

# The Grey Area™

Local and National Unusual News  
Rocky Mount/Nashville NC Edition – 919.623.9392

## “I’M FREE—Take Me With You!”

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

Volume 2, Number 9  
May 1, 2012

### There's A New Chick In Town

By Margaret Langley, Contributing Author

During my search for the perfect baby chicks for our Easter Photo Shoot at our studio this year, I spent a lot of time making phone calls to prospective vendors for baby chicks. The upshot of it all was that nobody had baby chicks, and those who did would likely not have them the weekends that I needed them.

(I remembered how my mother would order chicks through the mail when I was a youngster. She would order a hundred at a time. When the mailman would come through with those baby chicks, he would sit at the mailbox and blow his horn, long and loud. That is all it took for us! We would go running down our long dirt driveway to get that box of chicks.)

Unfortunately, there was no time to order chicks. I certainly didn't need a hundred of the tiny creatures. Taking a chance, I went to Craig's List, and within a little while had found several people with chicks for sale.

I called a couple of the people to get details, but finally settled on a nice lady named Beth who lives down near Mt. Olive. She said she had some chicks that would be hatching out about 4 days before my photo shoot was to happen, and for me that sounded wonderful. We made arrangements for me to drive down there and pick them up that next Friday.

I arrived on the pre-arranged day, and got my baby chicks. They were red, not yellow and just as pretty as they could be. We made small talk, and I got a glimpse of her operation. In fact, some babies were just hatching out as I got there. They literally had shells still on their heads! Being in a hurry, I got my chicks and left. But two days later, when I returned the chicks back to Beth, I had a chance to chat, and I learned that Beth was no ordinary chicken breeder.

Since 2000, Beth has been raising chickens with a small brooder room in her home. She started out the old fashioned way with the eggs under a hen. But she soon found out that during the winter months she had more success with an electric incubator. She said, “I love chickens and every time they hatch, it's like Christmas!” Being a stay-at-home mother, she said, “My kids love it, every time I have some eggs in the incubator, they keep up with the charts and can describe most breeds of chicks by looking at the eggs.”

She then went on to say that she and her children bred “Project Chickens”. I was curious and I asked her what that was. She told me to wait a minute and went into her house and came out with a chick in her hand. She showed the little fellow

to me, and for the life of me, I could not decide what kind of bird he was! But he sure was ugly! (In a cute kind of way).



She told me that I was looking at a “Naked Neck Frizzled Easter Egger” chick, and that he was her creation by cross breeding chickens to get the type of chicken that he was. The chickens are called “naked neck” because they have no feathers on their neck. Beth had specifically crossbred chickens until she had a chicken who would lay blue or green eggs. That accounted for the Easter Egger part in his name. Then, she told me they are called “frizzled” because their feathers actually look that way. She said she had started on this project over a year ago. (Photo: Margaret Langley)

I was amazed and in looking at her creation also very impressed. Beth told me that she “borrowed” chickens from neighbors to get the strains she wanted bred into the chickens. She said there was a 50-50 chance they would be frizzled, and when they were, she would keep the frizzled hens and sell the roosters.

Beth gave me permission to give the name of her newest breed of chicken, but also mentioned that she has other projects in the works, but they are “top secret”. Perhaps this time next year, we will again be seeing another “new chick in town”.

### Stormy Weather Preparedness

By Chris Chappell, Contributing Author  
(Singer Songwriter [www.chrischappell1.bandcamp.com](http://www.chrischappell1.bandcamp.com))

Hey, everyone just wanted to write about something that most people forget about. There's a lot that goes on in the spring and summer that is so much fun! Going to the beach, the lake, cooking out, baseball, fishing...

But with all of that going on people don't think about it being prime time for thunderstorm activity and hurricane season starting up. It's a good idea to be prepared for bad weather. You never



know when a strong storm may knock out power to your home. That's not the time to go digging around the house looking for candles, matches or flashlights.

You should always keep a few supplies in a familiar spot in your home. It doesn't have to be some huge stockpile but having a few things set aside from the usual grocery items in your home is always a plus. Things you should keep on hand are: bottled water, canned goods, snacks, batteries, lanterns, even extra propane for the gas grill if you need to do some cooking.

Keeping a flashlight by your bed all year long is a good idea too. Also being prepared doesn't have to break the bank. You can get most of the items you need from the dollar stores. But if you want better quality gear you can always buy online or go to the camping section in your local big box store.

