

# The Grey Area™

Local and National Unusual News

Bunn, Knightdale, Wendell, & Zebulon NC Edition – 919.623.9392

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Eastern North Carolina

**“I’M FREE—Take Me With You!”**

**Volume 3, Number 5A  
March 1–14, 2013**

## Yard Waste Collection Improves with New Vehicle

*Contributed by Brian Bowman*

Starting in March, a new yard waste collection truck will circle Knightdale. The truck includes a special claw system for picking up branches and bags of grass clippings.



*Photo via Brian Bowman, Town of Knightdale*

Half of the town will have its yard waste and grass clippings picked up on Monday, the other half of the town on Tuesday. This is designed for efficiency, recognizing that many residents pile up the waste during weekend yard work!

Until this time, an independent waste collection company had been picking up yard debris. Decals were sold, and residents had to purchase them. Now the collection process has been streamlined, and the work will be done by this special town-owned truck. Yard waste will be taken to the landfill.

There are some limitations residents need to know:

- All debris should be placed *behind* the curb
- Separate yard waste from trash
- Place grass clippings in clear bags as they will be sorted out.
- Branches should be six feet or shorter
- Branches must be no wider than six inches
- Stumps can be up to three feet wide



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## AUCTION

April 20, 2013 - 10:00 a.m. (rain date 27<sup>th</sup>)

Antique, Vintage, New, and gently used items. (ex- new utility trailer, furniture, 70 gal aquarium, tools, bee hive w/1yr support) -No Buyers Premium- Barbecue Sandwiches, Hot Dogs, Drinks available.

Pilot Baptist Church Fundraiser for Family Life Center. Location: 8103 NC 39 HWY, Zebulon  
View some items- [www.PilotBaptist.com](http://www.PilotBaptist.com)



Very important that yard debris be separated from the regular trash, as yard waste does not go to the landfill. Town workers also strongly suggest that trash always be several feet away from utility poles or mailboxes. Any obstructions that slow down the crane’s work will slow down service for everyone.

Residents may use this service. Paid contractors hired locally must remove their own debris when they leave a location. Contractors are not allowed to leave yard waste at the curb.

This new collection truck and schedule should make yard waste cleanup easier for residents and keep yards looking neater. To find out more about this town service, visit the website: [www.knightdalenc.gov](http://www.knightdalenc.gov).

## The Good News/Bad News... Vultures Abound

An abundance of road kill, and warm weather, means an abundance of vultures hanging around this winter.

Turkey vultures (red headed) clean up road kill alongside the slightly more aggressive black vultures (black headed). Serving as scavengers and cleaning up carcasses serves humans well Their scavenging may minimize disease. It certainly removes a good number of animal carcasses that would otherwise be lying around.

Although the turkey vultures are scavengers more than killers, both turkey and black vultures may wreak havoc. Domestic animals scatter under the birds’ large shadows. Black vultures have been known to kill small livestock. Humans may get the urge to swerve when the large-wingspan birds get a little too close to the road, and pilots face aircraft bird strike concerns.

With vultures’ good and bad traits, it is important to note that killing black vultures or turkey vultures is prohibited under the US Migratory Bird Treaty Act of 1918. When in doubt, talk with the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission regarding how to keep vultures from damaging your livestock or property.

## 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 day on your way home from work, you stop at your favorite store. It is a shop where you often go for birthday gifts or small items for your family. You know the owners, and the folks at the front counter know you.

On this particular day, you make your purchase and notice that Tammy, who works behind the counter, has puffiness around her eyes. She’s been crying. You ask her what is wrong.

Tammy tells you that the store is going out of business. After being around for almost a decade, the owners cannot make ends meet and are shutting down. She and her fellow employees will be out of work at the end of the month. After talking with her a bit, you leave the store with your purchase.

Do you think that you might try to help the owners by sending more business their way? Would you spread the word, in person and through social media, to send more shoppers there way? Or would you just move on to shopping elsewhere?



