



The Grey Aream

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.

Volume 1, Number 14 September 1, 2011



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Local News Briefs

Hurricane Irene's slow stroll up the coast caused flooding, downed trees, and power outages throughout the Five County area. Residents of Rocky Mount, Wilson, Nashville, Zebulon, and throughout the area continue clean-up.

The Good News... Enjoy Cooler Temperatures

It is early in September, with cool evenings and morning and less heat during the day. All through the month, including the Labor Day Weekend, local outdoor activities provide opportunity for fresh air and gentle days.

While the spiders still spin their webs as the sun drops, biting bugs are becoming more scarce. Now is a great time of year to enjoy your sweet tea or evening coffee outdoors. Or, better yet, pull out a telescope or binoculars and enjoy that clear Carolina sky while you relax in the evening breeze.

The Bad News... Shaken

It was Tuesday, August 23rd just before 2:00pm. Do you remember where you were? Did you feel the earthquake as it rippled from Virginia down through North Carolina?

The earthquake started in Mineral VA and waved throughout the Eastern US. Luckily the quake caused little damage locally, though many who had not felt a quake before — and didn't expect one in North Carolina — may have been a bit unnerved by the experience.

A Little Local History

Devil Dog Dungarees



Passing through Zebulon on Gannon Avenue, you might see the large, retro sign for *Devil Dog Dungarees* along the road. The sign is a reminder of North Carolina's textile industry history and of manufacturing in Zebulon.

The Devil Dog Dungarees factory opened around 1954. The family-owned business had started in New York, and moved to NC to open sewing factories in Zebulon and other towns. Changes in the textile industry at that time prompted many companies to move to the state and business was booming.

Devil Dog Dungarees — actually Devil Dog Manufacturing Co. — has operated continuously in Zebulon since 1954, registering with the state in 1952. In its prime, the company employed as many as 1,200 in NC.

In the late 1990s, changes to the textile and apparel industry came again. Jobs sewing apparel began moving to other parts of the world. Riding through the industry changes while the apparel industry disappeared in the US, Devil Dog continues today.

Originally a sewing facility, Devil Dog's Zebulon plant currently serves as a distribution center for apparel they make elsewhere and distributes to department stores. The Gannon location employs approximately 95 people today.

Said Tony Shannahan, a 32-year employee still with the company, "We are quite proud of the fact we're still here. A lot of companies did not survive that period of time."

Over the years, local residents not only worked at the plant, they were able to purchase apparel via the Devil Dog outlet store. Business adjustments led to closing the outlet two years ago this Fall. While the sewing and jeans may be a thing of the past, the distribution company and its unique "dungarees" sign continue to be a part of Zebulon today.

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* NC September 11th Events * 9/11 Memorial Stair Climb (September 11)

The Morrisville Fire Department is hosting a firefighter's memorial stair climb at 1 Copley Drive in Morrisville NC. This event is to commemorate the tragic loss of 343 FDNY firefighters during the events of 9/11. The public is welcome to attend the ceremony and support those participating in the climb. Firefighters will check-in between 7-8:30am, with posting of the colors and a memorial ceremony right after. Parking provided by the Morrisville Outlet Mall, 1001 Airport Blvd, Morrisville.



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Things to Do in NC When You're Bored

9/11 9/11 Observance Cookout (September 10 @ 2:30-4pm)

Annual 9/11 Observance Cookout to thank local first responders for all they do! "Savings Lives is their Job, Ours is Thanking Them!" Tenth Anniversary of a horrific tragedy to our nation, and chance for you to attend and say thank you to those who risk their lives for you. Public welcome. Phillips Park, 150 Phillips Road, Jacksonville, NC More information at www.angelsvoices.org.

9/11 10 Years Later: NC Remembers 9/11 (September 11@ 7pm)

"North Carolina Remembers 9/11" is presented on the occasion of the tenth anniversary of September 11, 2001, in cooperation with WRAL-TV/Capitol Broadcasting, UNC-TV and the Triangle Interfaith Alliance. This presentation integrates music and the spoken word. The North Carolina Symphony will be joined by the North Carolina Master Chorale and vocal soloists.

Meymandi Concert Hall, Progress Energy Center for the Performing Arts, 2 E. South Street, Raleigh.

Admission to the concert is free, but tickets are required. There is a limit of 2 tickets per person. Tickets are available on a first-come, first-served basis through North Carolina Symphony Audience Services, 919.733.2750, 877.627.6724, or www.ncsymphony.org.

