

The Grey Area™

Local and National Unusual News

Bunn/Wendell/Wilson/Zebulon NC Edition – 919.623.9392

Also check out our Edition for
Rocky Mount & Nashville NC

“I’M FREE—Take Me With You!”

Volume 2, Number 7
April 1, 2012

A Self-Made Matriarch: Edna Earle Boykin

By Margaret Langley, Contributing Author

Edna Earle Boykin was a teacher for twenty years and then a principal for twenty years, all at the same school: the Margaret Hearne School, in Wilson NC. She was a spinster for all rights and purposes, and not much is known about that end of her personal life. In fact, not much information is available about Edna Earle Boykin at all.



The Edna Boykin Cultural Center
Source: Margaret Langley

What *is* known about her is very interesting. She talks about her life as she grew up in the “Great Depression” in an interview she recorded with Betty Ray McCain in 2008. A transcript of that interview can be found in the Wilson County Public Library, in Wilson NC.

“Edna Earle” as she was called by her mother and close friends, was an only child. In her interview, she doesn’t speak of her father at all. When asked who her parents were, she simply states, “My mother was Ms. Annie Draughn Boykin, period.” She was born at home, and her house back then was out in the country. But today, her home is right in the center of town.

Ms. Boykin enjoyed saying this to people when talking about her home, “I used to tell everybody, ‘I’m not a country hick come to town. I’m a country hick that the town came to!’”

Ms. Boykin was known to be an outspoken woman who was not afraid to voice her opinion. She inherited that trait from her mother, as well as a multitude of other qualities that carried her throughout her life until the day she died.

Her formal education began when a Mr. Aiken rented a dairy farm from Edna’s grandfather, and then couldn’t pay the rent. Mrs. Aiken was a kindergarten teacher. Always thinking, Edna’s mother went to her father and said, “Look, if he can’t pay the rent, let me send Edna to kindergarten, and let that pay the rent.” Her grandfather agreed, and after they talked it over with Mrs. Aiken, Edna began kindergarten classes.

Edna had a keen sense of humor, as well. When she was asked what was her favorite subject in school during her

interview, she replied, “lunch”. More than likely, it was this sense of humor that got her in trouble quite a few times during high school, and the principal was not a forgiving and forgetting man.

When Edna went looking for her first job, she tried applying in Wilson without any success. So she went to Goldsboro, and got a job there. Edna’s mama was upset because she wanted Edna in Wilson. So, she went to see Dr. Bell at Edna’s old high school. He didn’t want to hire Edna because of her trouble-making skills.

Determined to get Edna a job, Edna’s mama said, “Now, Dr. Bell, I know doggone well you’ve got some bad teachers in here”. He said, “Sure I do, I’ve got a few, but we hain’t got many”. Edna’s mama said, “Well, it’s time to get another one.”

Edna Earle Boykin dedicated her life to the education and enhancement of the lives of children. Her wonderful memories of going to the Wilson Movie Theater as a child and spending her allowance and her time there made it easy for her to decide that the old movie theater building should be preserved and restored and put to good use. Without that conviction, intelligence, cunning, humor, caring and determination there would be no Edna Boykin legacy for the children of Wilson County. To that end, we owe her a great debt.

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 & Conversation

When shopping, you notice a fellow shopper eating a banana as they walk the isles. You end up behind them in the checkout line, and notice that while they pay for the rest of their bananas, they don’t mention to the checkout clerk that they had eaten one too.

Do you think of the banana as “stolen” since it wasn’t purchased? Or do you think that is not the case? Would you say something about the unpaid item, or would you keep silent? Do you think you’d give it a second thought?

What to Do When Things Go Bump in the Night

By Kay Whatley, Editor

Houses settle, wind rattles siding, and things creek. Nighttime when things are quieter, small noises seem loud, and an odd “feeling” can make the hair can stand up on the back of a person’s neck. Sometimes, there is a simple explanation; but sometimes, no explanation for a noise or strange sensation can be found.

Three years ago, a group formed in Wilson to deal with noises that just may be otherworldly. Wilson Paranormal uses the scientific method to investigate unexplained sounds and strange happenings in area homes. When homeowners call and ask for help, their team sets up digital recorders to listen for EVP — Electronic Voice Phenomena — and pick up sounds beyond normal human hearing levels. They also set up cameras and other equipment designed to watch for odd happenings.

Each investigation begins with an interview. Investigators speak with occupants of the residence in question, asking about what noises they have heard, how they have felt.

