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"I'M FREE—Take Me With You!"

Volume 2, Number 15 July 15, 2012

Tarboro Woman A Walking Miracle: Battling 12 Diseases

By Calvin Adkins, The Daily Southerner newspaper

In one of Mary Dupree's tote bags are 16 bottles of medicine. The Tarboro resident takes 14 pills in the morning and another 8 at night. She also takes an insulin shot every night and a B12 shot every other Saturday. At night she uses a machine to help her breath normally and get a restful sleep.

Inside her body is another machine that helps reduce the pain she struggles with daily.

All of the above are methods of treatment for the 12 diseases Dupree's body battles. As dreadful as it may sound, she somehow finds a reason to smile.

"I've been diagnosed with scleroderma, fibromyalgia, irritable bowl syndrome, anxiety vertigo, sleep apnea, Type 2 Diabetes, high blood pressure, COPD and asthma, B12 deficiency, hyperlipidemia and gastroesophageal reflux" she said. "My medicine bag is full. When I take my pills I say, 'God I'm taking them. Now you send them where you need them to go,' and he does. I put all my trust in God," she said with a smile. "I'm going to keep on fighting as long as I can."

"I have good days and I have bad days. When I have bad days I lay around until the good days come back around. When the good days come, I do as much as I can, because I know that bad days could be just around the corner."

Instead of throwing herself a pity party, Dupree is moving on with her life as much as her body will allow. The diseases became noticeable in 2000. Before then, she said she was a picture of perfect health. She worked for a living and raised two daughters. And then, without warning, Dupree's world was turned upside down on January 17, 2000.

"I didn't know what was wrong," she said. "My body turned hard. I was told that I died. To find out what was wrong with me I had to eat what they called a nuclear egg. It was like egg with a camera in it. It took pictures from the time I started eating until it went down in my stomach. It showed everything that what going on in my body. That's when they told me my body was raggedy inside."



said it seemed like every time she made a visit to the doctor, her disease. The oncehealthy most hospitals in the United

It was also when doctors told Dupree she had scleroderma and about five other diseases. From that point on, things began to roll downhill. She they would diagnose with another Dupree became a regular at the doctor's office and hospital. She was a patient at three of the prominent

States — Duke University Medical Center in Durham, UNC Health Care in Chapel Hill, and John Hopkins in Baltimore. So far, she has been through 18 surgeries. The most recent was on June 1st, when doctors placed a pain stimulator in her body to eliminate chronic pain.

"My doctors said they don't know how I'm still walking around, telling her 'You are a sick woman', she said, adding, 'But your face does not show how sick you are. You are always smiling.' That's what I do. I can't help it. Although I'm sick, I still have a reason to smile because I'm still

Perhaps Dupree's smile is one method of her fighting her diseases. She also abides by her doctor's orders and educates herself on each one of the diseases. She keeps records in a notebook including X-rays, charts, blood work and any pertinent documents to which she has access. So far, she has filled two large 2-ring binders and started a third one in June.

Another reason for keeping the records is for her daughters, Erica Dupree and Laronda Bryant. "I want them to have it just in case they or their children may have some of the symptoms of these diseases," she said. "Then, they can be better informed."

Dupree's daughters and her niece, Jada Battle, 9, are three reasons she keeps fighting for her health. Erica 23, is in nursing school while, Laronda 20, is attending Edgecombe Community College. Both are living at home with their

"All of my family has been supportive of me throughout my ordeal," Dupree said. "But it is Erica, Laronda, and Jada who really keep me going. When they tell me how much they love me, it makes me want to fight even harder. I'm going to enjoy every day of my life as much as I can."

The Good News... Brown Bag **Lunch Ministry**

Contributed by Cindy Privette, Zebulon UMC

"Making a difference one sandwich at a time". It's simple really: feed the hungry, the homeless, and the forgotten.

Matthew 25:35 says "When I was hungry you gave me something to eat, when I was thirsty, you gave me something to drink. When I was a stranger, you welcomed me."

We can help feed our neighbors in need. We can be a part of the "Give us this day our daily bread" thing. It isn't for us to know or to judge. One of the reasons our hearts break for people in need is because we know it is not always their fault that they are in this situation. With today's economy it could be us or someone in our families. It could be any of us. We're all just a pink slip away from desperation.

The Zebulon United Methodist Church's Brown Bag Ministry distributes about 400 brown bag lunches (and growing every week) to those in need (whether that need is financial, spiritual or emotional) every Saturday, from 10:30am until all food is gone. Anyone may walk up and request a lunch bag Saturdays, at the church located on the corner of Gannon Ave. and N. Church Street in Zebulon.