9/11 Memorial Observance (Sept 11 @ Open 6pm, Memorial 7pm)

In honor of the 10th Anniversary, Schola Cantorum, the choir of the Episcopal Diocese of East Carolina, will present "Memorial Requiem" by contemporary composer Cynthia Roberts-Greene. The program includes prayers and remembrances for the victims and their families as well as patriotic hymns. The choir, under the direction of Douglas Leightenheimer, will be accompanied by full orchestra. Christ Episcopal Church, 320 Pollock St., New Bern NC Details www.christchurchnewbern.com or 252.633.2109.

* Rocky Mount *

Downtown Live Concert (September 8 @ 6-8:30pm)

Free admission & parking. "The Craig Woolard Band". Imperial Centre for the Arts & Sciences 270 Gay Street, Rocky Mount NC Visit www.imperialcentre.org for info.

A Lesson Before Dying (September 16, 17, 23 & 24 @ 7:30pm & September 25 @ 2pm)

According to the theatre website, "This play is a powerful and provocative story of a young African-American man accused of murder and his journey toward manhood. It also presents the parallel journey of the young school teacher who guides him on that journey." Tickets \$6-\$8. The Booker T. Theatre, 170 E Thomas Street, Rocky Mount For details and tickets, call 252.972.1266 or visit www.imperialcentre.org.

Eastern Carolina BBQ Throw Down (October 7-8)

Attend this official North Carolina State Barbecue Championship — a Kansas City Barbeque Society (KCBS) sanctioned competition. Event sponsored by Rocky Mount Parks & Recreation.

More details at www.bbqthrowdown.net.

* Wilson *

First Fridays On The Lawn (September 2)

Enjoy live music, food and craft vendors 249 W. Nash Street, Wilson NC For more info, 252-399-2200 or www.wilson-nc.com.

Traditional Zumba Classes Taught by Berto (September 3, 10, 17 & 24 @ 10-11am)

Come by and exercise with Zumba classes Saturday mornings. Also Monday Wednesday & Friday 6-7pm. Members \$50/month, non-members \$5/class. 306 East Nash Street, Wilson NC More info at www.kaithaiacademy.com or call 252.373.3204.

Karaoke at Chica's (September 3, 10, 17 & 24 @ 7-10pm)

Come by Chica's and sing your heart out Saturday evenings.

124 Barnes Street, Wilson NC More info or schedule 252.991.4492.

Wilson Downtown Alive (September 7 @ 5:30 - 8:30pm)

Featuring the "Band Of Oz". Come Join Us On The Grassy Lot At 210 Tarboro Street Bring Your Chairs & Blankets. Rain Location The Boykin Center 5:30-8:30pm. More info at www.wilsondowntownalive.com.

Wilson Downtown Farmer's Market (September 7, 14, 21 & 28 @ 8am-1pm)

Buy locally grown fresh produce, fresh baked goods, canned items, and more. Includes activities for the kids. 207 W. Green Street (grass lot), Wilson NC. Visit www.wilsonnc.org for details on local markets.

Parents Undefeated: Educated, Equipped, Empowered (September 10 @ 9am-2pm)

Open to parents, grandparents, youth workers, and educators. Presented by NC Parent Resource Center at Families in Action. Adult and kids (5th to 8th grade) programs. Free program includes free lunch, free childcare, door prizes, and giveaways.

910 Tarboro Street, Wilson NC

Email carrie@ncparentresourcecenter.org for details.

Wilson County Fair (September 20-25)

The Wilson County Fair returns this September with shows, thrills and family fun. "Fun for the Whole Herd!" More information at www.wilsoncountyfair.org.

Wilson Whirligig Festival (November 5-6)

Enjoy food vendors, music, and entertainment! 200 W. Nash Street, Wilson NC Call the Wilson Chamber Of Commerce at 252.237.0165.

* Zebulon & Wendell *



Carolina Mudcats (Home September 1-5)

Load up your crew and get to Five County Stadium for a great afternoon or evening game. The September 4th game includes the Labor Day Fireworks Extravaganza Special with a 6:15pm start.

Five County Stadium, Zebulon NC Call 919-269-2287 or visit www.gomudcats.com.

Brown Bag Lunch Ministry (September 3, 10, 17 & 24@ 11:30am-12:30pm)

Zebulon United Methodist Church and St. Eugene Catholic Church distribute brown bag lunches to those in need each Saturday. Lunch includes sandwich, cheese & crackers, dessert, granola bar, fruit, or chips, based on availability. Personal hygiene items for families in need. Zebulon: Gannon Ave & N. Church Street Wendell: St. Eugene, 608 Lions Club Road www.zumchurch.org & www.steugeneparish.org

Trivia Night (September 5, 21, 19 & 26@ 7:30pm)

Come to Pizza Villa in Zebulon for Monday night trivia. Play on a team and win prizes. 409 Us Highway 64 Bus W, Zebulon NC Call 919.269.4777 for more information.