After the interview phase, if further investigation seems warranted, a date is set and equipment is moved in for an evening of recording and watching. Questions are posed during the recording, based on knowledge of the house’s history and current residents, with silence following — during which the investigators sometimes hear responses on the EVPs. Hours of tape, photographs, and video are reviewed for evidence of paranormal sounds or object movements.

Several of Wilson Paranormal’s investigations have centered on the historic district. Their most recent investigation is underway and is located in this same area of Wilson.

So the next time a local resident is disturbed by a strange sensation or a sound where there should be no sound, these investigators are just a phone call away! Give them a call at 252.289.1615 or check out their latest investigations at www.wilsonparanormal.com. Think of them the next time something happens that seems beyond the norm — or from beyond the grave.



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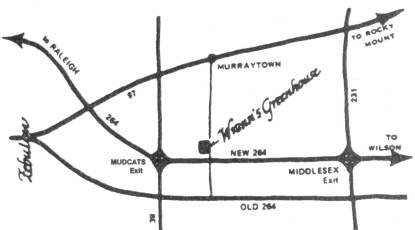
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Things to Do in NC When You're Bored

* Bunn *

Jazz Concert (April 7 @ 6-8pm)
Enjoy the music of Howard Overtone & Friends.
Common Grounds Coffee House, 20 Cheves Road, Bunn

Autism Support Group (April 10 @ 6-7:30pm)
This group meets the second Tuesday of each month.
Common Grounds Coffee House, 20 Cheves Road, Bunn

4th Annual Farm Show (April 19-22)
Antique tractors, trucks, gas engines, heavy equipment, & other farm equipment. The Rocky Cross Band Saturday.
Norris Creek, 751 Old Halifax Road, Louisburg
Details available from Bunn Town Hall at 919.496.2992.

Bunn Fun Run 5K (April 21 @ 8:30am)
Family friendly 5K run, 1-mile run/walk event, & 100yd Kids Dash for age 8 & under. Race starts at Bunn High School track. Out-and-back route residential & Main streets.
29 Bunn Elementary School Road. Bunn

* Rocky Mount *

Easter Eggstravaganza (April 7 @ 10am-2pm)
Rocky Mount Parks & Rec free annual Sunset Easter Eggstravaganza! Enjoy arts & crafts, inflatables, & vendors. Photo with Easter Bunny plus Easter Egg Hunt at 11:30am.
Sunset Avenue Park, Rocky Mount
Info at parks.rockymountnc.gov or call 252.467.4903.

Wine & Cheese Benefit (April 12 @ 5-8pm)
My Sister's House Wine & Cheese event at the A Second Season Resale Store. Girls' Night Out shop 'til you drop! Shop is five doors down from Mama's Pizza.
Benvenue Plaza, 1360 Benvenue Road, Rocky Mount

* Wendell *

First Friday Jazz (April 6 @ 7pm)
Come by for live music and community fun.
The Kila Company, 28 Main Street, Wendell
For details, call 919.365.5003.

East Wake Sons of Confederate Veterans Program (April 17 @ 6:30-8:30pm)
Hold meetings third Tuesday of each month. April's meeting features a presentation with video by Dr. John Booker. Come for supper at 6:30 & stay for program. All invited.
Boulevard Pizza, 2925 Wendell Blvd., Wendell
For more information, call: 365-5206.

* Wilson *

Cut Your Grocery Bills in Half (April 17 @ 6-8:30 pm)
Learn to use coupons, store promotions, & meal planning to cut grocery bill in half. Instructed by Faye Prosser. Fee \$20.
Wilson Community College, 902 Herring Avenue, Wilson
To register, call 252.291.1195 by April 13th.

* Zebulon *

Zebulon Community Watch (April 19 @ 7pm)
Join the group on the 3rd Thursday of every month.
Eastern Regional Center, 1003 Dogwood Drive, Zebulon

Mudcats vs Cleveland Indians Exhibition Game (April 3 @ 2pm)
The Mudcats major league game with the Cleveland Indians.
Five County Stadium, 1501 NC-39, Zebulon
More details via www.carolinamudcats.com.

Charity Golf Tournament (April 11 @ 9am)
Zebulon Boys & Girls Club benefit golf tournament.
Trophies, putting contest, & hole-in-one for a new car!
Zebulon Country Club, 2424 Pearces Road, Zebulon
For info, call 919.880.0043.

* Elsewhere *

39th Int'l Whistlers Convention (April 18-22)
Free admittance. Whistlers competing from many states & countries. Starts with April 18th Whistling School.
Louisburg Coll. Auditorium, Louisburg
Info call 919.554.6986.

