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## "I'M FREE—Take Me With You!"

**Volume 2, Number 17B** August 15, 2012

### Commissioner's Food Safety Forum will Focus on New **Federal Produce-Safety Rules**

Press Release by Brian Long, Director, NCDA&CS Public Affairs

New federal rules governing produce safety will be among the topics at the eighth annual Commissioner's Food Safety Forum on Tuesday, August 28th.

Agriculture Commissioner Steve Troxler will host the event from 9am to 12:30pm in the Expo Center at the State Fairgrounds. The event is open to farmers, food businesses, regulators, health professionals and others with an interest in food safety. Admission is free, and lunch will be provided.

"With passage of the federal Food Safety Modernization Act, producers and growers are anticipating the impending release of major rules and regulations regarding preventive measures and produce safety," Troxler said. "Our agenda will focus on these rules in an effort to help prepare the industry for the changes."

Keynote speakers will be Leanne Skelton, senior policy analyst with the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, and Dr. Liz Wagstrom, chief veterinarian for the National Pork Producers Council. Skelton's presentation will focus on the new federal produce rules and the protective measures required by them. Wagstrom will speak about food safety issues in the meat industry.



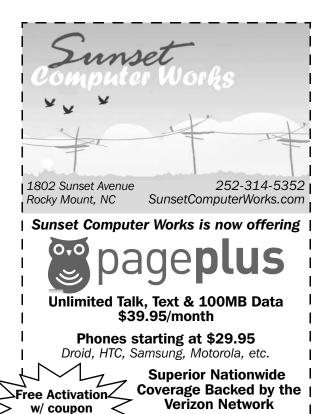
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Thomas Mack of Dole Food Co. and Bob Reinhard of the Hillshire Brands Co. will provide food-industry perspectives about the rules. And Ben Chapman, a food safety specialist at NC State University, will talk about food safety training for farmers markets. Troxler also will speak at the forum.

Admission to the forum is free. Registration is encouraged. To register, go online to www.ncagr.gov/ncfoodsafetyforum or contact Chrissy Waggett at 919.707.3008 by Friday, August 24th.

## **UFO Sightings Increase in NC**

Contributed by Israel Curiel, MUFON NC Public Relations Director

MUFON has received larger and larger numbers of sighting reports over the last 18 months. North Carolina has also seen a large increase in sighting. It is unclear exactly why we are receiving more reports. It could be the increased attention NASA has received in the public eye. It could be the increased name recognition that MUFON has receive because of the media attention. Some speculate that because Hollywood has focused so much on aliens, people are more likely to look skywards. No one knows for sure.

I have been an investigator for MUFON since May of 2011 and I can tell you that many North Carolinians are seeing things that defy conventional wisdom. People often ask me if there are hotspots in North Carolina. I answer by saying that we do receive a large number of reports in Wilmington, Asheville, Fayetteville and Charlotte. But I also have to say that I don't believe UFOs are only in those cities. I just think these cities have more people willing to report their sightings. If you want to see a UFO, all you have to do is look up all the time. If you are truly interested in having a sighting please visit www.MUFON-NC.com and look for the next Skywatch function. We would love for you to join us. You can learn some great photography techniques from the NC Investigators.

### **Opportunity to Learn** How to Watch the Skies

The North Carolina chapter of Mutual UFO Network (MUFON) is holding its big Skywatch meeting in Wilmington, providing an opportunity for all to learn more about NC UFO

The event begins September 15th with a meeting, followed by a dinner and evening skywatching. According to Israel Curiel, they chose the city of Wilmington because of the high number of Sightings reported both in the city and other areas of New Hanover County.

Join the group for a Skywatch event in the evening following the meeting. Due to recent activity, the organizers are very hopeful that they will see something in the Wilmington sky!

The speaker at this meeting is ZSun-nee Matema. She comes from the Maryland MUFON Chapter. A \$5 donation is requested from each person attending this meeting. The fees collected go to cover travel expenses for the speaker.

The day's agenda is as follows:

- 1-4:30pm: Meeting at Northeast Regional Library (1241 Military Cutoff Road, Wilmington NC)
- 5:30-7:30pm: Dinner at South Beach Grill (100 South Lumina Avenue, Wrightsville Beach NC)
- 8pm-Until: Skywatch (209 Waynick Blvd, Wrightsville Beach NC)

To register or for further details, visit www.mufon-nc.com.

