

Look Inside (Page 3) for Black Friday Discounts

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Local and National Unusual News

Nashville, Rocky Mount & Wilson NC Edition – 919.623.9392

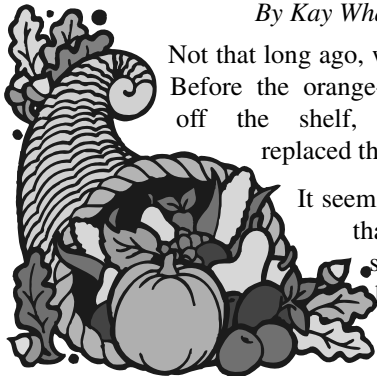
Also check out our Edition for
Bunn, Knightdale, Wendell, & Zebulon NC

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**Volume 2, Number 23B
November 15–30, 2012**

Where Has Thanksgiving Gone?

By Kay Whatley, Editor



Not that long ago, we celebrated Halloween. Before the orange-and-black candies were off the shelf, red-and-green goodies replaced them.

It seems, in my humble opinion, that this year we stepped straight out of the haunted houses and into Santa’s village. I’ve seen few turkey decorations, and have heard very little talk of Thanksgiving in the media.

Thanksgiving is one of my favorite days. It means a wonderful and predictable dinner of turkey, stuffing, and many tasty side dishes. More than that, it means the family is going to spend the day together, catch up, or focus on all of the things we have going for us. No matter how busy our work may keep us, or how out-of-touch we might get, we know that on Thanksgiving we will gather.

I remember — back in the old days when long distance calls were very expensive — that Thanksgiving Day the family members who could not be with us would make a quick call to talk with those at the family gathering. Back then, our grandparents were with us and all the aunts, uncles, and cousins came together for the day. It was a day of living, eating and sharing — not a work day. Well, except for the cooks!

Now our gatherings are smaller. Cousins go to see their parents. We go to see our parents, siblings, children, nieces and nephews. To us, it is our best opportunity to slow down, forget work and problems, and just be a family.

This year worries me a bit. Just a bit. Enough to spur me to write this little article, and hope for some response that Thanksgiving is a big deal for you, too.

What worries me is how this holiday feels like it is swept under the rug this year. Some of the “big box” stores have gone so far as to make the dinner time into a Really Big Sale time. This may mean big savings; it also means that the store employees cannot be with their families.

What is it about Thanksgiving 2012? Has the holiday become “politically incorrect” in some way? Is it not relevant in this age of Social Media where everyone can keep in touch through video phone calls and instant life updates? Or are we all pushed to be so busy and work-focused that family moves from the back seat to the trunk?

Responses and Thanksgiving stories are welcome on our Facebook page. I’ll hope to hear from some of you about your Thanksgiving Day activities. My hope will be that most, if not all of us, can find a way to celebrate this day with family and friends.

The Bad News... NC Fires

What started as a controlled burn turned into a significant fire at Pilot Mountain State Park. After the fire jumped the fire line November 8th, crews fought hard and by November 13th the fire was “80% contained”, according to the NC Division of Parks & Rec. The park is currently closed due to the fire.

More than 675 acres have burned and the final count may reach 1,000 acres by the time the fire is extinguished. A date has not yet been set for the park to re-open.

Pilot Mountain State Park totals 3,703 acres. It became a NC State Park in 1968, with some land additions later on. The park includes camping facilities and shelters. It offers camping, Rock Climbing, Canoeing, take a hike along the trails, Cycling, Fishing, Picnicking, and more. You can find out more, including updates about the re-opening, by visiting ncparks.gov and selecting “Pilot Mountain” from the “Find a park” list.

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BLACK FRIDAY SALES

Black Friday Sales Starting Before Friday

Local shops and big stores are kicking into high gear this month. Even before the Friday after Thanksgiving, many Black Friday Sales will already be in full swing. Several Black Friday sales start this weekend, and others are starting before the turkey is even put away on Thanksgiving! Black Friday weekend is spreading across the rest of this month!

The busiest shopping day of the year, it provides a boost for retail sales. It is a day when many stores improve their profits, and thus are “in the black” (though the name originated in 1960s Philadelphia and seemed to have more to do with the snarled traffic and black mood of the day).