Free Family Movie Night (September 9 @ 7-9pm)

Zebulon Parks and Rec presents
"The Princess and The Frog" free with popcorn.
Zebulon Community Center, Zebulon NC
Visit townofzebulon.org for more details.

1st Friday Jazz (September 9 @ 6:30pm)

Come and enjoy an evening out with great music. Due to Labor Day holiday, Sept is 2nd Friday.
The Kila Company, 28 North Main St., Wendell For more info, call 919.365.5003.

Whitley Park Music Series (September 11 @ 4-6pm)

Come listen to the family-friendly, folk music of Seona McDowell. This free event features this "singer of songs, teller of stories" plus concessions, a face painter, and more. Whitley Park, 601 N Wakefield, Zebulon NC Visit www.townofzebulon.org or call 919.823.1815.

East Wake Women in Networking (September 14 @ 11:45am-1pm)

Networking opportunity is open to all professional women. Zebulon Chamber Of Commerce Member fee is \$10, non-members \$15, which includes lunch. Eastern Regional Center, 1003 Dogwood Drive, Zebulon Must register in advance by calling 919.269.6320.

2011 International Food Festival (September 17 @ 11am-7pm)

Join Wendell for this 9th annual festival. Tickets on sales now for raffle of new Chevy Cruze.

J. Ashley Wall Towne Square Wendell NC Details at www.thefoodfestival.com or call St. Eugene Catholic Church at 919.365.7114.

The 2011 Business Expo (September 29 @ 2-7pm)

The Zebulon Chamber of Commerce 2011 Business Expo will once again bring together the brightest business leaders from the most dynamic companies throughout the area. East Wake Academy Gym, Zebulon NC More info at www.zebulonchamber.org.

* Elsewhere *



The Getdown Music Festival & Campout (September 1-4)

The third annual GETDOWN Music Festival & Campout will be held Labor Day Weekend

in the Piedmont of North Carolina. Music jam, groove, funk and reggae. Includes camping, food, arts, crafts, disc golf, late night jams, drum circles, bonfires, good vibes, & more. Mebane NC. More details at www.thegetdown.org.



Beach Music Extravaganza (September 2-4)

Featuring beach music, dancing and food, including a Labor Day weekend picnic, Texas

Bar-B-Q, and more. Admission fee for adults and children 6 and up. Children 5 & under free. Bald Head Island NC Details at www.baldheadisland.com/beachmusic/



65th Annual NC Apple Festival (September 2-5)

Four days of street fairs, freshly picked apples, arts, crafts, food, and entertainment.

Historic Courthouse, Hendersonville NC For more details, visit www.ncapplefestival.org.



ProgDay XVII (September 3 @ 10:30am-9pm)

ProgDay XVII is the world's oldest international progressive rock festival. Spend

your Labor Day weekend on the lawn at Storybook Farm. Many musicians perform.

Storybook Farm, Jones Ferry Road, Chapel Hill, NC For more details, visit www.progday.net



Pops in the City (September 4 @ 7:30-9:30pm)

Sample your Symphony this Labor Day weekend with a free concert. Hear Beethoven,

Tchaikovsky, Williams and Webber — plus marches. Raleigh Amphitheater, 500 S. McDowell Street, Raleigh More details at www.raleigh-amphitheater.com

Taste of Stantonsburg Festival (September 10 @ 9am-5pm)

This is a family oriented event opens to all citizens. Performances by Ginger Thompson Band & the Speight Middle School Band Chorus. Includes car show (pre-reg required for participants) and children's activities.

For any information on attending or vending, contact Chief John Hunt at (252) 238-3534.

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. This is not just about the choices people make, but the thought process they go through to arrive at their decisions.

Submitted for Your Consideration and Conversation

You and your sister are quite close. You've been pals through childhood, adulthood, married life, and parenthood. She is very dependable and you trust her so much that you and your husband named her as your children's guardian in your wills.

You've always found your sister to be logical, and a good person to bounce ideas off of when you aren't sure what to do. The last thing you would expect is for her to do something out of the ordinary.

Then one evening, your phone rings as you are heading off to bed. It is your sister, breathless, and she says she has just seen an unidentified flying object hovering over their house.

She goes into long detail of how the craft hovered over their house, making no noise, and shining a bright purple light on her for several minutes. She tells you she couldn't move while it scanned her, and that she yelled for her husband when the light went off and the craft rose into the sky.

You are shocked, as you never really believed in UFOs and aliens from other planets. You can't think of anything to say when she asks, "Can you believe it?"

