

The Grey Area™

Local and National Unusual News

Nashville, Rocky Mount & Wilson NC Edition – 919.623.9392

Also check out our Edition for
Bunn, Knightdale, Wendell, & Zebulon NC

“I’M FREE—Take Me With You!”

**Volume 2, Number 24B
December 1–14, 2012**

Aftermath of Sandy Reached Eastern NC

People across the nation are sending their help and hopes to coastal victims of Hurricane Sandy. The Hurricane caused damage along the NC coast before severely impacting New York and New Jersey.

Though Eastern NC mostly escaped the hurricane’s destruction, local businesses were feeling after effects through November. Products and supplies needed by businesses in Knightdale, Wilson, and other areas were held up by the interruptions in shipping and trucking from hurricane impacted areas.

As things get closer to normal along the coast, delays in supplies should go away. Small shops have weathered this storm after the storm, and hopefully are filling their shelves and receiving needed supplies more regularly again.

The Good News...Bunn Planned Improvements

Guests at the Town Council meeting will know that some changes are coming to Bunn in the coming months.

With the waste water treatment plant running at 80% capacity, that capacity is being expanded by building of a 2nd waste water treatment plant. The Town secured a grant to help with related costs. The new plant will be set up near the correctional center and solar farm along Highway 39.

For pedestrian traffic, planned sidewalks should make the walk from Bunn high school to town easier going. Sidewalks will also be added from Bunn Manor to the intersection at Route 98, making it easier for Manor residents to walk or roll into town.

The Strange-ness

Multiple “red rains” have fallen on India since summertime. As recently as mid-November, these colored rains were still being reported. Residents in several cities in India have reported red rain and their concerns as to what may be causing the phenomenon — and whether the rainfall is safe. Some gathered samples to show and to send for testing. When gathered, rainwater looks like blood, often red, though browns and other colors have been recorded.

Colored rains are more frequent than one might think! Colored rain has been recorded throughout history and recorded in literature. Red rain has fallen in India, Sri Lanka, the UK, and other parts of the world many times over the past 100 years or so.

Scientific testing has helped analyze rains of more recent decades, removing some of the fear and superstition these rains brought throughout history. Scientific explanations vary from desert sand to red spores and algae blowing up and mixing with the rainfall. Yellow rains have been attributed to honeybees on several occasions.

The Bad News...Passing of Musician Billy Scott

Vocalist Billy Scott, most recently of Billy Scott & The Party Prophets, passed away Saturday, November 17th.

According to his band, Mr. Scott was battling pancreatic cancer from his Charlotte-area home. His band is currently holding several fundraisers to assist Scott’s wife, Gail, with related medical expenses.

Scott was inducted into the NC Music Hall of Fame in 1999, and was known for R&B and Beach music. More information on his music, history, and legacy may be found online at www.theprophets.com.

New Theater Group Casting in Rocky Mount

Press Release by Charles Grimes

The NCCU Alumni, BYW High School Alumni, Happy Hill Home Owners Association, and *No More Rocky Road* Home for Homeless Veterans are sponsoring a Black History Month double-stage production of plays written by two black female star playwrights: Romona King’s *Steal Away* and P. J. Gibson’s *My Destiny’s Daughter* and/or *My Mark, My Name*.

NCCU Alum Charles Grimes will coordinate, as Director, and will hold try-outs and readings December 10th and 11th. Casting to be on December 14th. Rehearsals to begin on December 17th, at 1210 Sunset Avenue, Rocky Mount NC.

NEEDED: 7 women for *Steal Away* and various men and women for the P. J. Gibson plays. Interested performers, express your desire to join and make an appointment by calling 252.451.9457. Rehearsal transportation will be paid.

Other cast and volunteers will be needed: costume, stage manager, set construction, advertisement, chair person, and extras. Please come join us fr this new neighborhood Theater Group inception — fun for the whole family!

News from *The Grey Area*

This December 1st issue takes a close look at one of the Eastern NC towns: Wendell. As we finish the year and move into 2013, more articles on Eastern NC cities and towns will follow. This series of articles will be in addition to our regular articles, events lists, and segments on “persons, places, and things” — which cover Local Heroes, Historic Locations, and local attractions.

As with the November issues, the list of things to do includes holiday and seasonal events alongside the normal events for family fun or learning opportunities. This month’s movie review is for a different movie than expected. We hope you will enjoy the movie we reviewed.

The Grey Area is currently published in two Editions. Edition A is distributed in Bunn, Knightdale, Wendell & Zebulon. Edition B is distributed in Nashville, Rocky Mount, & Wilson. News, events, and business advertisements are localized for each Edition’s readership.

To advertise, call 919.623.9392. Issues of *The Grey Area* come out for the 1st and 15th of each month. Before the next issue, visit our Facebook page to see more events and news. Prior newspaper issues may be read in our Archives online at www.greyareanews.com.

