

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 8
April 15, 2012**

One Year After the Tornado

On April 16, 2011, a tornado touched down in Wilson. It tore through a busy section of the town, knocked down trees, decimated several businesses, and damaged private property across a wide area before dissipating.

Several businesses near the junction of Tarboro Street and Forest Hills Drive were hit so badly that the buildings became uninhabitable. Worrell’s Used Cars took a big hit, yet continued to do business from their location.

The Worrell dealership was so damaged that it had to be torn down. Two weeks after the tornado, a trailer was moved onto the site so that they could reopen. Then, they rebuilt. Ethelene Worrell says, “It took about six months to get everything together. We built a new building with a three-bay shop, and now we’re back in business stronger than ever.”

Storm cleanup took weeks, with the town gathering debris and yard waste and helping emergency aid reach those who needed it. Businesses repaired, or moved to new locations. Utilities repaired broken equipment and services returned to normal. Looking back a year later, little can be seen of the damage except for an empty lot and the new buildings along the path the tornado took through the town.

A Brief Look at Earth Day

By Kay Whatley, Editor

Earth Day is celebrated each year on April 22nd. Events held across NC and the US serve to increase awareness in environmental issues and appreciation of Earth’s natural resources.



Earth Day was first observed on March 21, 1970. Earth Day was founded that same year, separately, through the actions of US Senator Gaylord Nelson. He held an Earth Day April 22nd, 1970, providing environmental education at his event.

Businesses and organizations hold events each year for Earth Day, often stretching the “day” into a week or weekend of special classes and outdoor activities. Watch for activities across North Carolina including week-long activities at NC State University, Asheville Earth Day, and the Piedmont Earth Day Fair in Winston-Salem.

The Bad News... Food Recalls for Pets and Humans

Food Lion, Harveys and Reid’s stores issued a voluntary recall Food Lion store brand hard/soft taco dinner – sold with UPC 3582605118, lot number of ga-aug07125, in pack size of 13.4 ounces. The Food Lion-branded hard/soft taco dinner may contain a milk allergen in chicken Caesar-flavored seasoning, which is not properly marked and was mistakenly included in the taco dinner kit by the manufacturer. The product was immediately pulled from shelves. Customers may return purchased dinner kits to their local Food Lion, Harveys or Reid’s store for a full refund.

Diamond Pet Foods recently announced a recall of *Diamond Naturals Lamb Meal & Rice* pet food. The product has the potential to be contaminated with salmonella. No illnesses have been reported and no other Diamond manufactured products are affected. Pet owners should avoid handling the food, not feed it to their pets, and contact Diamond Pet Foods at 800.442.0402 or www.diamondpet.com

The Good News... Kids’ Baseball

The Carolina Mudcats are hosting a free Aquafina Major League Baseball *Pitch, Hit & Run* Competition for area youth on Saturday, April 21st. The event begins at 9 a.m. inside Five County Stadium.

Pitch, Hit & Run is the Official Skills Competition of Major League Baseball. This grass roots program is designed to provide youngsters with an opportunity to compete, free of charge, in a competition that recognizes individual excellence in core baseball/softball skills.

Competitors are divided into four age divisions and have the chance to advance through levels of competition, including Team Championships at Major League ballparks and the National Finals at the 2012 MLB All-Star Game.

The individual Pitching, Hitting and Running Champions, along with the All-Around Champion in each age group at the Local Competition will be awarded and advance to the Sectional Level of Competition.

For questions concerning the competition, please contact the Carolina Mudcats' Sean Nickelsen at 919.269.2287 or snickelsen@carolinamudcats.com.



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Things to Do in NC When You’re Bored

*** Bunn ***
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
Details available from Bunn Town Hall at 919.496.2992.

*** Rocky Mount ***
An Event of Native Culture & Exploration (April 17 @ 6pm)
Kat Littleturtle weaves traditional tales into contemporary lessons. History, American Indian dance & more. Braswell Memorial Library, 727 North Grace St., Rocky Mt
For more info, call 252.442.1951.

The 39 Steps (April 27-28 @ 7:30pm)
Adapted by Patrick Barlow, from the novel by John Buchan. From the Alfred Hitchcock movie. Imperial Centre, 270 Gay Street, Rocky Mount
For more info, visit arts.imperialcentre.org.

Senior Play Day (May 23 @ 10am-1pm)
Come and enjoy food, dancing, giveaways, Tai Chi, bird watching, games, & much more. Warner & Wiley Rooms. Braswell Memorial Library, 727 North Grace St., Rocky Mt
For more info, call the library at 252.442.1951.

Rocky Mount Downtown Live! (May 17 @ 6-8:30pm)
Summer Music Series featuring THE TAMS. Free Outdoor Concerts On the Lawn at the Imperial Centre. Some seating available Lawn chairs or blankets welcome. Food & beverage vendors on site. No coolers allowed Rain or Shine! Imperial Centre for the Arts & Sciences, 270 Gay Street, Rocky Mount NC
Visit www.imperialcentre.org.