## Placing of Historical Markers

The North Carolina Highway Historical Marker Advisory Committee meets twice each year, to review applications and make decisions on placement of new historical markers.

One marker placed this year in the area commemorates Thelonious Monk. Located by the Booker T Theater in Rocky Mount, the marker is about 1 mile South of Mr. Monk's birthplace. Known as marker "E-119", it may be viewed downtown — and online on the historical marker website: www.ncmarkers.com.

The website also provides an interactive map, allowing searchers to locate markers in their immediate area.

No future dedications are yet listed on the site, but as they are scheduled, the public is welcomed to attend marker unveilings. Applications may also be submitted for review.



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# Things to Do in NC When You're Bored

These "things to do..." listings are free, at publisher's discretion, and as space allows. Up to 2 lines of description may be included with an event. Priority is given to free public events. Sponsor names may not be included. Event organizers may purchase regular advertising spaces if they wish to provide more details for upcoming events.

### \* Nashville \*

## Artist Reception (September 8 @ 2-4pm)

Come by the reception; call for artist information. Nash Arts Center, 100 East Washington Street, Nashville Contact 252-459-4734.

### \* Rocky Mount \*

### Back to School Crafts (August 16 @ 2-4pm)

Teens ages 13-18, come make cool crafts to make your locker rock! At the Braswell Memorial Library. Warner Meeting Room, 727 N. Grace St., Rocky Mount Contact Leslie Schultz at (252) 442-1951 ext. 257

### Let's Talk About It

(August 16, & 30, Sept. 13 & 27 @ 6-7:30pm)

Five part series of the North Carolina Humanities' Let's Talk About It series at Braswell Memorial Library. For adults. Time's Witness (August 16th), Devil in a Blue Dress (August 30th), The Last Child (September 27th), & Burn Marks (September 13th).

Warner Room, 727 North Grace St, Rocky Mount Contact Brenda Thibodeau at 252.442.1951.

## Summer Music on the Patio (August 16, 18 & 23 @ 7pm)

Live music, food, & fun. August 16th is *B n B*, August 18th is *Monkeyfoot*, & August 23rd is *Mark n John Bunn*Westridge Grill, 3639 Sunset Avenue, Rocky Mount
Call 252.937.7299 for information.

## Rocky Mount's Lawn Chair Theatre (August 17 @ 6pm; movie at sundown)

Free movie on the lawn featuring Michael Jackson's *This Is It*. Imperial Centre, 270 Gay Street, Rocky Mount Call 252.972.1266 for movie details.

### Chere the R.E.A. D. Dog (August 18, Sept. 1 & 15 @ 11am-12pm)

Program held the 1st and 3rd Saturday of each month. Reading Education Assistance Dogs are part of a program of Intermountain Therapy Animals. For children at Braswell Memorial Library.

YS Storytime Room, 727 North Grace St, Rocky Mount Contact Linda Bunch at 252-442-1951, ext. 244

## Downtown Live! Summer Music Series (August 23 @ 6-8:30pm)

Free concerts on the lawn. Summer Music Series features *Billy Scott And The Party Prophets*.

The Imperial Centre Lawn, 270 Gay Street, Rocky Mount Visit www.imperialcentre.org.

#### God Belongs In My City-Rocky Mount (August 25 @ 10am)

Prayerwalk through Rocky Mount.

Details at www.godbelongsinmycity.com/rockymount

## "Walking Across Egypt" Book Discussion" (September 6 & 25 @ 6-7:30pm)

Tar River Reads is a community wide reading program for adults. The chosen title this year is *Walking Across Egypt* by Clyde Edgerton. The book discussions are led by Professor Vivienne Anderson at Braswell Memorial Library.

727 N Grace Street, Rocky Mount Contact Linda Bunch at 252.442.1951.

### \* Wilson \*

## Summer Kids Movie Series (August 16 & 23 @ 10am)

Children's \$2 matinee. Enjoy movies during summer break. Includes popcorn & drink. *Monsters vs. Aliens* August 16th, *Megamind* August 23rd.

Carmike 10, 1501 Ward Boulevard, Wilson

## Hackney Library Open House (August 21 @ 4-7pm)

Come check out the library!

Hackney Library, Barton College, Wilson For details, 252.399.6501 or gwloveland@barton.edu.