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Things to Do in NC
When You’re Bored

* Nashville *

**Nashville's Christmas Parade & Celebration
(December 1 @ 3:45pm)**
Check out this parade of local residents on all types of vehicles. Prizes awarded to most spirited entries. Santa too! Downtown, Nashville
Volunteers are needed. Contact Renee Davis at 252.459.7181 and/or meet on courthouse steps @ 2:30pm before the parade.

**Open House in Downtown
(December 2 @ 1-4pm)**
Hosted by the downtown merchants. Door prize drawings. Plus, rumor has it that Santa will visit downtown and be at the Nashville Exchange. Come out & support the downtown businesses. Shop local!
Downtown, Nashville

Story Time (December 3 & 10 @ 10:30-11am)
Fun for the kids Monday mornings at the library.
Harold D. Cooley Library, 114 W Church St., Nashville
More online at www2.youseemore.com/cooleylibrary

**Kids' Christmas Celebration
(December 17 @ 11am-12pm)**
Join us for our Kids' Christmas celebration, with story time and refreshments.
Harold D. Cooley Library, 114 W Church St., Nashville
More online at www2.youseemore.com/cooleylibrary

* Rocky Mount *

**Rocky Mount Christmas Parade
(December 2 @ 3pm)**
The 57th annual parade! US Marine Corps Reserve collecting toys for Toys For Tots — this year's parade theme. Downtown Rocky Mount
Call the Parks & Recreation Department at 252.972.1151.

**Senior Christmas Gala
(December 3 @ 11am)**
Enjoy an excellent lunch with entertainment. Special guest Scott Mason “The Tarheel Traveler” speaking, along with other special entertainment and door prizes. \$20 fee.; registration required.
Gateway Convention Ctr, 4401 Gateway Ctr, Rocky Mount
Contact Julie Smith at 252.972.1152.

**KinderScience Color Mixing
(December 4 @ 3-4pm)**
Introduce 3-5 yr olds to the wonders of science. Experiment with mixing the colors of the rainbow. \$8/city residents, \$12/ others. Registration & payment 2 days in advance; includes paid museum admission for KinderScientist & 1 adult. At Children's Museum & Science Center.
The Imperial Centre, 270 Gay Street, Rocky Mount
Contact 252.972.1167 or leigh.white@rockymountnc.gov.

**Live Music on Sunset & Christmas Bash
(Dec 6, 13, 20 & 27 @ 7pm & Dec 22 @ 9pm)**
Live music many Thursdays & Saturdays. Dec 6th-Bunn n Braxton, Dec 13th-Kevin Shaw, Dec 20th-Steven Stewart, & Dec 27th-Rob Alford
Also, Dec 22nd is the *Christmas Bash* w/ Monte Tippette. Westridge Grill, 3639 Sunset Avenue, Rocky Mount
Call 252.937.7299 for information.

**Free Small Business Seminar: QuickBooks
(December 7 @ 9am-4pm)**
Seminar teaches students how to get the most out of QuickBooks for their business. Learn basics to help better understand financial data. Topics include how to set up a business, create invoices, pay bills, reconcile bank accounts, & create reports. NCC Small Business Center free seminar. Held in the Business & Industry Center, Room 1213. Nash Comm College, 522 N Old Carriage Rd, Rocky Mount
To register or for more information, call 252.451.8233.

**Mr. & Mrs. Santa Claus
(December 11 @ 6-7pm)**
Enjoy listening to Santa and Mrs. Claus in a special reading of *The Night Before Christmas*. Santa available to listen to last minute requests. Ages 0-12. In the Warner Meeting Room.
Braswell Memorial Library, 727 N Grace St., Rocky Mount
Contact Linda L. Bunch at 252.442.1951 x.244

**Auditions - Peter Pan
(December 12-13 @ 7pm)**
Come out & audition for the children's classic, *Peter Pan*, a play by Sir James M. Barrie. All Ages.
The Theatre at the Imperial Centre, 270 Gay St., Rocky Mt.
Contact David Nields at 252.972.1156.

**Winter Wonderland
(December 16 @ 1-5pm)**
The magic of the season comes together in a day full of singing, Santa & holiday activities. It even snows — inside! All ages. Free.
The Imperial Centre, 270 Gay Street, Rocky Mount
Contact 252.972.1266.

**Pizza & Pages Teen Book Club
(December 20 @ 5:30-6:30pm)**
Join the group in the Wiley Conference Room.
Braswell Memorial Library, 727 N Grace St., Rocky Mount
To sign up contact Leslie 252.442.1951 x.257.

