



# The Grey Area™

Local and National Unusual News

Rocky Mount/Wilson/Zebulon NC Edition – 919.623.9392

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Produced by Above And Beyond Learning Corp.

## EARLY EDITION

Volume 1, Number 9  
July 1, 2011

### Fourth of July Special

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### Local News Briefs

#### The Good News... Wild Cats

In our May 15th issue, we reported on the Glen Alpine NC search for a large cat seen repeatedly in the area by residents and police patrols.

Reports from their local police described the animal as having a very long tail and being at least 80 lbs, which may contradict the belief that large cats like cougars have been gone from North Carolina for multiple decades.

Speaking with Wilson County resident Reuben Mosley, more evidence came to light about large cats in North Carolina; specifically the Wilson and Nash county areas. A retired minister with the International Pentecostal Church, Reverend Mosley and his family saw cougars no less than three times during the late 1990s — as early as 16 years ago.

Reverend Mosley reported to us that he had seen not only a cougar, but a momma cougar with three cubs near I-95 and what he refers to as the River Road crossing. On a bright summery afternoon in 1994, Reverend Mosley saw a large cat bound three times over the guard rail and across the road near I-95 as he was driving to church service. Just a few weeks later, he and his wife, Ann, saw what was likely the same cat bounding across the road in the same area, with three cubs chasing after, speckled with tails wagging behind them. He estimates the momma was around seven feet long with her tail, and the cubs about a foot high each.

The following year while visiting with his then brother-in-law, Reverend Mosley was surprised to have his brother-in-law report sighting a large cat walking through their field before stretching out in the sun for awhile.

These three Wilson / Nash sightings come several decades after cougars were thought to be gone from North Carolina. If you're driving in the early evening near I-95 close to the river, you too may see these amazing animals in action, alive and well in the wild.

#### The Bad News... Gas Tax Increase

As sales tax goes down a penny on July 1st, the North Carolina gasoline excise tax will rise 2.5 cents per gallon. While the sales tax drop is due to expiration of a temporary tax increase, the rise in the “gas tax” is due to no action being taken by the NC legislature: this tax adjusts automatically twice a year.

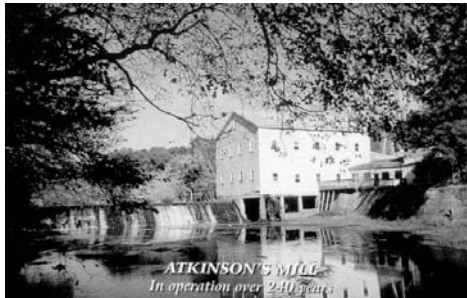
### A Little Local History

#### Atkinson Milling Co.

95 Atkinson Mill Road  
Selma, NC 27576

Email: info@atkinsonmilling.com

This local grist mill was built in 1757, and is a rare water powered grist mill operating in the Five County Area. The mill building as it is now was built in 1950 after the original mill was destroyed by fire.



This local grist mill has been in continuous operation for over 250 years, using large stones to grind grains. Tours are available at no charge, so stop by and check out this continuing operation. They make and have cornmeal and flour products available in an on-site gift shop, so you can enjoy your visit and taste real mill-ground goods!

For more information, visit the Atkinson Milling Company website at www.atkinsonmilling.com or contact the mill at 919.965.3547 or toll-free at 800.948.5707.

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### Look Inside for Where and When Fireworks and Independence Day Celebrations!



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**Shades of Grey**  
What Do You Think?

*Some situations are viewed in black and white; right and wrong. Yet, many people think situations also have a grey area where solutions are not so easily discerned.*

**Submitted for Your Consideration and Conversation**

School just let out for the summer, and your child is going into the eighth grade. Her seventh grade teacher you felt was really good and your child had a good year.

While on summer break, you and your husband go out for dinner and drinks at a local pub. You see your child's former teacher drunk and being loud and obnoxious. She is so loud that even though you are a few tables away you can hear her making comments about the "horrible" children in her class and how she hates dealing with the little "brats".

Do you and your husband count yourselves lucky that your child is no longer in her class? Do you report her to the school board? Do you say nothing?

Alternatively, what if school still had a week to go and your child would still be in her class for several more days. What do you and your husband think about having this teacher with your child for the remainder of the school year?

**News From The Grey Area**

This July 1st issue is being distributed a few days early and contains "Where to Go to Watch the Sparks Fly" — a special listing of fireworks and Fourth of July events!