Since many people have the day after Thanksgiving as a day off from work, retailers of the past few decades have taken advantage of their availability. The past decade, however, boosted Black Friday to a day of major discounts and special

offers. Competition drives stores to open earlier, or stay open later, enticing shoppers to odd hours with extremely low prices or even giveaways. To further encourage shopping early, the shopping “weekend” has compressed special prices into Thursday and Friday more than on Saturday and Sunday.

Christmas gift shopping is often the focus, but all types of items are on sale for the day. New, used, and antique items may be had from a variety of stores. Shoppers can catch clothing deals, low-priced electronics, or antiques from the local second hand shop.

Sales prices and deep discounts may help shoppers get what they need (and want). Arrive early, stay late, or shop regular hours and there may be a sale going on for just the right item.

These Page 3 Advertisers are offering a **15% Discount on Black Friday only**. Just mention that you are a reader of *The Grey Area* newspaper.



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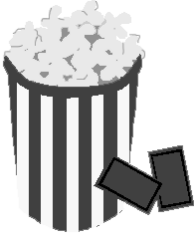
Carmike 10-Wilson Movie Review of the Issue

By Kay Whatley, Editor

For the December 1st issue, we will be reviewing *Lincoln*, which hits theaters in mid-November. *Lincoln* is a new drama produced by Steven Spielberg. The movie stars Daniel Day-Lewis as President Abraham Lincoln and Sally Field as his wife, Mary Todd.

In the meantime, the Carmike 10 theater in Wilson is gearing up for a special. “Twilight Marathon for \$20” event. This four-movie event begins on November 17th at 4pm and continues overnight through November 18th at 3am!

The \$20 special price for this single-day event provides admission into the first 3 Twilight films on the big screen, followed by the midnight premier of the latest film, *Twilight: Breaking Dawn, Part 1*.



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
You stop by the local big box store. You have many of your holiday gifts on layaway and are ready to pay them off and take them home.

You go in and tell the clerk that you are there to pay off the rest of your layaway. She takes your information and goes into the back. When the clerk returns, she says all of the items are gone. She goes on to tell you that they do have record of your payment but she cannot locate the items. As you go through the list of gifts with her, she checks and sees that they are sold out of what you had wanted.

She offers a refund of your money on a gift card so you can try another one of their locations for your items. You now have to re-do your shopping. Do you think the store would get any of your business in the future?

News from The Grey Area

This November 15th issue contains local articles, some on the upcoming holiday season. It also contains information on holiday special events including parades.

The Grey Area is localized into two Editions of the newspaper. Edition A covers Bunn, Knightdale, Wendell & Zebulon. Edition B covers Nashville, Rocky Mount, & Wilson. News, events, and business advertisements are selected for each Edition’s readership.

To advertise, call 919.637.6973. Issues of *The Grey Area* come out for the 1st and 15th of each month. Before the next issue, visit our Facebook page (the code can help) to see more events and news.

Prior newspaper issues may be read in our Archives online at www.greyareanews.com.



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The Grey Area™

The Backside

Little Bits

Word of the Issue
procrastinate
Definition: To put off doing something.
Example: “He likes to procrastinate and shop last minute!”

Translation of the Issue
English — “ice”

German — eis	Spanish — hielo
Italian — ghiaccio	Irish — oighir
Danish — is	Dutch — ijs
Korean — 얼음 (eol-eum)	Latin — glacie

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
Dalai Lama
 “Be kind whenever possible. It is always possible.”

Chuckle of the Issue
 The pro football team had just finished their daily practice session when a large turkey came strutting onto the field. While the players gazed in amazement, the turkey walked up to the head coach and demanded a tryout.

Everyone stared in silence as the turkey caught pass after pass and ran right through the defensive line. When the turkey returned to the sidelines, the coach shouted, “You’re terrific! Sign up for the season, and I’ll see to it that you get a huge bonus.”

“Forget the bonus,” the turkey said, “All I want to know is, does the season go past Thanksgiving 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: D = S.

_ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _
 O S V X S D A X M O O I D S R N O X

_ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _
 G B P T X S E D S D P F E

_ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _
 R M C S E Q S P K F R N O S K M P X Y

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Answer to the previous issue’s cryptogram:

A pessimist sees the difficulty in every opportunity; an optimist sees the opportunity in every difficulty.
 -- Winston Churchill

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