Also prepare for your kids and animals (if you have them). Things like board games for the kids, and treats and toys for the pets.

One more thing that is great to do if you have enough warning is to fill the tub with water for sanitation use, flushing toilets and washing up if the power is out for days. And use good judgment if you live in an area that has a history of flooding or if you live in a mobile home.

I grew up in one and I know stormy weather can be very scary if the winds pick up. In that case you may need to put together a “grab and go” bag. A container/backpack that has the same kind of supplies listed above but ready to grab and hit the road if you need to get to a safer location. Remember: “It's better to have it and not need it, than to need it and not have it.”



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Things to Do in NC  
When You’re Bored

\* Nashville \*

**Intro to Computers for the Workforce (May 1-24 @ 9am-noon or 3-6pm)**  
Small computer classes held Tuesday, Wednesday & Thurs.  
Nash Arts Center, 100 East Washington Street, Nashville  
To sign up for waiting list, call 252.459.7681.

**Blooming Festival (May 9, 11-12)**  
Live music, parade, and more. Carnival May 9th only.  
The Nashville Exchange & Downtown, Nashville  
More info: [www.nashvillencchamber.org/Blooming.html](http://www.nashvillencchamber.org/Blooming.html).

\* Rocky Mount \*

**Harambee Festival (May 4 @ 1-5pm & May 5 @ 12-7:00pm)**  
Celebration of the city's African American heritage. Live music, vendors & activities, delicious food, & more.  
Douglas Block - Downtown, Rocky Mount  
For more information, call 252.442.5178.

**Strawberry Jazz (May 5)**  
Special event at the Rocky Mount Farmers Market  
1006 Peachtree Street, Rocky Mount  
For more information, call 919.407.7920.

**Fancy Nancy's Mom and Me Soiree (May 10 @ 6-7pm)**  
Dress up in your fanciest dress for an evening of books, crafts, & snacks based on the Fancy Nancy Series. Sign up is limited to the first 25 children  
Braswell Memorial Library, Warner Meeting Room  
727 North Grace Street, Rocky Mount  
Contact Linda Bunch at 252.442.1951 x.235.

**Rocky Mount Downtown Live! (May 17 @ 6-8:30pm)**  
Summer Music Series featuring The Tams. Free Outdoor Concerts On the Lawn. Lawn chairs or blankets welcome.  
Imperial Centre for the Arts & Sciences,  
270 Gay Street, Rocky Mount NC  
Visit [www.imperialcentre.org](http://www.imperialcentre.org).

**Fiesta Latina (May 19 @ 1-6pm)**  
Free celebration of Rocky Mount's Latino Culture! Live bands & dancers, games & activities, delicious food, and inflatable play areas for the kids.  
Imperial Centre, 270 Gay Street, Rocky Mount  
More info at [www.rockymountnc.gov/downtown](http://www.rockymountnc.gov/downtown).

**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.

\* Wendell \*

**Ladies Nite Only (May 3)**

Calling Ladies Only

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**Thursday, May 3, 2012**

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Martha (919) 523-2586 or Denise Lenoir (919) 673-4070

Events Repeating Every Week

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

**First Friday Jazz (May 4)**  
Live music by Bruce Dellimore, food, and much more.  
The Kila Company, 28 N. Main Street, Wendell  
For more information, call 919.365.5003.

**Sidewalk Sale (May 4 @ 9am-1pm)**  
Walk and shop from local merchants and much more.  
Downtown area, Wendell  
For more info, visit [www.townofwendell.com](http://www.townofwendell.com).

**Safety Day (May 5 @ 9am-1pm)**  
Safety-related activities sponsored by Fire and Police.  
Campen Street, Wendell

**Wendell Community Center Opening Day (May 5 @ 9am-3pm)**  
Inflatables, food, Muddy the Mudcat, Lizard Lick Towing, a Dunking Booth, Free ball games, Pitch, Hit and Run and More. Tickets \$5, which gives a chances to win prizes plus unlimited Inflatables.  
For info, contact Wendell Parks & Rec at 919.366.2266.

**Benefit Barbeque (May 6 @ 11am-3pm)**  
Join Special Blessings for lunch. \$8/plate (barbeque, slaw, rolls, potatoes, drink & dessert). Benefits Special Blessings.  
Wendell Chamber of Commerce, 115 N Pine St., Wendell  
To learn more, visit: [www.specialblessingsinc.net](http://www.specialblessingsinc.net).