The lunches consist of a turkey, ham or bologna sandwich with cheese. Individual packages of cheese and crackers, a cookie or brownie, Granola bars, a piece of fruit or a small box of raisins and chips are included when available. There is bottled water, and extra loaves of bread when available.

The Brown Bag ministry is an interfaith ministry. The preparation of the lunches is done by volunteers at St. Eugene's Catholic Church (Wendell) every Saturday beginning at 9:30am. They usually make 800 to 900 lunches each Saturday. Once all the bags are packed, 400 are delivered to Zebulon UMC. Then, 100 lunches go to volunteers from Zebulon First Baptist Church who take them out to people in the community who cannot come to pick up the food. The remaining 300 are handed out to anyone who walks up and requests a lunch.

There are no forms to fill out! The only questions we ask are "How many do you want?" and "Is there anyone else that you would like to take a lunch to?"

In addition to the lunches we prepare small bags of personal hygiene items for the families and we like to have small toys or treats for the children.

In order to reach the people who need this ministry we need your help. Please help us get the word out by sharing this information to anyone who needs help or any organization that serves individuals that can use our help. We do not ask for any proof of need. They can just come and be fed.

Recently 2 pastors from other US states came to our area to get more information about the Brown Bag Ministry and to see how it works. They were looking for a food ministry to do in their area and found the Brown Bag.

Donations of non-perishable food items (chips, nabs, granola bars, dried fruit packets, etc.) and health care items (soap, shampoo, tooth brushes, etc.) are needed continually. Please contact St. Eugene's or Zebulon UMC if you or your business can help. Cash donations and volunteerism are also needed to continue this vital community resource.

Most of all we need your prayers. "And it shall come to pass that before they call, I will answer and while they are yet speaking I will hear" Isaiah 65:24

For more details on the Zebulon ministry, contact Cindy Privette at 919.269.8359. Or contact Sue Kiryluk at 919.269.0988. If you or your group can volunteer to help us prepare the lunches contact Tom Falvey, and to help distribute the lunches contact Sue Kiryluk. Para obtener información en Español llame Margarita Tucker en telefono 919.269.4843.



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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.

* Bunn/Louisburg *

Open Mic Night (July 15 @ 2-4pm)

Come get your five minutes of fame. Poetry, prose & music. Common Grounds Coffee, 20 Cheves Road, Bunn Contact donnacampbellsmith@gmail.com.

7-Chamber Event & Ribbon Cutting (July 26 @ 5:30-8:30pm)

Open House with 7 Chambers of Commerce. Vendor booths, Norris Creek Ribbon Cutting, & corn hole match. Food, beer & soda. Live music by Brickhouse. Free event/parking. Norris Creek Amphitheatre, 751 Old Halifax Rd, Louisburg For info visit www.norriscreek.com.

The Depths of Me (July 28 @ 8pm)

One Woman Show written & performed by Tai Miles. There will be poetry, live music, a few characters, & a few life lessons learned. Ages 13 & Up. \$5-\$7 tickets. Common Grounds Coffee, 20 Cheves Road, Bunn More info at thedepthsofme.eventbrite.com.

Quilt Show (September 1 @ 10am-4pm)

Come by Lake Royale for this special quilting show & sale, open to the public. Also includes some crafts. At Lake Royale, East of Bunn & South of Louisburg

* Knightdale/Raleigh *

Dancing in the Park (July 19 @ 6-7pm)

DJ & instructor lead group dances designed for fun and exercise. Organized by Knightdale Parks & Recreation. Harper Park, 209 Main Street, Knightdale

Networking in Knightdale (July 17 @ 11:30am-1pm)

A chance to connect with Knightdale businesses. Anyone who wants to network is invited. Eat, mingle, share a 30second commercial, & get useful information & prizes at the same time! \$10 non-members. Pay for own meal. Applebee's, 6609 Knightdale Blvd., Knightdale Contact jennifer.bryan@knightdalechamber.org.

PWNG - Professional Women's Networking Group (July 25 @ 11:45am-1pm)

Luncheon helps women brush up on their networking skills, exchange tips & ideas. Network & give a 30-second commercial! RSVP. \$10 members, \$20 non-members. Knightdale Chamber, 207 Main Street, Knightdale Contact the Chamber at 919.266.4603 to register.

* Wendell *

East Wake Sons of Confederate Veterans Program (July 17 @ 6:30-8:30pm)

Come for supper at 6:30 & program follows. All invited. July speaker Thomas Smith, NC Div Commander. Boulevard Pizza, 2925 Wendell Blvd., Wendell For more information, call 919.365.5206.