## Movie: "Pirates of the Caribbean" (August 24 @8:30pm)

Free Outdoor Movie beginning at sunset. Popcorn & drinks for sale, proceeds benefit Wilson Police Athletic League. Paul V. Berry Hickory Grove Park, 200 Kenan St., Wilson

### Downtown Alive (September 5 @ 6-8:30pm)

The Craig Woolard Band performs. Parking is available across Tarboro Street in a city lot. Free concert open to the public. Bring chairs or blankets, but please no coolers or pets. 210 South Tarboro Street, Wilson

## 1st Fridays on the Lawn (September 7@ 6pm-9pm; lawn open 5pm)

Come enjoy diversity through music. Live bands, children's zone, vendor books, & more. Bring your lawn chairs, blankets & picnic basket; no pets.

Wilson County Public Library Lawn, 249 W Nash, Wilson

### \* Elsewhere \*

## Yard Sale & Hot Dog Cookout (August 18 @ 11am - until)

Come check out the yard sale, have a hot dog, & enjoy the day Pierce's Corner Closet, 200 North Arendell Avenue, Zebulon For more info, call 919.523.3680.

## Stepping Into the Past Series (August 18, & 25 @ 10am-3pm)

Event with museum admission.

August 18th "A Sweet Treat" Watermelons August 25th "Good Ole Tobacco Chants" Warehouse Auctioneers

709 North Church Street, Hwy 301, Kenly Info 919.284.3431 or

www.tobaccofarmlifemuseum.org.

## Brown Bag Lunch Ministry (August 18 & 25 @ 10:30am)

Distribution of brown bag lunches to needy. Personal hygiene items too.
Zebulon United Methodist Church
Gannon Ave & N. Church St., Zebulon
www.zumchurch.org.

### **Events Repeating Every Week**

### Sunday

1-5pm, City Residents Free, Children's Museum, Rocky Mt 4pm, Higher Ground Fellowship, 20 Cheves Rd, Bunn

10:30am Storytime, Cooley Library, Nashville

7:30pm, Trivia Night, Pizza Villa, Zebulon

3pm Stories & More, Bunn Branch Library, Bunn 6:30pm, Zumba, Imperial Centre, Rocky Mount

### Tuesday

6pm, Zumba, Wendell Community Center, Wendell 6-7pm, Step It Off, Washington Community Center, RMt 7-10am, Tarboro-Edgecombe Farmers Market, Tarboro

### wednesday

8am-1pm, Historic Downtown Farmers Market, Wilson 8am-1pm, Rocky Mount Farmers Market, Rocky Mount 3-5:30pm, Produce & Play (farm market), Rocky Mount 6:30pm, Zumba, Imperial Centre, Rocky Mount 7-9pm, Bike Night w/ DJ Erma, Carolina Billiards, Wilson

### Thursday

4pm Movie, Reid Street Comm. Center, Wilson Live Music, Westridge Grill, Rocky Mount 5-8pm, Market in the Park, Harper Park, Knightdale 6-7pm, Step It Off, Washington Community Center, RMt

### Friday

10am Bingo, Eastern Wake Senior Center, Wendell 9:30pm, Karaoke Night, McLean's Ole Time Cafe, Zebulon 7-10am, Tarboro-Edgecombe Farmers Market, Tarboro

### Saturday

7:30am-12pm, Cty Fairgrounds Farmers Market, Wilson 8-11am, Tarboro-Edgecombe Farmers Market, Tarboro 8am-12pm Yard Sale, Common Grounds Coffee, Bunn 8am-1pm, Farmers Market, Rocky Mount 9am-1pm, Farmers Market, Wendell 9:30am, Zumba, Imperial Centre, Rocky Mount

9:30pm, Live Music, McLean's Ole Time Cafe, Zebulon *Call 919.623.9392 to add your ongoing event.* 

# SINCE 1926 Diner HOURS Sunday—Thursday I I am to 8:30pm Friday & Saturday I I am to 9pm (252) 991-4946 Raleigh Road Parkway Wilson NC (4916 Hayes Place)

## Brown Bag Lunch Ministry (August 18 & 25 @ 9:30am)

St. Eugene Catholic Church distributes brown bag lunches to those in need. Personal hygiene items for needy families. St. Eugene, 608 Lions Club Road, Wendell More info at www.steugeneparish.org.