*** Wendell ***
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 the program. Everyone invited. Boulevard Pizza, 2925 Wendell Blvd., Wendell
For more information, call: 365-5206.

Pet Day (April 28)
Activities include 1.5 mile and 5K walk-run, agility demo, live adoption, and much more.
For more info, visit www.wendellchamber.com
First Friday Jazz (May 4)
Live music, food, and much more.
The Kila Company, 28 N. Main Street, Wendell
For more information, call 919.365.5003.

*** 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.

Downtown Farmer's Market (April 25@ 8am-1pm)
207 W. Green Street (grass lot), Wilson NC.
From www.wilsonnc.org: “Featuring local, seasonally grown fresh produce, fresh baked goods, canned items, fresh cut flowers, homemade ice creams, crafts, etc., and activities for the kids!”

*** Zebulon ***
Carolina Mudcats (Home Games April 19-26)
Baseball, hot dogs, soda, and sunshine can make for a great family outing. When you tire of listening to the games on udcatsradio.com, load up your crew and get them to the stadium for a real American night out. Five County Stadium, Zebulon, NC
Visit www.gomudcats.com for tickets.

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

Festival on the Lawn (April 28 @ 10am-4pm)
Festival by the Town of Zebulon. Town Municipal Complex, 1003 Arendell Ave., Zebulon

*** 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.

Grow your own Cash Crop: Tobacco & Cotton (April 21 @ 10am-3pm)
The Tobacco Farm Life Museum presents the “Stepping Into The Past” series. Demonstrations with museum admission. 709 North Church Street, Hwy 301, Kenly
Info 919.284.3431 or www.tobaccofarmlifemuseum.org.

4th Annual Antique Farm Show (April 19-22)
Antique tractors, trucks, gas engines, heavy equipment, & other farm equipment. The Rocky Cross Band Saturday. Old Time Church service Sunday. Free kids’ activities. Norris Creek, 751 Old Halifax Road, Louisburg
More info at www.norriscreek.com.

Adopt-A-Thon (April 21 @ 10am-2pm)
Adoption fees waived this day! Hot dogs & refreshments. Win a trailer! Held at the Franklin Cty Animal Control Shelter, 351 T. Kept Road, Louisburg
For details, call 919.496.3032.

Beach Music & BBQ Festival (April 21 @ 12-8pm)
Several bands, cornhole tournament, NC BBQ & More. Food vendors, beer & wine. Fee to enter cornhole tourney. Edgecombe Comm. College, 2009 W. Wilson St., Tarboro
For info, 252.823.5166 x.217 or x212.

2012 Spring Garden Symposium (May 10 @ 8:30am-5pm)
Native plants, trees, and shrubs of Old Salem. Humorous expert on edible gardening. \$40-60 for lecture(s). Benefits Blount-Bridgers grounds. Calvary Episcopal Church, 411 E. Church St., Tarboro
For tickets, call Candis Owens at 252.823.5770.

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

Events Repeating Every Week
Bunn
Monday: 3pm Stories & More, Bunn Branch Library
Sunday: 4pm Higher Ground Fellowship, 20 Cheves
Knightdale
Wednesday: Yoga, Knightdale Swim Club Clubhse.
Nashville
Monday: 10:30am Storytime, Cooley Library
Rocky Mount
Sunday: Fun Day, Children's Museum & Science Ctr
Thursday: Live Music, Westridge Grill
Wendell
Tuesday: 6pm Zumba, Wendell Community Center
Friday: 10am Bingo, Eastern Wake Senior Center
Wilson
Thursday: 4pm Movie, Reid Street Comm. Center
Zebulon
Monday: 7:30pm Trivia Night, Pizza Villa
Friday: Karaoke Night, McLean’s Ole Time Cafe
Call 919.623.9392 to add your ongoing event.

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What Makes The Prom Special?

It is that time of year again! Spring has sprung, and young adults are preparing for one of the big events of their high school years: Prom!

Proms can be expensive, intense events. Prom night has become big business, with students making big plans: transportation, attire, appearance, and after-prom activities.

Transportation choices range from an intimate yet elegant vehicle for a couple, to massive stretch limousines for a group, to elaborate party buses.

For young men, tuxedos are often rented. Their attire may be selected to complement a date’s gown and be just as formal as she will be. Then comes selection of the corsage! If taking a date, then the flowers must be selected appropriately for the woman and what she is wearing.

Some young women feel that what they wear will be crucial to their enjoyment of the evening and to the memories they will have. With such an emotional investment in “the big night”, some families make sacrifices to get just the perfect gown for the evening. The prom dresses may be second hand or vintage, off-the-rack, or even custom made — sometimes ranging into the thousands of dollars. Then come the shoes. And the accessories.