**East Wake Sons of Confederate Veterans Program (May 15 @ 6:30-8:30pm)**  
Meetings third Tuesday each month. Come for supper at 6:30 & stay for the program. Everyone invited.  
Boulevard Pizza, 2925 Wendell Blvd., Wendell  
For more information, call 919.365.5206.

\* Wilson \*

**Fabulous Friday - Nano Days (May 4 @ 3-6pm)**  
Free activities. This date the topic is nanometers. Learn about this minuscule world's effects.  
Imagination Station Science Museum, 224 E Nash Street  
For info, call 252.291.5113.

**Rally Against Amendment One (May 4 @ 1:30-3pm)**  
March/rally by Wilsonians For All NC Families. Guest Laurelyn Dossett.  
Wilson County Courthouse, Wilson  
For information contact 252.289.4618.

**Science Says - Cinco de Mayo (May 8 @ 10-11am)**  
A parent/child interactive learning experience for 3-5 year olds. Fee \$2/kids museum member, \$5/kid for non-members. Adults pay museum admission. Prior registration.  
Imagination Station Science Museum, 224 E Nash Street  
More online at [www.imaginescience.org](http://www.imaginescience.org).

**Backstage with Louis Armstrong (May 10 @ 7pm toast; performance 8pm)**  
Opening Night Wine & Cheese Toast (lobby) followed by Opening Performance, which features Legendary singer and trumpeter Louis Armstrong in his element. Pricing \$18-\$20.  
Additional performances May 12 @ 2pm, May 13 @ 7:30 pm, May 18 @ 8 pm, and May 19 @ 8 pm. Lauren Kennedy & Alan Campbell Theatre, Barton College, Wilson  
Info at [www.theateroftheamericansouth.org](http://www.theateroftheamericansouth.org).

**Wilson Tobs Baseball (May 29 @ 7:05pm)**  
Opening night against the Petersburg Generals. Also play May 31st against Morehead City Marlins.  
Fleming Stadium, 300 Stadium Street, Wilson  
For more info, visit [www.wilsonslobs.com](http://www.wilsonslobs.com).

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\* Zebulon \*

**Carolina Mudcats Baseball (Home Games May 4-6, 11-17)**  
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](http://www.gomudcats.com) for tickets.

**Steel Magnolias Garden Club Annual Plant Sale (May 5 @ 8:30am-2pm)**  
proceeds go to Nature Trail at Zebulon Community Center and other beautification projects. Herbs, annuals, and more.  
Corner of Dogwood Lane & Highway 96, Zebulon  
For info, call Cindy Reams at 919.404.1184.

**Family Movie Night (May 11 @ 7pm)**  
Free movie and popcorn. Next movie June 8th.  
Zebulon Community Center, 301 S Arendell Ave., Zebulon  
Call 919.823.0432 to find what movie is showing.

**Zebulon Reverse Raffle Night Out (May 12)**

The Zebulon Chamber of Commerce presents a

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Dance to classic rock favorites and enjoy great food and drink while waiting to see if you're a raffle winner!

**Saturday, May 12, 2012, 6—10 PM**  
**Zebulon Community Center, 301 S. Arendell Ave.**  
Call 919-269-6320 for details or to purchase tickets.  
Ticket \$50 - 250 Tickets Total, Guest Meal Ticket \$15  
**Proceeds to Benefit the ZCOC. Credit cards accepted.**



**Zebulon Community Watch (May 13 @ 7pm)**  
Join the group on the 3rd Thursday of every month.  
Eastern Regional Center, 1003 Dogwood Drive, Zebulon

\* Elsewhere \*

**Festival Viva Raleigh (May 5 @ 1-5pm)**  
Free event (Evento gratis). Music (música), games (juegos), food (comida), and dance (danza).  
Spring Forest Road Park, 4203 Spring Forest Road, Raleigh  
For more info / Para más información: 919.996.5717.

**The Barnyard: Farm Animals (May 5 @ 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](http://www.tobaccofarmlifemuseum.org).

**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.  
Stony Hill FWB, 9646 Stony Hill Church Rd, Middlesex  
For info, call 252.883.1461.

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Cinco de Mayo

Cinco de Mayo — May 5th — brings with it opportunities for festivals, tasty food, dancing, and fun. Before you step out for a cerveza (beer), take a moment to learn about the origins of Cinco de Mayo.