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Things to Do in NC  
When You’re Bored

\* Bunn \*

- 3/01 Bluegrass Music Open Jam (March 1, 8 & 15 @ 7pm)**  
**3/08** Live jam open to all each Friday night. Bring your instrument & join the fun. Be there at 7pm or join later. Or stop by to listen, sip coffee & enjoy very local music! At Common Grounds Coffee (and fun) House, 20 Cheves Road, Bunn
- 3/02 FCAC Music Jam & Open Mic (March 2 @ 5:30pm)**  
FCAC Student Arts Council hosts every first Saturday. Experienced & beginners, young & old, bring instruments, voices, fans, friends & family for a fun night. Open Mic for poets & spoken word artist, too. At Common Grounds Coffee (and fun) House, 20 Cheves Road, Bunn. Contact Linda at 919.496.6719.
- 3/07 A Blessing Soup Kitchen Meal (March 7, 14 & 21 @ 11:30am-12:30pm)**  
**3/21** Thursdays free meals served to residents in need. Collaboration of local nonprofits using donations & volunteers. Donations welcome. Broad Building, Bunn
- 3/10 FCAC Photographers Guild (March 10 @ 2-4pm)**  
Monthly meeting to share information & learn more about photography. Public welcome. At Common Grounds Coffee (and fun) House, 20 Cheves Road, Bunn

\* Knightdale \*

- 3/01 Live Music Fridays (March 1, 8 & 15)**  
**3/08** Live music each Friday evening. At The Sports Page Bar & Grill, 835 N. Smithfield Road, Knightdale. www.knightdalesportspage.com.
- 3/02 Wake Tech Job Assistance (March 2, 9 & 16 @ 11am-2pm)**  
**3/09** Free walk-in Career Consultation by a trained Wake Tech instructor to help you with resume & cover letter writing, job searching & more. No appointment necessary. First come, first served. At East Regional Library, 946 Steeple Square Court, Knightdale
- 3/16** More info, contact 919.217.5300.
- 3/04 Lenguaje es la Clave - Language is Key (March 4 @ 10:30am)**  
Program aids parents & children in language & literacy development through story times that include fine motor & social skills activities. East Regional Library, 946 Steeple Square Court, Knightdale



- 3/04 Teen T-shirt Scarves Craft (March 4 @ 7pm)**  
Recycle a shirt into a fun new scarf. Please bring a T-shirt of any size to the class. At East Regional Library, 946 Steeple Square Ct., Knightdale
- 3/19 Networking in Knightdale (March 19 @ 11:30am-1pm)**  
A chance to truly connect with other businesses in Knightdale. Anyone who wants to network is invited to attend. Meetings held the 3rd Tuesday of each month. Tell a friend, bring a friend! Members pay for meal, non-members \$10+meal. At Applebee’s, 6609 Knightdale Blvd., Knightdale  
Contact email: jennifer.bryan@knightdalechamber.org.
- 3/19 Northern Wake Optimist Club (March 19 @ 6:30pm)**  
Be a part of a civic club that serves children's needs in our local community. Meeting at the IHOP, 6707 Knightdale Blvd, Knightdale Contact Barbara at 919.426.5824.
- 3/27 PWNG - Professional Women's Networking Group (March 27 @ 11:45am-1pm)**  
Lunch incl. \$10 members, \$20 non. At Knightdale Chamber of Commerce, 207 Main Street, Knightdale. RSVP (required) by Feb. 25th, at 919.266.4603.

\* Wendell \*

- 3/01 First Friday Jazz (March 1 @ 6:30pm)**  
End the week with sultry jazz, networking, refreshments, gourmet coffee, door prizes, & lots of fun. \$5 admission. At The Kila Company, 28 N Main St., Wendell For details, call 919.365.5003.
- 3/02 Brown Bag Lunch Ministry (March 2, 9 & 16 @ 9:30am)**  
**3/09** Brown bag lunches each Saturday for those in need. Personal hygiene items. St. Eugene Catholic Church, 608 Lions Club Road, Wendell Info at www.steugeneparish.org.
- 3/05 Tue. Morning Coffee Break (March 5, 12 & 19 @ 8-9am)**  
**3/12** Connect, have coffee or tea, & network with business owners at this Wendell Chamber of Commerce weekly event. At the Wendell Chamber, 115 N Pine Street, Wendell
- 3/05 Family Storytime (March 5, 12 & 19 @ 6:30pm)**  
**3/12** Children in preschool & their families are invited to participate in an interactive program with books, songs, & movement. Also at East Regional Library on different dates. Wendell Community Library, 207 S Hollybrook Road, Wendell,