Hee Haw Fundraiser (May 19 @ 6:30pm)
Lee's Chapel Baptist Church Fundraiser for East Wake Relay for Life. \$5/person, add'l donations welcome. Refreshments.
Stony Hill FWB Ch., 9646 Stony Hill Ch. Rd, Middlesex
For info, call 252.883.1461.

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Music Schedule

Noon-ish: Opening Announcements
12:30pm: Steph Stewart & the Boyfriends
1:30pm: Danza Azteca
2:00pm: Old Avenue
3:30pm: Jo Gore & The Alternative

Plant Giveaway
Garden plants free in exchange for signing Pledge To Share your harvest in your community. Plants available on a first come, first served basis. No reserves. Grow with your plants or come get some of ours. Up to 20,000 plants will be given away; up to two dozen per Pledged Gardener! Bring a box to carry your plants home.

Healthy Cooking Demo
Inter-Faith Food Shuttle will be at the festival to promote healthy, seasonal cooking on a budget. Interactive nutrition games with prizes and prepared foods from their farm for seasonal taste testing.



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Pet Health & Rabies Clinics

By Kay Whatley, Editor

This time of year, pets come under attack. Ticks, fleas, and other biting things can harm cats, dogs, and other pets unless their owners take preventative action. While medications given at home and available over the counter might protect pets from ticks and fleas, complete health care requires pet owners to visit with a veterinarian.



Veterinary offices and pet-related public events across the Five County Area provide pet owners with opportunities to care for their pets while realizing some cost savings. For example, low-cost rabies vaccinations may be purchased to help you and your pets avoid this deadly illness. At least one upcoming pet health events also offers low-cost microchipping to bring your pet home if they become lost.

The folks at the Nash County Animal Shelter in Nashville NC are holding a rabies clinic on April 5th. Each year, they hold this low-cost clinic on the Thursday before Good Friday. Pet owners may get their pets taken care of for \$5. Owners may come by any time between 8am and 4pm on this date. The shelter may be reached at 252.459.9855 for more details.

The Rocky Mount Animal Shelter (252.972.1390) was very helpful! When contacted, they shared information on two economical opportunities for pets to be vaccinated in Rocky Mount: Paws In The Park, and Coats Veterinary Hospital.

Paws in the Park is set for April 14. This family and family-pet oriented event begins at 11am and runs until 3pm, with activities for people and pets. Come on two legs, come on four legs; come to Sunset Park (1550 River Drive, Rocky Mount) for fun for all. Pet health will be the overriding theme of the day, with \$5 rabies shots, \$15 microchipping, and a pet dental hygiene clinic. Families can also participate in raffles and contests, shop from a variety of vendors, and generally run and play in the sunshine. Paws In The Park is organized with Rocky Mount Parks & Rec. For information or to become a vendor in advance, call 252.972.1151.

On the third Thursday of each month, Coats Veterinary Hospital holds a \$5/pet rabies clinic. On April 19th, owners may bring their pets in between 8am and 6:30pm for a rabies shot. Coats takes a unique approach by promoting local pet health along with community health! Pet owners coming in for a rabies shot pay only \$5/pet but must also bring 5 cans of human food. This veterinary office is focused on their entire community — pets and people. Coats provide the rabies vaccine and collects canned food all in the same visit, and then donates the people food to local food pantries. Get pets their rabies shot, do them some good, and help neighbors too! Coats Veterinary Hospital is located at 4710 Sunset Avenue in Rocky Mount. If you can't get to their offices April 19th, their rabies clinic is the third Thursday of each month and the office may be reached at 252.407.1616 for more details.

The “Pets & Animals” section of www.wakegov.com, Wake County’s website, lists two additional rabies and microchip clinics in April; one in Garner and another in Raleigh. More details are available online.

Ensure a healthy pet and save on their health care costs by checking with local veterinary offices, or attending one of these special events. Hopefully by taking some precautions, the entire family can relax and enjoy a beautiful Springtime in North Carolina!

News From The Grey Area

This issue includes several pet health articles. Share pet photos on our Facebook page!

The coming issue covers Earth Day, baseball, and more.



Flea & Tick Treatments

Dr. Geri Davidson, DMV, Contributing Author

Yes folks, it is flea season once again. Thanks to a mild winter, we are seeing fleas making an early resurgence this year. Many of our cats and dogs are allergic to the saliva of the flea as it bites our pets. These pets become very itchy, causing hair loss and sometimes leading to skin sores.