Haircuts, nails, and shaving (or not) round out the total look for the prom. Salons book prom appointments sometimes weeks in advance, with dance-goers wishing to get their hair perfect for the evening. While some hair-dos may be done a day or two in advance, often ladies hit the salon prom morning to ensure hair, nails, and skin are the best they can be.

Prom photos follow; records of the event and the youth, beauty, and companionship to be looked back upon and cherished for a lifetime. Looking to family members, one would likely easily locate a relative with their own prom photos stored lovingly away.

The prom itself provides a time of pomp and circumstance, socializing and dancing, yet is just one stop in a usually full schedule. Couples and groups might plan for dinner, an after-party, even breakfast the next morning before returning home. Parents often get involved with the festivities as well as acting as chaperones for different parts of the evening-into-day.

Whether investing a little or a lot, prom is made into a big deal — an important moment in a young person’s life. As local high school students head out this year, local business benefit, families celebrate, and hopefully great memories are formed as a special and safe time is had by all!

News From The Grey Area

This issue includes several prom-related articles alongside local businesses offering prom services. This issue also looks at the Wilson tornado, one year later. Things To Do include some Spring events in April, as well as some coming up in May so readers may plan ahead.

If you know of a local happening, please email us before the end of April at kayw@greyareanews.com. We’ll do our best to get the word out!

The coming issue will look at Earth Day, golf facilities in the area, baseball season, and Cinco de Mayo.

Before that issue arrives, visit our Facebook page (the code at right may help you find us) to see more events and news from the Five County Area. Share your own prom photos on our Facebook page after the big event!



Prom Night Back in the Day

Your great-grandparents’ prom was a much less grand event. Prom a few generations ago was simply an event held for seniors before they headed out into the world.



Young men and women still dressed up to look good for the day. Young women looked forward to being asked out on this special date. Yet the prom served more as a celebration of the end of school. It was a social evening, perhaps with a banquet, held in the school, and students headed home afterward.

As you anxiously prepare for your prom, take a moment to ask family members who are, ahem, a bit older what their proms were like. You might be surprised to hear how their proms were planned, and the memories they carry with them to this day.

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

Your neighborhood gets together for a barbecue. New neighbors have moved in, and since the weather is good you all get together. Everyone moves freely across several connected backyards where grills are going, making lunch for everyone to share.

As you get to know the new neighbors and chat with the old, you notice your youngest child is getting a little unruly. At first, he’s just tossing some rocks and being a little annoying. Your spouse talks with the child and he stomps off to the next year.

As you head toward the yard — ready to grab one of the burgers being served — you see that your son is now stomping through the neighbor’s flower bed. A determined look on his face, you can tell that he is aiming his feet to land on their plants and deliberately damage them.

Looking around, you can tell that no one has noticed him so far; but every minute he is doing more damage and he could be spotted soon.

Do you think that you should take your child home immediately, or would you remove him from the flower bed and stay? Would you feel comfortable staying to eat your burger? If no one saw, and you felt you could get away with your son being fingered as the culprit, would you keep silent? Do you think you would be more likely to say nothing, or arrange to replace them?



Alternatively, what if it was someone else’s child behaving this badly? Do you think you would react differently?

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The Grey Area™
The Backside



Little Bits

Word of the Issue

Barbecue
Definition: Method, or equipment, for cooking meats with heat and hot smoke. Usually cooking is done with charcoal or wood. Barbecue is usually a slower way of cooking over heat than grilling is, and it may take several hours to properly cook and flavor the meat.
Example: "He liked to barbecue in the backyard on sunny days."
"The barbecue was delicious!"

Translation of the Issue

English — "Sun"
German — Sonne Spanish — Sol
Latin — Sol Italian — Sole
Irish — Ghrian Tsalagi (Cherokee) — ᏌᏉᏍᏔᏅ, "Nv-Da" (sun or moon)

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

Nina's Wing Corner

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Quote of the Issue

Native American Proverb
"Treat the earth well. It was not given to you by your parents, it was loaned to you by your children."

Chuckle of the Issue

One Day the Devil challenged the Lord to a baseball game.

Smiling the Lord proclaimed, "You don't have a chance, I have Babe Ruth, Mickey Mantle, and all the greatest players up here".

"Yes", snickered the devil, "but I have all the umpires."

Cryptogram of the Issue

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

— — — — —
O M Z J S V J X P X J J X L R

— — — — —
B L Z G M O L P R V P P Z E X L

— — — — —
V G X L O T V N X T V W R X O

— — — — —
A Z W P I U J M Z J Z J S X

— — — — —
H L Z G A O J S J S X G

-- — — — —
I V E Q D Z U X R

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

While you are
proclaiming peace with
your lips, be careful
to have it even more
fully in your heart.
-- Francis of Assisi

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