

The Grey Area™

Local and National Unusual News

Rocky Mount, Nashville & Wilson NC Edition – 919.623.9392

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Eastern North Carolina

“I’M FREE—Take Me With You!”

**Volume 3, Number 4B
February 15–28, 2013**

Save by Buying Used Video Games? Maybe. Maybe Not.

Rumor has it that the next generation of video game consoles will be much more restrictive. Games will be tied to a specific console. Reselling games could come to be seen as a type of “piracy” and be prohibited.

In the earlier days of computer software, it was easy to use software or move it to a new computer. Or even to give it to someone else when you no longer needed it. Over time, software restrictions were built-in to avoid piracy. These days, software programs are not only not shareable, they attach to a specific computer when installed and cannot be moved to another machine without several steps to unlock, uninstall, and reinstall.

Video games have long required a cartridge, CD, or other media to be in the console for the game to play. If you didn’t have the media at all times, you couldn’t play. However, the game could be carried to a friend’s house to play, or could be sold at the local resale shop. With the large number of game resale stores around, it was easy to take in a game when you were done playing it, make a few bucks, or get credit so you could get a used game someone else had traded in there.

Gaming companies, for better or for worse, see the current system of reselling used games as problematic. When a used

game is resold, no part of the resale price goes back to the gaming company. They are looking to change this.

Games coming out in the next few years will likely lock themselves to consoles in such a way that they cannot be resold or used on friends’ consoles. The goal of game manufacturer(s) is to eliminate the secondhand sales of games. Depending on how the games are modified, and the licensing put in place, gamers may have to purchase new games each time, or some used games may be available through the original manufacturer. Either way, revising the system likely will require gamers to pay more. Impact on the video game resale shops could be big, or could leave them behind as only older consoles and used games are available to sell.

A Little Local History

**Person: Harold Dunbar Cooley
(1897-1974)**

A politician with the Democratic Party, Congressman Cooley represented the Fourth Congressional district of NC from the mid-1930s through 1967. He served as Chairman of the US House Committee on Agriculture from 1949 to 1952 and again from 1955 to 1967.

An NC Highway Historical Marker placed in Nashville NC draws attention to his significance in shaping postwar federal farm policy. Cooley was a driving force in

developing President Franklin D. Roosevelt’s agricultural program. Cooley backed reforms to provide for allotments, price supports, rural electrification, and soil conservation. Cooley also endorsed the “Food for Freedom” program. A quote attributed to Cooley states, “Bread and butter rather than bullets and bayonets are the most powerful weapons in our arsenal.”

In addition to the highway historical marker, the Harold D. Cooley library in Nashville NC is named after Congressman Cooley.

Place: A North Carolina Legend

Located a few miles outside of Bennett NC is a small piece of land known as the Devil’s Tramping Ground.

All that is visible is a barren circle in the forest, a bit off a beaten path. Nothing has grown, nor will grow, within the 40 foot ring. Even a US Geological Survey team could not find a scientific explanation for the lack of growth within the circle.

The Devil’s Tramping Ground is one of North Carolina’s oldest legends. One of the “legendary” explanations for the bare circle of ground is that the Devil spends his nights pacing around in a circle as he thinks of ways to torment human souls.

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Things to Do in NC
When You’re Bored

* Nashville *

Storytime
(February 18 & 25 @ 10:30am)
Kids Storytime each Monday. Come and enjoy a book or two with little ones. About half an hour long. At the Harold D. Cooley Library, 114 W Church Street, Nashville
Info: www2.youseemore.com/cooleylibrary

Compassion Cafe
(Monday-Friday @ 11am-1pm)
Volunteers at Nashville-area churches create teams who prepare a meal once a month to serve at the cafe. Corner of Church & Collins Streets, behind main Nashville UMC building. To become involved, contact Nashville UMC at 252.459.7178 or info@nashvilleumc.net.

* Rocky Mount *

Friday Night Dance Party
(February 15 @ 7-10pm)
Join the Rocky Mount USA Dance chapter for an evening of dancing. \$3 fee at the door. At Maria V Howard Arts Center, 270 Gay Street, Rocky Mount
For more info, call 252.972.1632.