Tuesday Morning Coffee Break at the Chamber (July 17, 24 & 31 @ 8-9am)

Come meet other business owners in the Wendell Community and beyond. Connect, have coffee or tea, meet others, & network with local business owners! Wendell Chamber, 115 N Pine Street, Wendell

Family Concert Series

(July 27, August 10 & 24 @ 6pm)

Evening of music under the stars. Bring a lawn chair. J Ashley Wall Town Square, Third & Cypress Sts., Wendell Contact Wendell Chamber of Commerce at 919.365.6318.

Wendell Chamber Community Yard Sale (July 28 @ 7am-1pm)

Join the community for this downtown vendor event. Campen Street, Wendell

* Zebulon *

Carolina Mudcats Baseball (Home July 16-22, 31)

Baseball, hot dogs, soda, sunshine, and fireworks (Fridays) can make for a great family outing.

Five County Stadium, 1501 NC-39, Zebulon, NC Visit www.gomudcats.com for tickets.

Family Storytime (July 16 @ 6-6:30pm)

Children & their families are invited. Books, music, & more. Zebulon Community Library, 1000 Dogwood Drive For information, call 919.404.3610.

Learning Lunch on Social Media Marketing (July 17 @ 11:45am-1pm)

Tonya Harmatiis covering social media marketing (search engine strategies). Tonya will share valuable information & handouts. She will also answer your questions about blogs, Facebook, LinkedIn, Twitter and MORE. You don't want to miss this! Cost of meal only for members. Cost of meal plus \$5 for non-members.

Fargo Cattle Co., 1007 Shepard School Road, Zebulon Please RSVP to memberservices@zebulonchamber.org.

East Wake WIN (Women in Networking) Luncheon (July 18 @ 11:45AM-1PM)

Open to all professional women. Small fee. RSVP required. Eastern Regional Center, 1003 Dogwood Drive, Zebulon Call 919.269.6320 or visit www.zebulonchamber.org.

Zebulon Community Watch (July 19 @ 7pm)

Join the group on the 3rd Thursday of every month. Eastern Regional Center, 1003 Dogwood Drive, Zebulon

Bike Night (July 26 @ 5pm)

Custom bikes on display, cornhole, & more. Ride on in! 418 W Gannon Avenue, Zebulon Details at www.mcleanscafe.com.

Family Movie Night (August 10 @ 7-9:30pm)

Free movie & popcorn. Children must be accompanied by adult. Zebulon Community Center, 301 S Arendell Ave., Zebulon Call 919.823.0432 to find out what movie is showing.

* Elsewhere *

Native American History of Goose Creek (July 15 @ 2-3pm)

The mighty Tuscarora were one of the first Indian inhabitants of this area & influenced how the area evolved during colonial times. Meet at the park's Visitor Center to learn about the rise & fall of the Tuscarora & other tribes. Goose Creek State Park, 2190 Camp Leach Rd, Washington More information available via 252.923.2191.

Wilson Tobs Baseball (July 17, 19, 25, 26, 28 & 30)

Bring the whole family out for games! Fleming Stadium, 300 Stadium Street, Wilson For more info, visit www.wilsontobs.com.

Light the Night with Black! (July 19 @ 2-3:30pm)

Teens age 13-18 years, design your own black light t-shirt at Braswell Memorial Library!

Warner Meeting Room, 727 N. Grace St., Rocky Mount Contact Leslie Schultz at 252) 442-1951 ext. 257

Summer Night Lights (July 20, 21 & 27 @ 7-10:30pm)

Summer Night Lights is an anti-crime initiative designed to take place during peak crime hours with the intent of combating violence during these times. Semi-structured event. Meadowbrook Park, 1722 Bedford Rd, Rocky Mount Contact Brian Harrell at 252.972.1151

Rockin' Classic Auto Expo Cruise-In & Block Party (July 20 @ 7-11pm & July 21 @ 9am-3pm)

The Rockin' Classic Auto Expo cruises in with a big 2-day event. Beach Music, antique tractors & more. E Thomas Street and NE Main Street, Rocky Mount Contact Bob Barnes at 252.908.2535.

Kid's Day (July 21 @ 8am)

Games, food, & drinks. Come by & enjoy the day outdoors. JW Glover Memorial Park, 1434 S First Street, Nashville

Stepping Into the Past Series (July 21 & 28 @ 10am-3pm)

Free with museum adm. Weaving, Caning, & Broom Making July 21st, Documenting Our Past & Present July 28th. 709 North Church Street, Hwy 301, Kenly Info 919.284.3431 or www.tobaccofarmlifemuseum.org.