Future issues of The Grey Area will include special features including a list of rabies clinics, Fall festivals, and holiday events. Contact us if you have information on upcoming rabies clinics in the Five County Area.

**Classifieds**

Gently used Total Gym for sale. All parts in good condition. Works well. Gathering dust. \$120 OBO. Call 919-637-6973.

1994 Mazda 929 for sale. Six cylinder. Green. 113,000 miles. Runs great. \$2,450 or best offer. Call Tina at 252-915-9316.

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**TO PLACE ADS:**

Classified ads may be up to 5 lines of text for one low rate. The Grey Area comes out on the 1st and 15th of each month, and ads are due a week before. Email sales@aboveandbeyondlearning.com or call 919.623.9392 to place your classified ad.

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## Where to Go to Watch The Sparks Fly



### Fireworks - Saturday

#### **Burlington Independence Day Celebration (July 2 @ 6-10pm, fireworks 9:30pm)**

Sack races, watermelon-eating contests, and water balloon toss. Music and concessions inside the park. Burlington City Park, Burlington NC.

### Fireworks - Sunday

#### **40th Independence Celebration (July 3)**

Celebrates Independence Day with the City of Rocky Mount on July 3rd at the Rocky Mount Athletic Stadium. The event features live bands and other entertainment, food and community spirit. There will be inflatables for the kids, and you can picnic on the ball field. The evening ends with a spectacular fireworks show. Rocky Mount Athletic Stadium 1400 N. Church Street, Rocky Mount, NC For more information, call 252.972.1151 or email events@rockymountnc.gov.

#### **Town of Garner Independence Day Celebration (July 3rd)**

Garner's Annual Celebration takes place at Lake Benson Park. Join them on July 3 for the annual celebration of our nation's birthday. Gates open at 5pm. Music by Liquid Pleasure will be followed by the North Carolina Symphony. There will be inflatables for the kids, with food and refreshments benefiting local non-profits. Fireworks at 9:30pm. Event is free. 921 Buffalo Road, Garner NC

#### **Fireworks on High Rock Lake (July 3)**

A pre-show will begin at dusk, and fireworks will begin at dark. Donations are accepted for the event, and a portion of the proceeds will go to High Rock Lake River Rats to benefit needy children and families in the area. Donations of at least \$250 get a special mention before the show starts. For more information, contact Julia Euliss at 336-210-6571.

#### **Fireworks at the Beach (July 3)**

The Atlantic Beach annual fireworks celebration promises the biggest and undeniably best fireworks display in Carteret County. More information at [www.atlanticbeach-nc.com](http://www.atlanticbeach-nc.com).

#### **Emerald Isle Fourth of July FireWorks event (July 4 @ 9pm)**

Fourth of July fireworks display planned at the Pier. Bogue Inlet Pier, 100 Bogue Inlet Drive, Emerald Isle, NC More details at [www.emeraldisle-nc.org](http://www.emeraldisle-nc.org).

#### **WF Fourth Of July Celebration (July 3-4)**

Fireworks, games, live entertainment, and a whole lot more awaited you at this year's Fourth of July celebration! Wake Forest's Independence Day celebration provides two days of fun and excitement for the whole family. This year, the revelry gets underway with the Fireworks Spectacular on July 3. Gates open at 5 p.m. and admission is \$5 per person. Children six and under are free. *Children's Parade on July 4th at 10:30am.* Heritage High School, 1150 Forestville Road, Wake Forest More details at [www.wakeforestnc.gov](http://www.wakeforestnc.gov).

### Fireworks - Monday

#### **July 4th Fireworks & FunDay (July 4 @ 3pm)**

Come out and enjoy the afternoon at the Recreation Park with food, vendors, inflatables and entertainment. We'll finish up the day with a fireworks display you have come to love... the largest display in WNC will begin at dark. Also check out the 4th of July Parade at 10am in Downtown. Macon County Veteran's Memorial Rec Park, Franklin NC Contact Linda Schlott at 828-524-2516 for more information or visit [www.RenewingFranklin.com](http://www.RenewingFranklin.com).

#### **Castalia Annual July 4th Celebration (July 4)**

This all-day festival begins at 10am with vendors showcasing handmade crafts, a parade, and fireworks at the end of the day. Downtown, Castalia NC More details available from 252.459.3668.