## Winterville Watermelon Festival (August 23-25)

Watermelon, vendors, music, contests & more. Winterville Recreation Park, Winterville NC For info, 252.756.1068 or www.watermelonfest.com

## Spring Hope Fireman's Day (August 26 @ 2-5pm)

East Coast Rhythm & Blues Band will perform along with other activities.

Downtown, Spring Hope NC

## Citizens Appreciation Day (August 31 @ 7:15pm)

The Town of Zebulon is holding this special day during the Mudcats game. Fireworks after the ball game. Five County Stadium, 1501 NC-231, Zebulon

## Black Creek Heritage Day Festival (October 13 @ 9am-4:30pm)

Car & tractor show, vendors, food, children's activities, raffles, live entertainment & much more. (Pre-festival Street Dance October 12th, 6:30-9pm.)

West Center Street, Black Creek NC Contact Ellen E. Dawson-Chairperson at 252.243.3540.

## The Raleigh Classic (November 30-December 1)

Zebulon-based Auctions America is holding the next Raleigh Classic event. In Jim Graham & Exposition bldgs. North Carolina State Fairgrounds, Raleigh For more information, contact 919.269.5271.

## Black Creek Heritage Day Festival

October 13, 2012 • 9:00am - 4:30pm West Center Street, Black Creek NC

Breakfast • Craft, Art & Food Vendors • Childrens Court (lots of fun) • Tazz Band, The Rocky Cross Band, etc. • \$100.00 Gas Card Raffle • Sons of Confederates Set-up and Display • Car and Tractor Show • many more activities for the entire family

For More Information or to Become a Vendor, Contact Ellen E. Dawson - Chairperson 252-243-3540 • edawson59@centurylink.net

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## **Shades of Grey**

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 Discussion & Consideration**

It's a beautiful Summer day, and your children are playing with a group of neighborhood children. As they play, you and several other parents are sitting nearby, watching the kids and enjoying the breeze.

One neighbor has two mixed-breed dogs out in their yard, and they are barking at the children. You're not worried, because they are friendly, though loud, and are inside a chain link fence.

A man who lives down the road comes walking by with his dog. It is a big, friendly collie. The man is friendly too, though not well known by you and your neighbors.

As he is walking past the chain link fence, his dog jumps against the gate, barking at the dogs inside. His dog hits the latch, and the gate opens. All the dogs run together and begin fighting.

The man with the collie pulls his dog away. The other dogs' owner runs from his house and grabs his dogs. Within moments, they are locked back inside the gate. With the excitement over, everyone goes their own way.

A few weeks later, you learn from a neighbor that the collie owner is suing the owner of the two dogs. He is claiming his collie required thousands of dollars of veterinary care after the neighbors "dogs were roaming free".

You know he is lying, as you saw his collie knock open the gate. What do you think of this man suing your neighbor? Would you consider being a witness for him, or would you stay out of it? How do you think you'd feel about either dog owner afterward?

# Carmike 10-Wilson Movie Review of the Issue

By Kay Whatley, Editor

The movie review this issue is *Hope Springs*, starring Meryl Streep, Tommy Lee Jones, and Steve Carell. The Director, David Frankel, also directed *The Devil Wears Prada*.

Streep and Jones play a couple married for 31 years, with a set daily routine — which Streep decides is more of a rut. They go to see Carell, who plays a marriage counselor.

This film has its funny moments. At times, many in the audience were laughing together. Don't look for Steve Carell to be the funny man; he plays a more serious character than he normally does. Streep and Jones interact well, and face pitfalls as they sort out their lives together.

Although our family usually reviews movies together, for this one the kids did not come along — and I'm glad that they did not. The sexual innuendo is very strong, and I couldn't suggest anyone watch it with their children, even if the "children" are grown and married themselves. This movie, I think I'd be more comfortable watching with my husband rather than any other family members.

If you like movies oriented toward couples, especially if you've been with your partner for a long time, you may enjoy the humor in this film. With the actors involved, I did expect a lot more laughter than I got.

# Preparing for the New School Year

Back to school day, August 27th, is almost here for traditional-schedule schools in the area. As most school districts prepare for the students' return, parents and their children are scrambling to get ready. Local families are shopping for school supplies, buying clothes, finding sports and band equipment, and preparing for family schedule changes.

Schools make lists of class supplies available in advance so that parents may get most of what the kids need. Still, when school begins, some teachers will give out lists of additional supply needs. As many parents know, the shopping starts in August but carries over into September. It can be expensive.