Free Outdoor Movie (July 27 @ 8:45pm)

Come & watch a movie, Captain America, beginning at sunset. Popcorn & drinks for sale, with proceeds benefitting the Wilson Police Athletic League Paul Berry Park, 200 Kenan Street, Wilson

Punt, Pass & Kick (August 6 @ 6-8pm)

NFL National skills competition for boys & girls ages 8-15. Competition is free for everyone who participates. Held at the Spaulding Family Resource Center. 600 South Pine Street, Spring Hope Contact Troy Blaser at 252.462.2675.



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Events Repeating Every Week 1-5pm, Free Adm city residents, Children's Museum, Rocky Mt. Sunday 4pm, Higher Ground Fellowship, 20 Cheves Rd, Bunn 10:30am Storytime, Cooley Library, Nashville Monday 3pm Stories & More, Bunn Branch Library, Bunn 7:30pm, Trivia Night, Pizza Villa, Zebulon

Tuesday 7-10am, Tarboro-Edgecombe Farmers Market, Tarboro 8-9am, Coffee Break in Wendell, Wendell Chamber Offices 6pm Zumba, Wendell Community Center, Wendell

Wednesday 8am-1pm, Historic Downtown Wilson Farmers Market, Wilson 8am-1pm, Rocky Mount Farmers Market, Rocky Mount 3-5:30pm, Produce & Play (farm market), Rocky Mount

7-9pm, Bike Night with 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 **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 7:30am-12pm, Wilson Cty Foregrounds Farmers Market, Wilson Saturday 8-11am, Tarboro-Edgecombe Farmers Market, Tarboro

> 8am-12pm Yard Sale, Common Grounds Coffee, Bunn 8am-1pm, Rocky Mount Farmers Market, Rocky Mount 9am-1pm, Wendell Farmers Market, Wendell 9:30pm, Live Music, McLean's Ole Time Cafe, Zebulon

Call 919.623.9392 to add your ongoing event.

Things We Did in NC When We Were Bored

Men Who Cook With Jazz

Wendell resounded with live Jazz and blues, and the warm air simmered with barbecue smells, crowd noises, and vendor bargaining Saturday, July 7th during the "Men Who Cook With Jazz" event.

In its second year, this Wendell Jazz spectacular is organized by The Kila Company, and supported by local business owners. Local shops stayed open during the event and festival visitors were able to enjoy the bands and shopping outdoors, and occasionally escape into the cooler indoor shops and more vendors!

Local musicians brought great flavor to the event, complementing the pork and chicken barbecue. Jo Gore & the Alternative, Vocalist Morgan Piner, and Just Friends Sextet all lent their talents to the event with original and cover tunes.



The cook-off participants spent the day cooking in the sunshine, and when it got too hot around the grill, at least one cook doused himself with water. When the food was done, and the judges had made their decision, a line of ticket holders picked up samples of barbecue from each vendor. While they may have started with similar meats, the resulting chicken and pork dishes were all very

different, and tasters stood around in the parking lot discussing the variety of flavors and each person's own favorite sample.

We were glad to have this great local event to enjoy for the day. Local events like Men Who Cook With Jazz help bring attention and revenue to the local area. And they make for a great day out with family, friends, and loved ones!

News from The Grey Area

This July 15th issue contains information on the local music and business scenes, alongside many other July events.

The August issues cover end-of-summer sales, tax-free weekend, and back-to-school shopping and events. Contact us if you have information on related events in Eastern NC, or to advertise your business alongside the news.

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



Prior issues may be read online in our www.greyareanews.com archive.

Before the next issue, visit our Facebook page (the code at left can help) to see more events and news.

Eastern NC Jammed with Musical Talent

Whatever your favorite music genre, likely there are local concerts and festivals with bands to suit your tastes. In addition to small venues hosting music each week, you'll find special events at small and large event venues, as well as churches and town-square festivals.

One of the new large music venues in Eastern NC is the Norris Creek Outdoor Entertainment Complex. Norris Creek is a 50-acre event location near Bunn. For events too big for the town square or local park, this amphitheatre holds large crowds and has fields for lots of parking. This spot is giving local and regional musicians opportunity to play in front of thousands of people.

Built on a family farms, and convenient to Zebulon, Louisburg, and even Raleigh, Norris Creek serves as a meeting place, hosts charity fundraisers, and farm equipment and auto shows. Combining day and evening shows with parking and camping, plus a big grassy area for picnicking, the venue serves families well. Some events may serve alcohol, so check the schedule for upcoming event details.

