



Produced by Above And Beyond Learning Corp.

The Grey Area™

Local and National Unusual News

Wilson/Zebulon NC Edition – 919.623.9392



Volume 1, Number 1
March 1, 2011



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Local News Brief

The Uwharrie National Forest stretches across North Carolina's Montgomery, Randolph and Davidson counties. Known for its proximity to the first big US gold strike in 1799, the forest is making the news with release of a Bigfoot video shot in 2010.

Shot by Michael Greene of Salisbury NC, the video shows two moving figures among the trees. His footage, a thermal video available at www.bushloper.net, is being taken seriously. Animal Planet came to North Carolina in February 2011 to film the search for Bigfoot, reportedly part of a series they will air Fall 2011.

Mr. Greene's video of Bigfoot casually hanging out in the NC forest has also reached the Bigfoot Field Researchers Organization (BFRO), a group that took part in the recent search. Their site, and recent bigfoot sightings in NC, are listed at www.bfro.net.

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Little Bits

Word of the Issue

Flippant

Definition: Making light of something when a serious attitude is more fitting: "She made a flippant remark."

Translation of the Issue

English—"Heart"

German—Herz

Spanish—Corazón

Italian—Cuore

Quote of the Issue

Mother Theresa

"If you can't feed a hundred people, then feed just one."

Chuckle of the Issue

A cowboy walks into a saloon and orders whiskey. The bar is empty, unusual for that time of day. So, when the bartender brings his whiskey, the cowboy asks, "Where is everybody?" The bartender replies, "Everybody's gone off to see the hanging."

"Hanging? Who they hanging?" asks the cowboy.

"Brown Paper Pete," the bartender says.

"Brown Paper Pete? Never heard of him. How'd he get a name like that?"

"Well," says the bartender, "Pete wears a brown paper mask, brown paper shirt, brown paper trousers, brown paper cape, and brown paper boots."

"Pretty weird," says the cowboy. He asks the bartender "What's he being hanged for?"

"Rustling."

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The Bad News...

Not Lions, Tigers or Bears So Far

Mass animal deaths made it big in the news starting with thousands of blackbirds in Beebe, Arkansas on New Year's Eve. Stories were online and in print across the country on January 1, 2011. While described by some government agencies as "normal", the sheer number of deaths taking place brought worry and news agencies started using the word "aflocalypse" to describe the series of events. Following the blackbirds came mass deaths of starlings, crabs, fish (bass, drum, spot, and more), and even cows. While some have been explained—the 200 cows ate bad potatoes—others still seem up in the air.

Hunger Reigns

Today over 49 million Americans—including over 16 million children—are struggling with hunger, according to thehungersite.org. Isn't that a huge number? It is also more than 15% of the US population (as of 2010). That's not localized in a few cities; that is across the United States in cities of all sizes. With economic fluctuations of recent years, it's families across all levels of society struggling to find enough work, pay for housing, keep health insurance, and buy enough food for their households. They are average people struggling to pay the high costs of gas and get enough to eat; often opting for cheap, low nutrition, low value foods. Right now is a great time to make a nutritious donation to your local food bank or soup kitchen!

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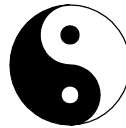
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The Grey Area™

The Backside



Things to Do in NC When You're Bored

Wilson

Wilson Tobs Baseball

Home games May 2, 8-9, 11-12, 16, 18, 20, 22, 24-25, 29-30, 2011
Fleming Stadium, Wilson, NC.

Visit www.wilsontobs.com for details.

The Diary of Anne Frank

Friday-Saturday, April 1-2 & April 8-9, 2011 at 7:30pm
Sunday, April 3 & 10 at 2:00pm
Edna Boykin Cultural Center

Visit www.wilsonarts.com/pages/actforyouth.htm.

Zebulon

Carolina Mudcats Baseball

Home games May 3-7 and May 20-29, 2011
Five County Stadium, Zebulon, NC.

Visit www.gomudcats.com for tickets and promotions.

Rocky Mount

Tree Giveaway for Public Utilities Customers

March 7-9, 2011

Customers of Rocky Mount Public Utilities may take part in this tree giveaway. Come by Rocky Mount's City Hall between 8:30am and 5pm to pick up a free tree. Supplies limited.

More info at www.rockymountnc.gov.

Elsewhere

Lil John's Mountain Music Festival

May 26-28, 2011

Enjoy this annual Memorial Day Weekend music festival at Cane Creek Campground, Snow Camp, NC.

Visit www.littlejohnsmountainmusic.com for details.

East Wake Relay For Life

May 13-14, 2011

East Wake Relay for life runs two days and takes place at Five County Stadium, Zebulon NC. Event benefits American Cancer Soc.

Visit www.relayforlife.org/eastwake for more information.

Shades of Grey

What Do You Think?

Table Conversation: A man is sleeping in his home. A noise wakes him. He goes to investigate, grabbing his home firearm on the way. In his living room, he comes face-to-face with a masked man, arms wrapped around the stereo. Startled, the masked man releases the stereo and takes a step toward the homeowner. Equally startled, and in a fearful state, the homeowner holds up his gun and fires. With one shot, the masked man falls. Moments later, the homeowner calls 9-1-1 and help comes soon after.

Months later, the homeowner has not been charged but is being sued by the masked man, seeking compensation for his injuries and medical care. Will this homeowner have to pay for his "crime"? Was he justified? Should someone who breaks into a home be able to sue if they are harmed while being subdued during their crime? What do you think?

Now, what if the homeowner had fired more than one shot. Do you still think that way?

Alternatively, what if the masked man had drawn a gun first? Does that change what you think?

What would you do?

The Good News...

Summer is Coming

Summer is just around the corner! Summer temperatures for North Carolina often bring many days with highs of 90° F, give or take a few degrees. NC mornings tend to be 20° F cooler, except along the coast.

Now is a great time to shop for shorts, bathing suits, and sunscreen! Keep yourself and your loved ones safe by using a sunscreen with a high SPF.

Expect warm temperatures starting this month to continue through the summer, through August's sultry days, until Labor Day. Then, September continues the warm trend, cooling more as Summer wanes.

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