While sometimes mistakenly thought to be Mexico’s Independence Day, Cinco de Mayo is a celebration of victory over occupying French forces sent by Napoleon III in the 1800s. Specifically, May 5, 1862 is when the Battle of Puebla took place. The Mexican Army defeated the French occupying forces, and victory during this battle is commemorated each year on May 5th. Although it took three more years to expel French forces from Mexico — with help from the US following the Civil War — in 1865, this Battle of Puebla served as a moral boost and rallying point. This victory celebration continues today, with festivals, special nights-out, and family activities.

While not a national holiday, Cinco de Mayo in the US serves more as cultural celebration similar to St. Patrick’s Day (Irish) or Oktoberfest (Bavarian).

When celebrated in Mexico’s State of Puebla, they refer to the holiday as “El Dia de la Batalla de Puebla” (the Day of the Battle of Puebla), rather than Cinco de Mayo. Across the US, Cinco de Mayo serves as a celebration of Mexican heritage and culture. Locally, events like the Viva Raleigh Festival on May 5th (1-5pm) include selections of heritage music and traditional Mexican and South American dance alongside foods both well-known and unusual.

Exposure to tradition and history at these larger events is often supplemented with more modern offerings by local organizations and businesses. These may include Cinco de Mayo 5K events, museum lectures, school activities, and business special sales or meals. Restaurants and food websites abound with traditional and Americanized meals designed for Cinco de Mayo fiestas (parties).

In Eastern NC, watch for special music, food, and activities on May 5th offered by local businesses supporting this cultural holiday. Celebrate the melting pot of America and the wondrous collections of music, food, and entertainment available for all to share.

Carmike 10 -Wilson  
Movie Review of the Issue

By Kay Whatley, Editor

This issue, a new feature begins with movie reviews. One of the hot movies out right now is *The Hunger Games*, which we went to see this week. Thank you to Carmike 10 on Ward Blvd. in Wilson for welcoming us in for our review.



First off, *The Hunger Games* is based on a novel written for young adults; however, the movie is rated PG-13 and seemed to be for all ages. My husband and I took our teenager and pre-teen to the movie. Both had positive things to say about the overall movie “theme” as well as the actors and effects.

Without giving much away, the movie is set in a post-apocalyptic America and shown from the viewpoint of a teenage girl, Katniss. The movie starts with her experiences with family living a tough life, and moves into the drama of her participation in the “Hunger Games”, a fight-to-the-death annually held for entertainment. Much of the movie shows their skewed society — very poor, hungry masses versus very comfortable, well-fed aristocrats — and the use of teen death-matches as “entertainment”. The movie also shows the time of training the Game’s participants go through, including mentors teaching them to play-act as a way of gaining sympathy. This leads to wealthy benefactors

sending them equipment and medicines to improve their chances of survival.

Overall, the movie was enjoyable and held our interest to the end. It had action, suspense, emotional scenes, strong characters, and an unpredictable ending — at least it seemed unpredictable to those of us who had not read the book and were new to this story.

My husband liked the premise of the movie. The one drawback he mentioned is the amount of camera-shake technique used for some action scenes. Maybe it’s just our “older eyes”, but both of us had a little trouble following the action during “shaky cam” shots. The kids both had positive comments about the movie’s story and action, again confirming that the movie can appeal to all ages.

If you’d like to check out *The Hunger Games*, showtimes are available on [www.carmike.com](http://www.carmike.com) and by calling 252.265.5528. It is showing in the beginning of May, and possibly longer due to the attention it is drawing.

News From The Grey Area

This issue includes Cinco de Mayo-related articles and events alongside local businesses offering Mother’s Day or Cinco de Mayo specials.

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

The coming issue will look at golf facilities in the area, baseball season, and more. 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 photos on our Facebook page!



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

You and a bunch of friends go out to see a movie one Saturday night. The theatre is busy, and your group makes its way through the ticket line, grab snacks and popcorn, and get into your movie’s screening room just as the lights go down.

Peering around in the dark, you can see the room is crowded. As you quietly discuss how to break up the group into available seats, one of the other movie-goers begins yelling at you and your friends. He is screaming that you guys need to “shut up!” and appears more angry than you would expect someone to be in the situation.

Would you consider the man’s behavior way out of line? Or do you expect that kind of thing in crowds? Because of the big “scene” do you think you’d go and see the theatre Manager before finding seats? Or do you think that your group would stay in the theatre and just find places to sit?

Alternatively, if you all took seats around the theatre, and the man continued to make loud comments to your friends seated closest to him, would you be more likely to take action to have him removed?

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## Mother's Day Weekend



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