Live Music Thursdays on Sunset
(February 21, 28 & March 7 @ 7pm)
Feb. 21st: Travis Moss. Feb. 28th: Monte Tippette. March 7th is *Dine Out for Schools* event with Chickweed. At Westridge Grill, 3639 Sunset Avenue, Rocky Mount
Call 252.937.7299 for more information.

Annual Pregnancy Care Center Banquet
(February 21 @ 7-9pm)
Benefit banquet. Fee of \$20/person benefits care center & includes dinner. Group rates. At Englewood Baptist Church, 1350 S Winstead Avenue, Rocky Mount
Contact Fynetta Ward at 252.937.8254

“Pig Out on Reading” Farmer Minor & Daisy
(February 26 @ 4:30pm)
Come by for this hour-long event. At Braswell Memorial Library, Warner Meeting Room, 727 North Grace St., Rocky Mount
Call Linda Bunch 252.442.1951 x.244.

The Healing Force
(February 26 @ 6:30-7:30pm)
Their motto is “Serving the Community Through the Arts.” Come join in at Braswell Memorial Library & celebrate Black History Month! In the Warner Meeting Room, 727 North Grace St., Rocky Mount
Info, Linda Bunch at 252.442.1951, ext. 244.

* Wilson *

You Wouldn’t Expect
(February 21, 22 & 23 & 7pm)
Admission is free. A staged reading of the play *You Wouldn’t Expect* will be presented. *You Wouldn’t Expect*, by NC playwright Marilyn Barner Anselmi, recounts the experiences of four of the almost 8,000 individuals sterilized under the NC Eugenics Program. Mature audiences. At the Lauren Kennedy & Allen Campbell Theatre at Barton College, Woodard St NE, Wilson
Wilson Reads- Allan Wolf, Author Visit
(February 21 @ 7-8:30pm)
Join us as welcome Allan Wolf, author of *Wilson Reads* book “The Watch That Ends the Night.” This adult-oriented program is free & open to the public.
Contact wilsoncountyp1@gmail.com

* Elsewhere *

Live Music Fridays
(February 15 & 22)
Feb 15th: Pete Frederick. Feb 22nd: Russ James. At The Sports Page Bar & Grill, 835 N. Smithfield Road, Knightdale.
More info at www.knightdalesportspage.com.

Stepping Into the Past Series
(February 16 & 23 @ 10am-3pm)
Workshop with museum admission.Feb. 16th: Knife making demos. Feb. 23rd: Spinning, casting & knotting. At the Tobacco Farm Life Museum, 709 N Church Street, Kenly
See www.tobaccofarmlifemuseum.org.

Karaoke w/ James & Samantha Bradley
(February 16 & 23 @ 7-10pm)
Join the fun each Saturday at Showside Grill & Bakery, 102 N Pine Street, Spring Hope
Info at www.showsidegrill.com.

2nd Cup Women Writers Group
(February 20 @ 9:30am)
Meets 1st & 3rd Wednesdays. At Full Circle Coffee Shop, 120 E Main Street, Youngsville

Live Music in Spring Hope
(February 22 @ 7-10pm)
Feb. 22nd: John & Mark Bunn. Showside Grill & Bakery, 102 N Pine Street, Spring Hope
Info at www.showsidegrill.com.

International Civil Rights Museum Trip
(February 23 @ 9am-8pm)
Tarboro Parks & Recreation Department is sponsoring a trip to this Greensboro NC Museum. Leaves M.A. Ray Center at 9am. Return around 8pm. Seniors/students \$6-\$8. Adults (18 & over) \$10. Meet at M.A. Ray Center, 1405 Martin Luther King, Tarboro
For more information, call 252.6414215.

Book 'Em North Carolina Writers Conference/Book Fair
(February 23 @ 9:30am-4pm)
Lumberton hosts this one-of-a-kind free event. Seventy-five authors are scheduled to participate. Panel discussions, readings & activities for children all day. Authors on-hand all day selling/signing books. Portion of proceeds donated to community for literacy campaigns. At Robeson Community College, 5160 Fayetteville Rd, Lumberton
More information at www.bookemnc.org.