Famous and on-their-way-to-famous bands have played at Norris Creek in recent months. Local favorite Jason Michael Carroll recently performed. Jo Gore And The Alternative, a group which played during the Wendell Men Who Cook With Jazz event, performed at Norris Creek earlier this year as part of the Grow And Share Music Festival & Plant Giveaway. Local musicians are the backbone of the area, and Norris Creek helps get them in front of the masses.

A multi-band bluegrass festival is coming soon to Norris Creek, with many local bands and musicians scheduled to share their talents with the community.

Next time you're looking for a good place to go and listen to some music, check out the variety of music types coming to this relatively new gem of the Five County Area.

Carmike 10-Wilson Movie Review of the Issue

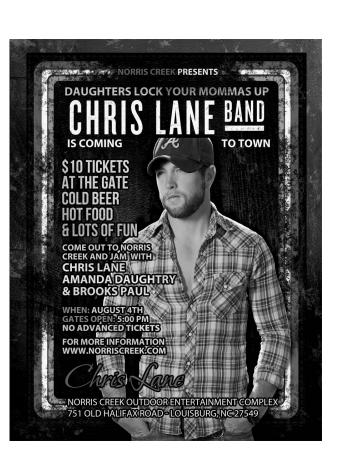
By Kay Whatley, Editor

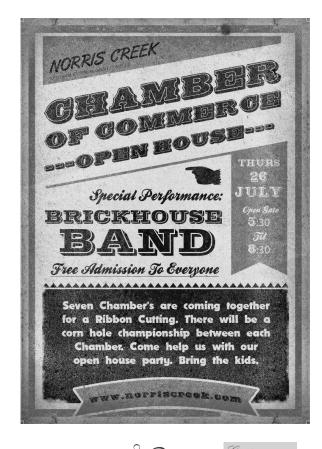
The movie review this issue is *Madea's Witness Protection*. This latest Tyler Perry production brings the familiar characters back, this time to protect a government witness from the mob.

The seventh "Madea" film, this flick continues the saga with a story including family squabbles, issues of dealing with difficult life situations, and doing the right thing. Eugene Levy of *SCTV* fame shines as the accountant accused of wrong-doing, and Tyler Perry's character as the government agent who wants to help him make things right.

Aside from some "innuendo" here and there, there isn't anything that seemed too inappropriate for children. As usual, our teen and pre-teen were in tow, and our younger daughter enjoyed the movie more than our teen boy.

This movie is funny. There is a scene with the airport TSA that anyone may find funny whether they've dealt with air travel or not, and an homage to an old 1990 movie — I don't want to give more away! If you're a fan of Tyler Perry, Eugene Levy, or general mayhem, this movie is for you.



















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Little Bits

Word of the Issue

Humidity

Definition: The amount of water vapor in the air. **Example:** "It's not the heat, it's the humidity."

Translation of the Issue

English — "television" or "TV"

German — fernsehen Spanish — televisión Danish — fjernsyn Italian — televisione Irish — teilifís Dutch — televisie

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

Dwight D. Eisenhower

"Peace and justice are two sides of the same coin."

Chuckle of the Issue

The freight train was speeding along the tracks. As it came around a bend, the Engineer spotted a cow on the tracks a short distance ahead.

Applying the brakes, he quickly realized the train was not going to stop in time. He began bracing for impact, when the cow suddenly stepped forward off of the tracks!

The cow cleared the tracks and began grazing safely, just as the train whipped passed it.

As the train finally ground to a halt, the Engineer wiped his brow and thought to himself, "Whew! That could have been an udder disaster!"

Cryptogram of the Issue

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



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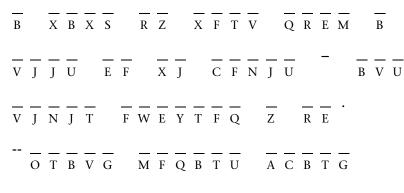
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Answer to the previous issue's cryptogram:

A Light Wind Swept Over The Corn, And All Nature Laughed In The Sunshine. -- Anne Bronte

New Local Business

Another new Zebulon shop opened its doors in July. The Tobacco Outlet store is located in the Zebulon Food Lion Plaza just off Arendell Avenue. This is a "roll your own" tobacco shop, where smokers may purchase raw tobacco and create their own smokes for a reduced price.

Unfortunately, within a few days of their opening, a Federal bill was passed imposing high taxes and changes on roll your own tobacco shops, This store, and Tobacco Direct in Rocky Mount may be impacted.

Hopefully the proprietors, including the gentleman in the Grand Opening photo below, will continue working to support the local community and to help the local economy.



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