Thankfully we have many weapons at our disposal to combat fleas. We have many topical treatments as well as a couple of oral medications. But please remember: to effectively get rid of fleas we need to treat all pets as well as the environment. The amount of fleas you may see on your pet is only a small percentage of the fleas in your environment. So treating the yard, bedding, and the house is essential in proper flea control.

There are several topical flea treatments available for dogs including Frontline, Advantix, and Certifect. There are also options for cats as well, including Frontline, Advantage Multi and Revolution. Remember that products intended for dogs should not be used on cats, and vice versa.

Capstar is an oral medication used to kill adult fleas on both cats and dogs. Capstar is intended for use in pets over 2 pounds and greater than 4 weeks of age. Capstar works quickly to kill adult fleas, but it is only effective for 24 hours.

The newest weapon we have against fleas for dogs is called Comfortis. This is given orally once a month to dogs weighing over five pounds and who are over fourteen weeks of age. Comfortis comes as a chewable tablet, starts killing fleas within thirty minutes and lasts a full month. Comfortis is not available for cats, and must be prescribed through your veterinarian since it is given orally.

Be cautious of over the counter flea treatments as they are often ineffective and can be harmful to your pet. It is always best to use any flea prevention recommended by, and under the supervision of your veterinarian. If you have any questions or concerns, please give us a call at Bunn Animal Hospital at 919.496.7401.

Healthy Pets & Health Issues



Pets speak through barks, yips, squeaks, growls, and meows; however, their looks, behavior and body language convey information too, and may be more understandable. A change in the way a pet acts, or refuses to act, can signal a health issue for watchful owners.

Some signals are visible and easy to spot: hair loss, limping, dragging a foot. Whining or mewing more than usual could signal that a pet is experiencing pain. Cats in pain may hide, so if a social cat suddenly spends hours under a bed or dresser, they may be hurting and in need of veterinary care.

Is a pet suddenly ignoring their special treats, or their favorite food? This may also indicate they are not feeling well.

If a human were vomiting or experiencing diarrhea, they would take notice and try to find out why. Pet owners should consider doing the same if their pet shows these symptoms.

Problems with “accidents” in the house, for a pet that does not normally have accidents, could signal a problem. A well-behaved, housebroken pet suddenly becoming a problem might not be by their choice; it could be that they are experiencing pain or health issues.

The best way to know if a pet is not feeling well is to know that pet and take notice when behavior, appearance, or habits change. Being aware of changes may help catch problems early, before they become major health issues.

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The Backside

Little Bits

Word of the Issue
Synchronicity
Definition: Simultaneous occurrence of events that appear related but have no discernible connection.
Example: “That they ended up working together was synchronicity, given their close relationship.

Translation of the Issue
English — “deer”
German — hirsch
Latin — cervus
Irish — fia
Spanish — ciervo
Italian — cervo
Tsalagi (Cherokee) — **DO** (“a wi”)

Translations for these and many languages may be found in online (translate.google.com, babelfish.yahoo.com, etc.) and print resources.

Quote of the Issue
Robert Southey (English Poet, 1774-1843)
“A kitten is in the animal world what a rosebud is in the garden.”

Chuckle of the Issue
A man went to visit a friend and was amazed to find him playing chess with his dog. He watched the game in astonishment for a while, and then exclaimed, “I can hardly believe my eyes! That's the smartest dog I've ever seen!”
“Nah, he’s not so smart,” his friend replied. “I've beaten him three games out of five.”

Cryptogram of the Issue

Replace the letters in this Cryptogram with other letters to deduce the quote within the puzzle. Hint: I = F.

N _ D _ J _ M _ O _ U _ R _ X _ T _ S _ O _

 E _ S _ R _ K _ M _ T _ J _ H _ J _ Y _ A _ E _ O _ T _ K _ O _ N _ J _ W _ D _

 U _ R _ X _ S _ M _ J _ E _ Q _ ' L _ O _ K _ T _ S _ O _ I _ X _ M _

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Answer to the previous issue’s cryptogram (Both Editions):

There are two ways of exerting one’s strength: One is pushing down, the other is pulling up.

-- Booker T. Washington

Area Easter Services

Easter Sunday, April 8th @ 10:30am
Raleigh Road Baptist Church — 252.243.0383
4150 Raleigh Road Parkway West, Wilson NC 27896
Guest speaker Brian “Head” Welch, former lead guitarist of KORN.

Easter Sunday, April 8th
World of Truth Ministries — 252.289.8241
711 Ward Boulevard, Wilson NC 27893
Guest Speaker Kristina Fields.

Easter Sunday, April 8th
God's Grace Holiness Church — 919.853.2421
44 Fellowship Lane, Spring Hope NC 27882

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