- 3/06 Ask a CPA Day (March 6 @ 12-1pm)**  
Stop by and talk with one of the experts from June-Neri Financial. Lunch provided. At the Main Street Training & Business Center, 30 N Main Street, Wendell. RSVP or info: 919.414.3571
- 3/14 Goal Setting Workshop (March 14 @ 6-8 pm)**  
Goal setting & achieving — the most effective & powerful way to improve business & life. Instructed by Leslie Flowers. \$20/members, \$30/non. At the Wendell Chamber, 115 N Pine St. Wendell More details: 919.365.6318.
- 3/19 East Wake Sons of Confederate Veterans Program (March 19 @ 6:30pm)**  
Come for supper at 6:30 & program follows. Speaker Jack Marlal, National Field Representative of the Sons of Confederate Veterans. 3rd Tuesday each month. At Boulevard Pizza, 2925 Wendell Blvd., Wendell For more info, call 919.365.5206.
- 3/19 Where is Your \$ Going? Personal Budgeting (March 19 @ 6-7pm)**  
Stop by for this hour-long session on managing a budget. At the Main Street Training & Business Center, 30 N Main Street, Wendell. RSVP or info: 919.414.3571
- 3/27 Triangle Network Group (March 27 @ 8-9am)**  
Weekly meetings of local leads group. Membership opportunities. Meet at the Wendell Chamber, 115 N Pine Street, Wendell Email mpaul@wendellchamber.com.
- 4/03 How Health Care Reform will Affect You (April 3 @ 12-1pm)**  
Stop by and learn more about this topic of interest. At the Main Street Training & Business Center, 30 N Main Street, Wendell. RSVP or info: 919.414.3571

\* Zebulon \*

- 3/01 Karaoke Friday Nights (March 1, 8 & 15 @ 9pm)**  
**3/08** Check out local talent or join the fun. Every Friday in the Press Box at McLean’s Ole Time Cafe, 418 W Gannon Avenue, Zebulon Call 919.269.0125 for more info.
- 3/02 Brown Bag Lunch Ministry (March 2, 9 & 16 @ 10:30am)**  
**3/09** Brown bag lunches for those in need. Personal hygiene items too. Each Saturday at Zebulon UMC, Gannon Avenue & N Church Street, Zebulon More info at www.zumchurch.org.
- 3/16**

- 3/07 Small Business Networking Group (Mar. 7, 14 & 21 @ 8am)**  
**3/14** Build relationships with those who have similar target markets, become consistent referral partners & enjoy the rewards! Meets every Thursday at Italia Express, 103 N Arendell Avenue, Zebulon Contact Kim V. at 919.269.6320.
- 3/08 See Spot Read (March 8 @ 4:30-5:30pm)**  
Beginning readers invited to come & practice their skills with the certified therapy dogs of local organization, See Spot Read. At Zebulon Community Library, 1000 Dogwood Drive, Zebulon Call Margaret at 919.404.3610.
- 3/08 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 details.
- 3/16 KIDFEST at Belk Zebulon (March 16 @ 12-3pm)**  
Fashion show, games & prizes. Shoppers may save on kids apparel. Register to win a fun family getaway for four. At Belk, 164 Wakelon Street, Zebulon
- 3/20 East Wake WIN (March 20 @ 11:45am-1pm)**  
Monthly on the third Wednesday. March meeting at Fargo’s Steakhouse, 1007 Shepard School Road, Zebulon.
- 3/23 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 www.carolinamudcats.com.

- 4/20 Auction Fundraiser (April 20 @ 10am)**  
Antiques, Vintage, New and gently used items. Barbecue sandwiches, hot dogs, chips, & more snacks. No Buyers Premium. At Pilot Baptist Church, 8103 Hwy 39, Zebulon Contact Jan Alford (919.426.6073) or Jerry Carlyle (919.269.5920),

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.

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# A Little Bit of History

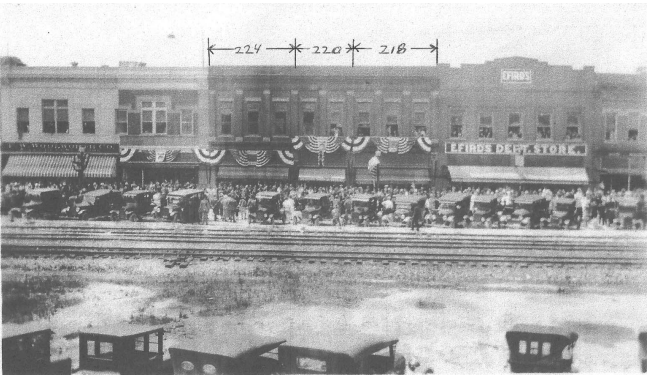
## Getting Buildings Back to Business

It’s recycling on a large scale: renovating last century’s buildings and bringing life and light back to downtown areas. Decades ago, as the buildings decayed and businesses fled to flashy new strip malls closer to the big housing developments outside town. Now many cities are drawing people back to downtown to keep alive the culture of downtown living, working, and playing. A part of the culture is being saved alongside the buildings, with residents drawn to the new shops and new-old experience, and the buildings are stabilized and given fresh coats of paint.