6th Annual Polar Plunge
(February 23 @ 10am-1pm)
Jump or watch. No cost to watch; \$25 to take the plunge. Proceeds go to Special Olympics. Colonial Park on the Waterfront, Edenton
Contact Linda Hobbs at 252.482.4436.

Variety Show featuring “Generations”
(February 23 @ 7:30pm)
A country music variety show with a bonus tribute to Conway Twitty. At Small Town USA Castalia, NC, 8928 Main Street, Castalia
For info, call 252.462.0408.

Night Writers
(February 28 @ 7pm)
Meet 2nd & 4th Thursdays. At Full Circle Coffee Shop, 120 E Main Street, Youngsville

Family Movie Night
(March 8 @ 7pm)
The Zebulon Parks & Rec Dept. presents free movie & popcorn for all ages. A parent or guardian must be present for all children. Movie at the Zebulon Community Center, 301 S Arendell Avenue, Zebulon
Call 919.823.0432 for movie details.

National Anthem Tryouts
(March 23 @ 9am; register 8:30am)
Sing for the Carolina Mudcats! National Anthem tryouts are coming soon. Watch for more information on the Mudcats website as the date approaches. Held at Five County Stadium, 1501 North Carolina 231, Zebulon
More info at www.carolinamudcats.com.

Final Friday Forum
(March 29 @ 11:30am-1:30pm)
Held by People Builders Inc., a non-profit hosting monthly events which help families in need by creating opportunities without obligation. Purpose is to provide valuable learning from savvy speakers. Mar. 29th: Leslie Flowers, *Paths of Change*. \$20/person. Held at Crystal Palace, Capital Blvd., Raleigh
Details/registration at ow.ly/hCtSv

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 to provide more details for upcoming events.

MUFON-NC Event
Discusses 1948
UFO Crash

The Mutual UFO Network presents Scott and Suzanne Ramsey, and their investigation of the alleged UFO crash at Aztec, New Mexico. After 30 years of investigating this case, the Ramseys have published the book, *The Aztec Incident*. Scott Ramsey had originally set out to prove this case a hoax, but soon found that there was a lot more to this case than he expected. You will hear all the details of the people involved, the law suits, the FBI involvement, and the associated government scientists.

Please join us on March 16 at Embassy Suites Hotel in Concord NC — just 20 minutes North of Charlotte. There is a \$10 charge for this event. You can pay at the door on the day of the event.

The Meeting will be from 1-4pm. First, we will bring you up-to-date about UFO reports and trends occurring in NC. From 2-3:30pm, the Ramseys will present their investigation. The last 30 minutes of this event will be question and answer time. The audience will have an opportunity to ask the NC Field Investigators about sighting reports from our state.

The event address is 5400 John Q. Hammons Blvd, Concord NC (704.455.8200).

Stay for Dinner. This is a great opportunity to meet others who share your interest in the UFO subject, and to share personal sightings and experiences.

There will be a Skywatch in the evening, after the event. We will be in the parking lot of Embassy Suites. There will be telescopes, night vision equipment, and cameras there. You never know what you might see at these Skywatch events.

www.mufon-nc.com/upcoming-events

As our UFO community continues to grow, we will bring other speakers to talk about the developments in UFOlogy. We will try to bring national speakers to North Carolina, but we need your help. When you come to these events, bring a friend or two. When we can get large numbers of attendants at our events, we will be able to bring more well-known speakers.