After listening to her excited story a little longer, you tell her you will come see her the next day after work and end the phone call.

The following evening, you stop by and she is still in the same, excited state. She tells you the story again, wide-eyed and sincerely. Mostly you listen, not sure what to ask or what you think of the event.

While you haven't believed any UFO sighting reports before, you see that she truly believes that what she saw has no other explanation. She gives you many reasons why the craft could not be a helicopter, toy, airplane, or balloon.

When she goes into the kitchen for coffee, you talk with her husband and ask him what he saw. He tells you that he only saw something move in the sky, but from what he saw "it could have been a UFO, or just an ordinary helicopter or something.' He isn't sure what to think of his wife's exuberance, but feels it's best to not burst her bubble since he can't say for sure what he saw.

You support your sister as best you can, even though you are skeptical of what really happened to her the night before. Being careful of her feelings, you chat with her a little longer and then go home.

Two days later, your sister calls to say that the local news is coming out to talk with her about the UFO. She will be on the 11pm news telling her story! Her hope, she says, is that someone will see the news and maybe come forward with photos or video of the craft.

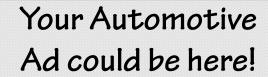
Now you're at a crossroads. Do you support your sister and assume that — with her logical mind — she must have seen something unusual? Or, do you think you should caution her about going public to avoid being judged by neighbors? Do you think you'd ever trust her to baby-sit your kids again? Or, do you think you'd start to believe in UFOs?

News From The Grey Area

This September 1st issue includes information on Labor Day activities and September 11th events, alongside the regular event listings, news and happenings from around the Five County Area. This year is the 10th anniversary of 9/11 and days of remembrance and memorial events are planned in NC and across the United States.

The September 15th issue will include information on County & State Fairs. This time of year is a wonderful time for rides, fair food, family time, and fresh air!

Automotive Avenues



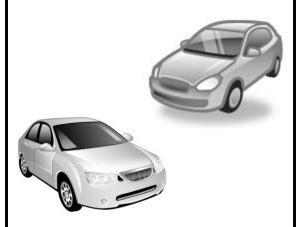


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The Grey Area™

The Backside



Little Bits

Word of the Issue

Memorial

Definition: Something that serves to preserve a memory, often of an

event or person.

Example: "The 9/11 memorial was unveiled in front of a large crowd."

Translation of the Issue

English — "memory"

German — speicher Spanish — memoria
Italian — memoria Irish — cuimhne
Latin — memoriae Dutch — geheugen

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

Quote of the Issue

Edwin Way Teale (American Naturalist)

"For man, autumn is a time of harvest, of gathering together. For nature, it is a time of sowing, of scattering abroad."

Chuckle of the Issue

A man is walking away from the lake carrying two fish in a bucket. He is approached by a game warden who asks to see his fishing license.

The fisherman says to the game warden, "I didn't catch these fish. They are my pets. Every day I come down to the water, whistle, and these fish jump out. I take them around to see the sights, then whistle and they jump back in the bucket and we go home at the end of the day."

The game warden, not believing him, says again that it is illegal to fish without a license. The fisherman looks at the warden and says, "If you don't believe me then watch!" He turns back to the lake and throws the fish into the water.

The warden says, "Now whistle to your fish and show me that they will come out of the water."

The fisherman turns to the warden and says, "What fish?"

Something to Clip for Your 'Fridge

Local agencies, news services, and national government agencies all provide emergency preparedness lists. In case of emergency, certain supplies on-hand make the situation more safe and comfortable. While the list below is not exhaustive, it contains helpful items to keep in your house at all times — or actions to take when a storm is coming.

Emergency Preparedness

ITEMS TO BUY:

Water (bottled for drinking)

Canned Food (a variety of vegetables, fruits, meats, etc. you like)

Pet Food (as appropriate)

First Aid Kit (with pain relievers, bandages, antiseptic, ointments, and over-the-counter medicines you normally use)

Prescription Drugs (at least a week's worth)

I Handy Tools for Repairs (knife, duct tape, etc.)

Soap, Toothpaste, Toilet Paper, and other Hygiene Products

I Radio (with batteries or hand crank)

Clean Clothing (plus coats, rain wear, or blankets as needed)

Protection (as appropriate)

Cooler (fill with ice before storm or event)

THINGS TO DO BEFORE STORM OR EVENT:

Fill cars with gas in advance.

Fill tub with emergency water in case water stops running.

Know where birth certificates, passports, and other important materials may be quickly gathered in an evacuation.

Load animal crates or leashes into car as appropriate.

Be prepared to load items from above list into vehicle if leaving.

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Patrick Kinas & Joe Bourdow

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