Walk down Main Street in Rocky Mount and you’ll see a mix of old and new. Recent renovations to sidewalks, parking, and streetlights bring more potential to downtown buildings. Many buildings have been renovated in the past few years, some with help from tax assistance and grant programs. Each renovation brings new business, and new living spaces, to Downtown Rocky Mount. Some buildings are renovated, full and flourishing. Other buildings are waiting for their potential to be unleashed.

## 224 SW Main Street Renovations

One building waiting to be reborn on Main Street is 224 SW Main Street. Actually three separate store fronts addressed as 218, 220, and 224, this building dates back to 1910. Owned by Peoples Bank And Trust Company in the 1960s, the years took their toll and major renovations helped roll back the years in 2008. When this building was first opened to businesses and residents, horses and buggies clip-clopped down the street. In fact, during recent renovations of the Streetscape, finds included horseshoes alongside the old cobblestones!



Photos via Ron Vetere of early 1900s Downtown



Over the years a number of businesses occupied the three storefronts. Roscoe Griffin’s Shoe Store did business from 218 SW Main Street, Scottie Discount Center in 220 SW Main Street, and the Jewel Box in 224 SW Main Street. In recent years, M&T Pawn Shop occupied a part of the building. As buildings are updated, likely visitors can purchase new technology and local products where their grandparents purchased their shoes and sundries.

The renovation started a few years ago included removing of the M&T Pawn aluminum screen, removal of nonconforming signage, gutting of the three interiors, application of a new roof, and 13 new windows installed on the second floor. Because of the importance of renovating downtown according to historical guidelines — to preserve the experience of yesterday for visitors today — each update or change enhances the building’s attributes while updating it to last far into the future. Their handsome pilaster (a kind of an “implied” column projecting from a building front) and the entablature treatment above can still be seen today, 103 years after construction. Currently ready to be outfit, this downtown building may be finished as three commercial storefronts on the first floor, and three residences on the second floor — with each space ranging from 1500 to 2300 square feet.

With the train station less than two blocks away, the growing downtown around it, Rocky Mount residents and visitors will see this building reborn in the coming years. New business will fill the storefronts. Residents will enjoy living near the conveniences of Main Street — with more shops coming all the time. With Amtrak so close, people can literally travel from near and far to work, live, or shop in this re-beautified building.

R&H Homework, LLC. is a small business run by local arts patrons Ron and Hilarie Vetere. They rolled up their sleeves and pitched in for Rocky Mount’s downtown revitalization several years ago. In addition to making major renovations to 224 SW Main Street, R&H Homework used their renovation skills to bring the Bel-Air Artisan Center into being. They are refitting another downtown building to become a restaurant or coffee shop. Their hope is that the work begun at 224 SW Main Street can be continued by a new owner soon — ensuring more shops and traffic for Rocky Mount’s main drag.

For those interested in playing a role in the life and livelihood of this downtown area, 224 SW Main Street and all of its potential are available for \$151,200. Contact Mark Hawe of Chatham Homes Realty at 919.610.2452. With some investment of money, time, and elbow grease, plus review of local Historic Preservation Guidelines, someone can make this set of storefronts a part of the new Rocky Mount. Builders, entrepreneurs, visionaries, adventurers, and do-it-yourselfers invited to apply — and help make a new history.

## Recording Family Memories

When my Grandmother, Ruth, was in her 90s, we started recording her telling stories of her life. She had written some down during her life. We got her on tape talking about her early life. My aunt even took her to a “legacy” studio and made videos of “Grandma” Ruth’s storytelling.

My Dad recently passed away at an unexpected 75 years old. We had not even begun to work on recording his stories. We hadn’t asked him to tell us about parts of his life which he thought were good stories for passing on. He didn’t talk too much about such things when we were children, at least not as I recall. Dad had been ill, and the last dozen visits he had been too weak to talk much. Things we might have asked him about, he didn’t have the strength for the telling.