Watching for sales and specials may save some cost. The time, stress, and effort can fray nerves of all ages!

Families with discretionary funds may help other families through the preparations by buying a few extra supplies and donating them to one of the local agencies that distributes free backpacks and supplies.

For teachers, have patience with kids who come to class without all their supplies. Many parents have limited means and need extra time to purchase all the supplies. The kids may need a little longer to fulfill the sometimes lengthy class supply lists.

To avoid buying more than your child needs, or missing important items, check the school's website. Try to find the school's official list. As a backup plan, some office supply and other stores offer copies of school lists on site.

### **Area School Websites**

Franklin County Schools: www.fcschools.net Wilson County Schools: www.wilsonschoolsnc.net Nash-Rocky Mount Public Schools: www.nrms.k12.nc.us Edgecombe County Public Schools: www.ecps.us Wake County Public Schools: www.wcpss.net Johnston County Schools: www.johnston.k12.nc.us

### Wilson County Back-To-School Fairs

A reminder that, as mentioned in the previous issue of *The Grey Area*, August 18th there is a Back-to-School Fair at Jones Elementary School. The fair runs from 9am to noon. This event is also offering pick-up of donated backpacks for families in need.

Also, the Back 2 School Summit is August 18th at the Wilson Mall (1501 Ward Blvd) from 12-4pm. This event is for kids of all ages. There will be entertainment, speakers, and games. School supplies are being given away. Admission to this event is free

## News from *The Grey Area*This August 15th issue contains back-to-school articles,

This August 15th issue contains back-to-school articles local news, and more than our normal dose of UFO news.

Both August issues cover end-of-summer activities and back-to-school shopping. In September, issues cover Labor Day activities, Fall planning, and the changing of sports seasons.

The Grey Area events & business information are localized in each Edition of the newspaper. Edition A covers Bunn, Knightdale, Wendell & Zebulon. Edition B covers Nashville, Rocky Mount, & Wilson.

If you'd like coverage of your area, or have an article idea, feel free to email suggestions to kayw@greyareanews.com. Submissions and suggestions welcomed. Advertisers call 919.637.6973 for scheduling.

Before the next issue, visit our Facebook page (the code below can help) to see more events and news. Prior issues may be read online in our Archive at www.greyareanews.com.









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The Backside



## **Little Bits**

### Word of the Issue

semester

**Definition:** Half of a school/academic year. (Some schools offer more

than 2 semesters in a year.)

**Example:** "The local college students are preparing for the Fall semester."

### Translation of the Issue

English — "pencil"

Swedish — blyertspenna

German — bleistift Spanish — lápiz Italian — matita, lapis Danish — blyant Irish — peann luaidhe (pen lead Dutch — potlood Latin — penicillo (brush)

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

### Quote of the Issue

Abraham Lincoln

"The philosophy of the school room in one generation will be the philosophy of government in the next."

### Chuckle of the Issue

The old pastor made it to a practice to visit the parish school one day a

One week, he walked into the 4th grade class. The children were studying the US states. "How many states can you name?" he quizzed of the class.

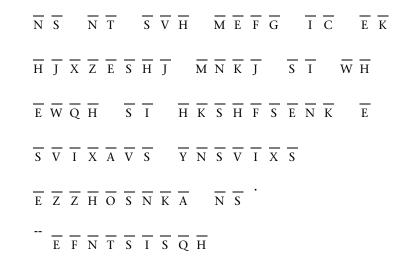
All together, they came up with about 40 names.

He laughed, and told them that in his day students knew the names of all

One young boy piped up, "Yes, but in those days there were only 13."

## Cryptogram of the Issue

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



Answer to the previous issue's cryptogram:

Don't Ever Take A Fence Down Until You Know Why It Was Put Up. -- Robert Frost

## Something to Clip for Your 'Fridge

## Back To School

By Anon E Mouse

The school year starts so soon now And days of resting wane No more daydreams on the porch It's back to work my brain.

Mom is in the garden Planting lettuce, turnip, kale The days are slightly shorter now As I coast on summer's tail.

Iced tea and watching sunsets Sleeping late and playing ball Will now move to the weekend Week days I'll read and scrawl.

I'm counting down the days now Until the bus arrives To take me to my teachers And summer waves good-bye.

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