**



TOP HONORS:
RCA students earn tops spots at prestigious UNCW honor bands festival **B2**



FRIDAY HOOPS:
Rockets took their show on the road Friday for league game at Hillside **A6**

PAC-6 WIN:
Person wrestlers pin Hornets Wednesday for 2nd league triumph **A6**

BRAIN GAME:
PHS team qualifies for Brain Game playoffs for 6th time in 7 years **B2**

ARRESTS:
Arrests made this past week by Roxboro Police Department **B7**

THE LIST:
Person County's Most Wanted List for the week **A3**

DEATHS:
Jessica Maria Walker, 18
Blanch
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Police seeking info on suspects who stole electronics from Wal-Mart

BY TIM CHANDLER
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Roxboro police are currently looking for two suspects who allegedly stole "a large quantity of electronics" from Wal-Mart at 1049 Durham Rd. this week.

Roxboro Police Detective Gail Shull said the two suspects en-

tered the store on two different occasions Sunday.

According to a Roxboro police incident report, the two are alleged to have removed nearly \$16,000 in electronic equipment from the store.

The theft was reported to police Tuesday after Wal-Mart officials reviewed the surveillance video.

Shull asks that anyone with in-

formation about the two suspects or the theft of the electronics call Person County Crime Stoppers at (336) 330-0923.

Shull said police are also seeking information on a rash of convenience store break-ins that have taken place in the city. Anyone with information related to those incidents is also asked to call Crime Stoppers.



These two men are suspected of stealing electronics from Wal-Mart.



Lindsay T. Wagstaff Jr. (left) and his brother John donated land to Hyco Zion Baptist Church, on which the church plans to rebuild since its old building was destroyed in a fire last year. Lindsay Wagstaff and Hyco Zion Pastor Stanley Kearney stand in the Hyco Zion cemetery, with the new building site located behind them on a hill past the trees.

Neighbors aiding neighbors

Wagstaff family donates land to help Hyco Zion rebuild after fire ravaged church last year

BY GREY PENTECOST
COURIER-TIMES STAFF WRITER
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Since July 3 of last year, Hyco Zion Baptist Church has been without a church building of its own. That Saturday, a fire consumed the church on Concord Church Road, but after receiving a land donation next to the old site, the church is now in the beginning phases of rebuilding.

After the fire, the church first met at the National Guard Armory, Person County Senior Center and, for the past several months, at East Rock Church on Front Street.

Hyco Zion Pastor Stanley Kearney said East Rock had really "been a blessing" to his church.

"Since the fire," said Kearney, "people have really stepped up to help us in any way to keep us [together as] a church, and we really appreciate that."

However, Kearney said he is starting to see a "weariness" in his congregation.

"They want to get back in the church," he continued. "People have been really good to us, but it's time for us to get the sanctuary back up and get back here."

Kearney had spoken with Lindsay T. Wagstaff Jr. about a year before the fire about purchasing property Wagstaff and his brother John owned adjacent to the church property. Hyco Zion was out of space, said Kearney, with some Sunday school classes meeting in hallways and outside

on the basketball court, and was planning to build an addition.

Wagstaff, a long-time member of neighboring Concord United Methodist Church, said he had known Kearney and of his "good works at the church," for years. He added that each year, Concord participates in an annual combined Thanksgiving service with Hyco Zion and other area churches. Wagstaff said he and his brother had lived in the Concord community all their lives and known a lot of people who attend church at Hyco Zion.

Therefore, when Kearney approached Wagstaff about a land purchase before the fire, Wagstaff said he immediately told him he

See **GIFT**, Page 10

Shop With a Cop makes Christmas merrier for needy children

BY GREY PENTECOST
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The Christmas holiday season was made a little merrier for 18 Person County children Friday, as they got to pick out gifts from Wal-Mart during the city's annual Shop With a Cop event.

Each year, the Roxboro Police Department carries out the event for underprivileged children in Person County Schools. This year each elementary and middle school selected two children to participate.

After parental permission was granted, the children were picked up Friday by local law enforcement officers and brought to Wal-Mart, where they were greeted by Santa Claus (also known as Police Chaplain Keith Kimball), given Wal-Mart gift cards, and each assigned to an officer who would accompany them on their shopping trip.

In addition to the police department, representatives from the sheriff's department and highway patrol were on hand to serve as shopping buddies.

Police Sgt. Shawn Williams

said he loves participating in the event and "helping kids, whatever their circumstance is, to be able to have a holiday time."

The department, he said, signs him up each year without even having to ask.

Williams also expressed his appreciation for Total Fitness Center owner Scott Wesley's part in making the event a success.

Wesley held a fundraiser at the fitness center in October to benefit the Shop With a Cop program. This year, the event was funded

See **CHILDREN**, Page 10

Christmas Parade starts today at 2 p.m.

BY TIM CHANDLER
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The annual Roxboro Christmas Parade will be held this afternoon in Uptown Roxboro.

The parade, sponsored each year by the Roxboro Jaycees, will begin at 2 p.m. and will fol-

low the traditional Main Street route that begins at the Carver Drive intersection and ends at the Gordon Street intersection.

Former Roxboro Mayor Sam Spencer will serve as the parade's grand marshal. Spencer was first elected to Roxboro City

See **PARADE**, Page 10

Teen arrested in connection with undercover drug probe

BY TIM CHANDLER
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Person County's Sheriff's Office deputies arrested a teenage suspect this week in connection with "Operation Peek-A-Boo," a five-month undercover investigation.

Law enforcement officials arrested 42 persons in October in connection with the under-

cover probe that began in May and continued through September. The investigation utilized video and audio equipment to help document illegal drug activity.

The majority of the people arrested in connection with the investigation were placed under secured bonds of \$100,000 after the District 9-A district at-

See **ARREST**, Page 10



GREY PENTECOST | COURIER-TIMES

Holiday tradition

Each year the Roxboro Garden Study Club creates wreaths and other festive arrangements to be donated to various places in the community, including the Person County Public Library, Person Memorial Hospital, Person County Senior Center, Maple Heights Rest Home, Canterbury House and Person County Museum of History. Bows for the wreaths are donated by Jeneane Adams of The Village Gallery. In the photo above, Sherry Deal puts together a wreath.