He was so much younger than his mother was when we worked to save her-story. We thought there was plenty of time with Dad for talking, asking, listening, recording, and writing things down.

I guess what I’m trying to say is that it is *never too early* to start. Even if you’re “middle aged”, it may be time to pass stories down for our children, to learn from our parents, and to ensure the family history is passed on. Whether you use video, audio, or paper, now is a good time.

## The Strange-ness

In the North Pacific Ocean, several thousand miles West of Hawaii and East of the Philippines, lies the small island of Guam. In Guam, mice laced with acetaminophen are being air-dropped to control brown tree snakes.

The US Department of Agriculture’s plan is this: air drop the dead mice, which the snakes will eat, and then the acetaminophen can kill some of the snakes. Why? Because there are so many tree snakes on Guam. And there is concern that the snakes might hitchhike on a plane at the island’s Andersen Air Force Base.

In fact, before World War II (WWII) there were no brown tree snakes on Guam. Guam was full of a wide variety of bird species. Then, during WWII some of the brown tree snakes hitched rides to Guam on US cargo boats along with military supplies. The brown tree snakes ate just about every bird on Guam and multiplied. In recent years, the snakes seem to hang from every tree and the USDA feels steps to control the snakes must be taken.

The dead mice, stuffed with acetaminophen and reportedly wearing small parachutes, are dropped from helicopters. The parachutes snag on tree branches, minimizing the chance the mice will drop to the ground and harm other predators.

While depleting the brown tree snake population will not bring back Guam’s diverse bird population, it is a step the USDA feels may avert future issues with snakes reaching other places where Andersen Air Force Base’s planes fly.





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The Grey Area™

The Backside



## Little Bits

### Chuckle of the Issue

The teen walked up to his father and asked, “Dad, can you write in the dark?”

Looking up from his newspaper, the Dad answered, “I think so, son. What is it you want me to write?”

The teen cleared his throat and said, “Your name on this report card.”

### Word of the Issue

#### Germinate

**Definition:** Begin to grow and put out shoots.

**Example:** “The children were excited when the seeds planted in class began to germinate.”

#### Special Word Extra: Salad

**Definition:** Greens, such as collard greens.

### Translation of the Issue

#### English — “rain”

Irish — báisteach      Spanish — la lluvia

Latin — pluvia      Italian — la pioggia

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

### Quote of the Issue

“If you can’t feed a hundred people, then feed just one.”

--Mother Teresa

### Cryptogram of the Issue

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

Hint: S = I.

R Q K Q F      R S R Q F      R S H G Q L

W      R Q H G      A B      R S H G D Q L

R Q R R Q F N .

Answer to the previous issue’s cryptogram:

While you are  
proclaiming peace  
with your lips, be  
careful to have  
it even more fully  
in your heart.

-- Francis of Assisi

## News from The Grey Area

This March 1st issue includes events for March alongside local and far-flung news. This issue marks the beginning of *The Grey Area* newspaper’s third year of publication. The first issue came out, in two cities, on March 1, 2011.

Over the past two years, this newspaper has grown from two pages to four, and its distribution gone from two cities to seven. We’ve heard from many readers over the years, and appreciate all feedback. We’re always happy to know what our readers like, and what they would enjoy reading more.

The businesses advertised in the newspaper have grown from a dozen to several hundred. As each of these businesses places their ad, we in turn spread the word about them through the paper and online. We’re glad for their support and faith, and in turn do our best to promote their work. It is a locally based partnership that we strive to make work for businesses, readers, shoppers, and newspaper growth. As the newspaper moves into new cities and towns, it is the local focus that may lead to economic growth where it counts.

To advertise, call 919.623.9392. Issues of *The Grey Area* come out every other Friday. Previous newspaper issues may be read in the online Archives at [www.greyareanews.com](http://www.greyareanews.com). If interested in submitting an article or editorial, email us at [kayw@greyareanews.com](mailto:kayw@greyareanews.com).



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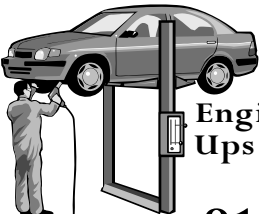
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- MARCH 23rd: Planting at Zebulon greenhouse (volunteers needed again)
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