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“Dear Brothers”, a letter from Pope Benedict XVI

From the Vatican, February 10, 2013

I have convoked you to this Consistory, not only for the three canonizations, but also to communicate to you a decision of great importance for the life of the Church. After having repeatedly examined my conscience before God, I have come to the certainty that my strengths, due to an advanced age, are no longer suited to an adequate exercise of the Petrine ministry. I am well aware that this ministry, due to its essential spiritual nature, must be carried out not only with words and deeds, but no less with prayer and suffering. However, in today’s world, subject to so many rapid changes and shaken by questions of deep relevance for the life of faith, in order to govern the barque of Saint Peter and proclaim the Gospel, both strength of mind and body are necessary, strength which in the last few months, has deteriorated in me to the extent that I have had to recognize my incapacity to adequately fulfill the ministry entrusted to me. For this reason, and well aware of the seriousness of this act, with full freedom I declare that I renounce the ministry of Bishop of Rome, Successor of Saint Peter, entrusted to me by the Cardinals on 19 April 2005, in such a way, that as from 28 February 2013, at 20:00 hours, the See of Rome, the See of Saint Peter, will be vacant and a Conclave to elect the new Supreme Pontiff will have to be convoked by those whose competence it is.

Dear Brothers, I thank you most sincerely for all the love and work with which you have supported me in my ministry and I ask pardon for all my defects. And now, let us entrust the Holy Church to the care of Our Supreme Pastor, Our Lord Jesus Christ, and implore his holy Mother Mary, so that she may assist the Cardinal Fathers with her maternal solicitude, in electing a new Supreme Pontiff. With regard to myself, I wish to also devotedly serve the Holy Church of God in the future through a life dedicated to prayer.

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’re at the local baseball game with your family, sitting up in the stands. It’s a small stadium, so you can see across and around you at most of what is going on. You see a father come in with his son and sit below you. Your 16 year old recognizes the other boy, also 16, from his class.

Over the course of the game, the father comes and goes, bringing back food for the son and beers for himself. About halfway through the game, the father starts to smoke even though it is a smoke-free stadium. You can smell the smoke, but say nothing. A little while later, the Dad leaves and comes back with two beers and gives one to his son. Both are now drinking beer and watching the game.

Do you think that, even though you let the smoking go, you would stay quiet while the father allowed his teenager to drink beer? Since your own son is with you, do you think that you are more likely to say something to the father?

News from The Grey Area

This February 15th issue includes events for late February and early March alongside some local and far-flung news stories. While some may impact local residents, some stories are just for fun.

To advertise, call 919.623.9392. Issues of *The Grey Area* come out every other Friday. Previous newspaper issues may be read in our Archives at www.greyareanews.com.

If interested in submitting an article or editorial: kayw@greyareanews.com.



The Strange-ness

World’s Oldest Known Wild Bird Hatches Chick

Contributed by Ann Bell (ann_bell@fws.gov) and Doug Staller (doug_staller@fws.gov)

A Laysan albatross known as “Wisdom” — believed to be at least 62 years old — has hatched a chick on Midway Atoll National Wildlife Refuge for the sixth consecutive year. Early Sunday morning, February 3, 2013, the chick was observed still-wet by U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service biologist Pete Leary, who said the chick appears healthy. Wisdom was first banded in 1956, when she was incubating an egg in the same area of the refuge. She was at least five years old at the time.

“Everyone continues to be inspired by Wisdom as a symbol of hope for her species,” said Doug Staller, Fish and Wildlife Service Superintendent for the Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument, which includes Midway Atoll NWR.

Staff and volunteers stationed on Midway are responsible for monitoring the health of the beautiful seabirds that arrive every year by the hundreds of thousands to nest. Upon the seabirds’ arrival, field staff monitor them and gather information for one of the longest and oldest continuous survey data sets for tropical seabirds in the world.

Wisdom has worn out five bird bands since she was first banded by U.S. Geological Survey scientist Chandler Robbins in 1956. According to Staller, “Bands have literally worn out on the bird’s leg.”

Robbins estimated Wisdom to be at least 5 years old at the time, since this is the earliest age at which these birds breed. Typically, they breed at 8 or 9 years of age after a very involved courtship lasting over several years so Wisdom could be even older than 62.

“As Wisdom rewrites the record books, she provides new insights into the remarkable biology of seabirds,” said Bruce Peterjohn, chief of the North American Bird Banding Program at the USGS Patuxent Wildlife Research Center in Laurel, MD. “It is beyond words to describe the amazing accomplishments of this wonderful bird and how she demonstrates the value of bird banding to better understand the world around us. If she were human, she would be eligible for Medicare in a couple years yet she is still regularly raising young and annually circumnavigating the Pacific Ocean. Simply incredible.”