#### **Rolesville Independence Day (July 4 @ 5pm)**

Festival includes food, fun, and fireworks. Bring your lawn chairs and a little spending money to this alcohol-free, family-friendly gathering. Music, hot dogs, cotton candy, pizza, ice cream, and funnel cakes. Children's activities including inflatables. Event finishes with fireworks at dusk. Rolesville Community Park Ball Fields, Rolesville NC More information at [rolesville4thofjuly.org](http://rolesville4thofjuly.org).

#### **Fourth of July at the NC State Fairgrounds (July 4 @ 5pm, fireworks 9:45pm)**

Free fireworks and family activities presented by The City of Raleigh Parks and Recreation Department in collaboration with the NC State Fair. Admission and parking are free. NC State Fairgrounds, Raleigh NC For more information, call 919.831.6854.

#### **NC Symphony Summerfest Indep. Day (July 4 @ 3pm)**

Come and hear patriotic music and watch "the Triangle's biggest fireworks display". This event is free, and according to the Koka Booth website the event includes a performance by the Cary Town Band followed by the North Carolina Symphony. There will be activities for children, ice cream eating contests, and picnicking at this event. Koka Booth Amphitheatre, 8003 Regency Parkway, Cary More details at [www.boothamphitheatre.com](http://www.boothamphitheatre.com).

#### **2011 Fun Fourth Festival (July 4 @ 5:30-10pm, fireworks 9:30pm)**

The Fun Fourth Festival is an annual community celebration of Independence Day. The festival is held in the Cultural District of Downtown Greensboro and at the Greensboro Coliseum Complex. The grand finale concert and fireworks are at the White Oak Amphitheatre at the Greensboro Coliseum Complex. Bring blankets and cushions for lawn seating. Event and parking are free. Coliseum Complex, 1921 W Lee St, Greensboro NC More information at [funfourthfestival.org](http://funfourthfestival.org).

#### **Kings Mountain Revolutionary 4th (July 4 @ 6-10pm)**

Celebrating Independence Day is always a patriotic event in Kings Mountain. Commemorating the Revolutionary War's Battle of Kings Mountain, a gathering of Revolutionary re-enactor militias will be camped out during the weekend prior to Monday's celebration. Come see the large fireworks show, preceded by a mock cannon battle. The Walking Track, Kings Mountain NC More information at [www.cityofkm.com](http://www.cityofkm.com).

#### **Waxhaw Old-Fashioned Hometown Parade (July 4 @ 10am, fireworks 9:30pm)**

Old-Fashioned Hometown Parade along the Downtown Main Street at 10am. Entertainment area between Food Lion and the post office in early evening with live music by RJ Adams and Too Much Sylvia. Waxhaw Beach Party starting at 6pm. Children's activities include a face painter, bouncy house, slide, and balloon twister. Fireworks next to CVS Pharmacy. Bring your chair and enjoy! Downtown, Waxhaw NC. Contact 704.843.2195 or [events@waxhaw.com](mailto:events@waxhaw.com).

#### **Currituck Outer Banks 19th Annual Independence Day Celebration (July 4 @ 4-10pm)**

Currituck Outer Banks is providing live music, children's activities, food, and fireworks! Watermelon eating contest starts at 5:45pm, and cornhole tournament starts at 6:30pm. Currituck Heritage Park, 1100 Club Rd. Corolla, NC More info at [www.visitcurrituck.com](http://www.visitcurrituck.com).

#### **Southport Fourth of July Celebration (July 4)**

Multi-day festivities with Fireworks Finale at 9pm Monday on the waterfront. Stand on the Waterfront in Southport or anchor your boat in the harbor to watch the fireworks, launched from a barge in the Intracoastal Waterway. Waterfront, Southport NC. More information at [www.nc4thofjuly.com](http://www.nc4thofjuly.com).

#### **Battleship Blast (July 4)**

This 50th Anniversary celebration kicks off at 9:05pm with the 15th Annual Battleship Blast fireworks spectacular. Battleship complex on Eagles Island open until 6pm. View fireworks from Downtown Wilmington. Downtown Riverfront, Wilmington, NC 28401 More details at [www.battleshipnc.com](http://www.battleshipnc.com).

#### **Uncle Sam Jam (July 4 @ 4:30pm)**

The Uncle Sam Jam is at the Oak Hollow Festival Park. Gates open at 4:30 p.m. and fireworks start at 9:45 p.m. There will be music, food, vendors, inflatables for kids (additional fee required) and exhibits. Parking is \$10. Oak Hollow Festival Park, High Point NC.