* Wilson *

**A Downtown Christmas
(December 1 @ 5pm-9pm; parade 4pm)**
Wilson Jaycee’s Christmas Parade starts the festivities at 4pm. After Santa rides by in the last float, he takes his place on the Wilson County Courthouse steps to listen to childrens’ wish lists. Carriage rides, carolers, movies, hot chocolate, popcorn, holiday shop sales & specials, plus Snowglobe Live.
Downtown, Wilson

**Movie Time
(December 7 & 14 @ 3-5pm)**
Fridays in the Large Game Room. Ages 5-15. No fee charged & popcorn provided. All movies rated *PG* or *G*.
Reid Street Community Center, 901 N Reid Street, Wilson
For more information, call 252.399.2277.

**Winter Recital
(December 13 @ 6pm)**
The Sallie B. Howard Winter Recital is open & free to the Wilson community. Please come early seats are limited. Sallie B Howard School, 1004 Herring Avenue E, Wilson
For more information, contact the school at 252.293.4150.

* Elsewhere *

**Stepping Into the Past Series
(December 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29 @ 10am-3pm)**
Event/workshop with museum admission.
Dec 1st “Tis’ the Season” Old Time crafts & gifts
Dec 8th “Wassailing” Holiday Music
Dec 15th “Health and Beauty” Soaps, Ointments & Herbs
Dec 22nd “Hand Dipped Art” Candle Making
Dec 29th “Hammering Out the Past” Blacksmiths
Tobacco Farm Life Museum, 709 N Church St/Hwy 301, Kenly
Info 919.284.3431 or www.tobaccofarmlifemuseum.org.

**Kenly Christmas Tree Lighting
(December 5 @ 5pm; lighting 7pm)**
Grand Marshal Reception & Christmas Tree Lighting
Historical Society Building & Grady Park, Kenly
Contact 919.284.5510.

**Kenly Christmas Parade
(December 6 @ 7pm)**
Annual parade organized with local Chamber of Commerce. Heritage Bank, Kenly
Contact 919.284.5510.

**Live Music in Spring Hope
(December 7 & 21 @ 7-10pm)**
Featuring Spook Joyner w/ Amanda on Vocals.
Showside Grill & Bakery, 102 N Pine Street, Spring Hope
More info at www.contagiousconfections.com.

**Christmas ~N~ Middlesex 2012
(December 8 @ 11:30am-5pm)**
Third annual celebration! Come out for a fun & exciting time. Hotdog social at 11:30am. Performances by community churches. Parade at 2pm. After the parade, the hotdog social continues along with local vendors.
Downtown, Middlesex
Call Cindy Ridgway at 919.675.9688 for info or to volunteer.

These “things to do...” listings are free, at publisher's discretion, and as space allows. Two 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. Call 919.623.9392 to add a free or low-fee event.

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Small Town, Big Holiday Revelry

By Frank & Kay Whatley

The Town of Wendell expects its nearly 6,000 town residents to be joined by thousands of visitors during December. With expansive lighting and decorative displays, Wendell’s holiday cheer offers delight for individuals, families and shoppers from miles around.

Incorporated in 1903, Wendell NC sits between Zebulon and Knightdale along Route 64/264. In a city like Wilson or Rocky Mount, residents and visitors can find all the goods and services they need. Wendell, despite being a small town, also offers a variety of shops and personal services to provide what local families need (or want). From the independent grocer to downtown shopping to personal services and fresh farm goods, there are many locally-owned businesses providing for the town.

Founded in the mid-1800s by a group of farmers, the Town of Wendell drew it’s name from Oliver *Wendell* Holmes. Early town structures stand to this day, with many of its old buildings in the National Register of Historic Places — including two designated historic areas.

The *Wendell Boulevard Historic District* is a multiple-block area of Wendell is on the National Register of Historic Places. A number of historic homes may be seen by walking the district, which covers portions of Wendell Boulevard, Mattox Street, Old Zebulon Road, Buffalo Street. and Main Street.

The *Wendell Commercial Historic District* is at the junction of Main Street and Third Street, and includes the old Bank of Wendell building currently occupied by Larry’s Tailor Shop.

More information about the architecture, origins and history of the Town of Wendell may be read online at www.WendellHistoricalSociety.com.

During 2012, several small businesses closed in Wendell, yet more have come and set up shop in downtown and along Wendell Boulevard. Speaking with one of the holiday organizers, she was pleased that this year more storefronts are full than during last year’s holiday season.

As the holidays approach, the storefronts are alive with holiday colors. The Wendell Chamber of Commerce, downtown organizers, and merchants have joined forces to show off Wendell’s spirit and make it a lively destination for holiday activities and shopping. Multiple shops offer antiques and unusual gifts. Is that special gift waiting on a shop shelf?

A large part of Wendell’s Christmas offering this year is the Lake Myra Christmas Light Show. This display joins the town’s planned visits by Santa and Mrs. Claus, the downtown Old Fashion Candy Store, Santa’s mail box, and Main Street displays, Lake Myra Christmas is the largest computerized display in North Carolina. It includes the tallest computer-control Christmas tree in the state of NC! At different times during the light show, visitors can see a magician or watch snow being made.