Peterjohn said Wisdom has likely raised at least 30 to 35 chicks during her breeding life, though the number may well be higher because experienced parents tend to be better parents than younger breeders. Albatross lay only one egg a

year, but it takes much of a year to incubate and raise the chick. After consecutive years in which they have successfully raised and fledged a chick, the parents may take the occasional next year off from parenting. Wisdom is known to have nested in 2006 and then every year since 2008.

Sue Schulmeister, Manager of the Midway Atoll NWR, said, “Wisdom is one of those incredible seabirds that has provided the world valuable information about the longevity of these beautiful creatures and reinforces the importance of breeding adults in the population. This information helps us measure the health of our oceans that sustain albatross.”

Ann Bell of the USFWS says, “Wisdom is a symbol of hope. Having complete dependence on the health of the ocean to provide her sustenance she has been able to feed herself, as well as her many chicks through the years. She has also survived the constant threat of plastic pollution most albatross have ingested — including pieces of thousands of bottle tops, toothbrushes and parts of cigarette lighters.”

Almost as amazing as being a parent at 62 is the number of miles Wisdom has likely logged — about 50,000 miles a year as an adult — which means that Wisdom has flown at least two million to three million miles since she was first banded. Or, to put it another way, that’s four to six trips from the Earth to the Moon and back again, with plenty of miles to spare.

For more information and photo updates, visit www.fws.gov/midway/whatsnew.html



Wisdom & Her Chick
Photo Source: USFWS/John Klavitter



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The Grey Area™

The Backside



Little Bits

Quote of the Issue

“In three words I can sum up everything I’ve learned about life: it goes on.”

--*Robert Frost*

Word of the Issue

nonplussed

Definition: Surprised and confused to a point where you are unsure how to react. At a loss.

Example: “When the roof caved in, she was nonplussed.”

Translation of the Issue

English — “Sun”

German — Sonne Spanish — Sol

Latin — Sol Italian — Sole

Irish — Ghrian

Tsalagi (Cherokee) — ᎠᎵ “Nv-Da” (sun or moon)

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

Cryptogram of the Issue

Replace the letters in this Cryptogram with other letters to deduce the quote within the puzzle.

Hint: I = F.

N D J M O U R X T S O

E S R K M T J H J Y A E O T K O

N J W D U R X S M J E Q L O

K T S O I X M W R D T Z O

J W O Z O Y H R S O I X M M U

J Y U R X S D O T S W .

-- I S T Y K J Q R I T Q Q J Q J

(A second hint, the man quoted is often mentioned with ‘Saint’ in front of his name.)

Answer to the previous issue’s cryptogram:

*Love yourself
first and
everything else
falls into line.
You really have
to love yourself
to get anything
done in this
world.*

-- *Lucille Ball*

Chuckle of the Issue

A mother mouse and her baby mouse are walking through a field one day, when a cat suddenly jumps at them.

The mother mouse goes, “BARK!” and the cat runs away.

“See?” says the mother mouse to her baby. “Now do you see why it’s important to learn a foreign language?”

N Wake Optimist Club Oratorical Contest

The Northern Wake Optimist Club is giving young speakers the opportunity to show their talent, and potentially win an award or an opportunity to speak publicly.

The topic, “Why My Voice is Important” must be covered in a speech at least 4 minutes but not over 5 minutes in length. March 31st is the deadline to submit applications and typed oration. Club contest date is April 7th.

District Level Prizes include \$5,000 in total scholarship given to the top three District winners. Club winners will be invited to give their oration at the club’s April 23th meeting.

The contest is open to students under age 19 — as of December 31st of the 2012-2013 school year (December 31, 2012) who have not yet graduated from high school or the equivalent. There is no minimum age. Contact Lynn Turnage at 252.430.2535, or Barbara Timmons at 919.426.5824

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**Recycling
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The Wilson Recycling Center is open on Ward Boulevard in Wilson. The Wilson Chamber of Commerce held a Ribbon Cutting for Hang Lae Cho at this new business on February 12th.



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