## Things to Do in NC When You're Bored

### \* Wilson \*

#### **Wide-A-Wake Takeover Auto Show & Charity Food Drive (July 2 @ 9am, judging 1pm)**

Registration is \$15 plus a can of food for the food drive. Free food and games for the kids. For more information, contact 252-315-2398.

### Wilson Tobs

#### **(Home Games July 4, 7, 9, 11-12, 14)**

Take the family out for a night at the ball game. Fleming Stadium, Wilson, NC Visit [www.wilsontobs.com](http://www.wilsontobs.com) for details.

### \* Rocky Mount \*

#### **Lawn Chair Theatre (July 8 @ 7pm, movie starts at sundown)**

Featuring "Astro Boy" Free movies through August. Concessions and kids activities. Attendees are advised to bring chairs or blankets. The Imperial Centre, 270 Gay Street, Rocky Mount, NC Call 252-972-1266 or email [museum@imperialcentre.org](mailto:museum@imperialcentre.org).

### \* Zebulon \*

#### **Carolina Mudcats (Home Games July 4-7. 13-18)**

Load up your crew and take them to the stadium for game. Five County Stadium, Zebulon, NC Call 919-269-2287 for info or visit [www.gomudcats.com](http://www.gomudcats.com).

#### **Free Family Movie Night (July 8 @ 7-9pm)**

Zebulon Parks and Recreation Department presents the movie "Yogi Bear" free with popcorn. Zebulon Community Center, Zebulon NC Visit [townofzebulon.org](http://townofzebulon.org) for more details.

### \* Elsewhere \*

#### **Cooking with Jazz (July 9 @ 4-9pm)**

The Kila Company and the Wendell Chamber host this first annual "Cooking with Jazz" cook-off. North Main Street, Downtown, Wendell NC For more info, contact The Kila Company at 919.365.5003.

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**The Backside**

**Little Bits**

**Word of the Issue**

**Dilemma**  
**Definition:** A problem with at least two possible solutions, neither of which is practical.  
**Example:** "Choosing a movie all the children wanted to see created quite a dilemma."

**Translation of the Issue**  
**English — "Grateful"**  
German — Dankbar Spanish — Agradecido  
Italian — Grato Irish — Buíoch  
Portuguese — Grato Russian — благодарный (blagodarnyi)  
Korean — 감사 (gamsa) Latin — Grata

Translations for these and many other languages may be found at translate.google.com, www.wehali.com/tsalagi, babelfish.yahoo.com, and other online and print resources.

**Quote of the Issue**  
**Theodor Seuss Geisel, aka Dr. Seuss**  
"Be who you are and say what you feel because those who mind don't matter and those who matter don't mind."

**Chuckle of the Issue**  
There was two old dollar bills. One was a \$100 dollar bill and the other was a \$1 dollar bill. The \$100 dollar bill said, "I've lived a good life. I've been to the amusement park, the theater, the zoo and baseball games."  
"Wow," said the \$1 dollar bill. "You sure have had a good life."  
"Where have you been?" asked the \$100 dollar bill.

The \$1 dollar bill replied, "Oh, I've mostly been to church."

**Something to Clip for Your 'Fridge**

In honor of Independence Day, submitted for your scissors this issue is a transcript of the Declaration of Independence. Presented here, with thanks to the National Archives at www.archives.gov, is its text.

*The Declaration of Independence*

IN CONGRESS, July 4, 1776.

The unanimous Declaration of the thirteen united States of America,

When in the Course of human events, it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another, and to assume among the powers of the earth, the separate and equal station to which the Laws of Nature and of Nature's God entitle them, a decent respect to the opinions of mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to the separation.

We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.--That to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed, --That whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new Government, laying its foundation on such principles and organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their Safety and Happiness. Prudence, indeed, will dictate that Governments long established should not be changed for light and transient causes; and accordingly all experience hath shewn, that mankind are more disposed to suffer, while evils are sufferable, than to right themselves by abolishing the forms to which they are accustomed. But when a long train of abuses and usurpations, pursuing invariably the same Object evinces a design to reduce them under absolute Despotism, it is their right, it is their duty, to throw off such Government, and to provide new Guards for their future security.--Such has been the patient sufferance of these Colonies; and such is now the necessity which constrains them to alter their former Systems of Government. The history of the present King of Great Britain is a history of repeated injuries and usurpations, all having in direct object the establishment of an absolute Tyranny over these States. To prove this, let Facts be submitted to a candid world.

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