According to Producer, Don Williams, the main display is located at 210 East Fourth Street in Wendell. Two displays which will be lighted throughout December. Mr. Williams puts together the Lake Myra free 300,000 light display “because he loves Christmas.”

Even if not in a holiday mood, visitors may shop at the Wendell Farmers Market, walk through the Historic District, or enjoy the Town parks and their expansive open green spaces and wooded walks. Stop by and see this wonderful Eastern NC town with much to offer, made even more bright and colorful through December.

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

One beautiful December evening, you join a carload of friends and family on a drive to see Christmas displays. You drive through many neighborhoods and downtown. You even drive into the country to see a big display that is “locally famous” at a private home.

Everyone is having a nice time! Midway through, you stop for ice cream and then continue the drive.

As you pass along beautifully lit streets in a development, one of the children sitting in the back seat opens their window and throws out their ice cream cup. Neither of his parents say a thing, and his sister only says, “Roll up that window. I’m cold!”

How do you feel about this littering? Are you shocked, or not, at the parents not caring? Do you think the parents likely taught the behavior to the child? How do you think you would handle the situation?

Moving forward, do you think you would want to go on outings with this family again, or would break ties in case worse behavior might show itself later?

Carmike 10-Wilson Movie Review of the Issue

By Kay Whatley, Editor

For this issue, we reviewed *Red Dawn*, a remake of a 1984 movie about an enemy army attacking on American soil.

If you never saw the 1984 version, you’ll still be able to follow the action. And there is a lot of action! And explosions, combat situations, and fast moving scenes. And, if you liked the original movie, you might like this new one because of some of the similar dialog and characters, the “Wolverines” mantra, and young stars who have picked up the ball (or grenade) and run with it. Fans of the TV show “Drake And Josh” may recognize actor Josh Peck, who jumps into this big screen roll and seems to really shine as character Matt Eckert — a role played by Charlie Sheen in the 1984 film.

My husband and I thought it was ok. I think we both kept comparing it to the 1984 *Red Dawn*, which we both liked. Our preteen girl really liked the movie. In fact, as we left the theatre, she said, “That was the best movie I’ve ever seen.” Surprised us both, but her review may help you decide whether you take the youngsters in your life out to see this show.

Things We Did in NC When We Were Bored

By Frank Whatley, Sales Manager

A new restaurant opened its doors in Knightdale during November. November 23rd we stopped in for lunch while out working. We weren’t necessarily bored, but we were hungry!

The service and food were very good. My wife, who is crazy about hot sauce, loved that when she asked for hot sauce, the server offered “bottled or house made” sauces.

The lunch menu gave us many choices. We selected a variety: tacos, chimichangas, and chile relleno. The good sized portions arrived promptly with hot helpings of rice and beans. It was a good lunch! We both were full and happy. The server was very attentive and answered our (many) questions with a smile. This is a spot where we will be sure to eat again — maybe next time with the kids in tow.

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The Grey Area™
The Backside



Little Bits

Word of the Issue

conflagration

Definition: A large fire, possibly destructive to life or property.

Example: “We watched news coverage of the conflagration and knew the building was beyond saving.”

Translation of the Issue

English — “lunch”

German — mittagessen

Spanish — almuerzo

Italian — pranzo

Dutch — lunch

Danish — frokost

Irish — lón

Latin — prandium

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

“Anticipate the difficult by managing the easy.”

--*Lao Tzu*

Chuckle of the Issue

A father had three boys. One evening, they were playing cops and robbers in the back yard after dinner.

One of the boys “shot” his father and yelled, “Bang! You’re dead!” The father slumped to the ground and, when he didn’t get up right away, a neighbor ran over to see if he had been hurt in the fall.

When the neighbor bent over, the overworked father opened one eye and said, “Shh. Don’t give me away. It’s the only chance I’ve had to rest all day.”

Cryptogram of the Issue

Replace the letters in this Cryptogram with other letters to deduce the quote within the puzzle. This month, the name of the person quoted is listed, instead of you needing to solve for the name too. Hint: J = A.

T M J Y N A J N N K M T W J T
F L J T H J H B M Y F Z L A S P L
Z C A R P D J T L L R L M F L J
K J T F W E J Y J W L M Y X Z B M
E Z K U R D M Y
-- J S Y J E J K N Z T W R N T

Answer to the previous issue’s cryptogram:

*Life is really simple,
but we insist on
making it complicated.
-- Confucius*

Local Shop Holds Grand Opening

Amy’s Cellular Accessories and More has held its Grand Opening in Knightdale at 819 N. Smithfield Road. Their doors opened earlier this year.



Laura Franco & Amalda Abbott

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