

The Grey Area™

Local and National Unusual News

Rocky Mount, Nashville & Wilson NC Edition – 919.623.9392

Check out our Other Editions for
Eastern North Carolina

“I’M FREE—Take Me With You!”

**Volume 3, Number 7B
March 29–April 11, 2013**

Local Nonprofit Brings Hope to Local Children

Contributed by Barbara Timmons

We had a great time helping pack the backpacks on March 5th at the Interfaith Food Shuttle. These are a few facts from Interfaith Food Shuttle:

Fast Facts about BackPack Buddies

- Over 112,000 children in our service area receive free or reduced price meals at school.
- 1 in 4 children are hungry in the Triangle
- Nearly 1,500 children are enrolled in BackPack Buddies at 49 sites in 7 counties
- \$350 provides a child a BackPack filled with nutritious food each weekend for the entire school year



Our Essay winner, her family and her teacher joined us on March 19th. She is Finness Crooks (*see photo*) and attends Holly Springs Middle School. This year's topic was “How Can I Help My Friends Realize Their Value?” She competed in our club contest with other students from her school and has now proceeded to compete on the district level for a chance to win a \$2500 scholarship. The winner

for this will be announced May 18th. We enjoyed hearing her essay and appreciate her teacher Mrs. Valita Papes working with her students challenging them academically to compete in this contest.

The Northern Wake Optimist Club’s mission is: By providing hope and positive vision, Optimist bring out the best in kids!

For more information, visit nwoptimist.blogspot.com.

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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 take your family out to a buffet on a Friday night. You, your spouse and children are enjoying your dinner. Everyone makes different choices, and you talk about plans for the weekend.

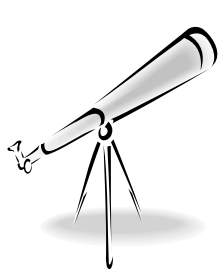
You’re seated near the back of the restaurant and notice an elderly couple seated near you. They are eating dinner too, but seem nervous and glance around often.

A little while later, you happen to look over and see the husband putting chicken into a plastic bag. As you watch, he hands it to his wife, who slides it into her very big purse. Then they go back to eating.

What do you think about their taking food home from the “all you can eat” buffet? Do you think you would say something to them or to the restaurant manager? Knowing the couple was older, and taking food might mean they are having a tough time, do you think you would slip them money? Or would you do nothing and just enjoy your family dinner?

Two Comets to be Visible in the Sky During 2013

Two comets are expected to be bright enough for viewing this year: C/2011 L4 PANSTARRS now through roughly mid-April, and C/2012 S1 (ISON) in the Fall.



According to Wikipedia.org, the PANSTARRS comet “is best seen in binoculars about 40 minutes after sunset”. A good telescope would also work.

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A Little Bit of History

122 South Goldsboro Street

Downtown buildings around Eastern NC are finding new life. Individuals, couples, and corporations are choosing to revitalize buildings along main streets. In Historic Downtown Wilson, several properties are for sale, including a unique building for sale for \$95,000.

Wilson’s “122 Goldsboro Street” is currently home to KUNTAW Palace. It’s 10,000 square feet span three levels. It’s long windows face Goldsboro Street. Recent remodeling brought the building up to code, including the large Martial Arts space, office spaces, and multiple bathrooms.

The building dates from some time between 1908 and 1913. It was originally built for the Wells Grocery Company, named for president-treasurer, Stephen C. W Wells (1850-1933), a prominent Wilson merchant and tobacconist and his brother, C. K. Wells, who was the company’s secretary.

Since 1914, this building has been the property of G. S. Tucker and Company, a Raleigh-based furniture company which was founded in 1886, and occupied a building at 121 East Nash Street starting in 1896.

The brick facade of this three-story building is obscured by an attached metal screen, which was added by the Tuckers in 1956. Fortunately, the interior pressed metal ceilings remain intact on the first and second floors This simple, square grid coffered ceiling and egg-and-dart frieze are original. The third floor has no ceiling and exposed brick walls, waiting for someone to turn them into a new working or living space. The open stringer stair rises from the rear southwest. There is no indication of the former window arrangement on the front.

Information on this building and its listing with 1st Wilson Properties may be found online, or by contacting the Historic Wilson Downtown Development office at 252.293.5306.



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Things to Do in NC
When You’re Bored

* Nashville *

04/01 Easter Kids’ Story Time
(April 1 @ 10:30-11am)
Come out to the Library for a special Kids’ Easter Story Time from 10:30am-11am. Story time fun is geared towards kids 2-5 years of age. At the Nashville Library, 114 W Church St., Nashville www2.youseemore.com/cooleylibrary

04/01 Easter Egg Hunt
(April 1 @ 9:30am)
The Nashville Rec. Dept & Harold D. Cooley Library hosts an Easter Egg Hunt at Glover Park, followed by Storytime at Harold D. Cooley Library. Questions, call Nashville Rec Dept at 252.459.9796 or Harold D. Cooley Library at 252.459.2106.

04/01 Kids’ Storytime
(April 1, 8 & 15 @ 10:30am)
Join us each Monday for 30-minute story time. For ages 2-5. At Cooley Library, 114 W Church St., Nashville www2.youseemore.com/cooleylibrary

04/18 2013 Back to Work Job Fair
(April 18 @9am-12pm)
Complimentary breakfast served for all participating business guests at 8:30am, if business registers before April 12th. In Brown Auditorium, Nash Community College, 522 N Old Carriage Road, Rocky Mount.

4/01 Compassion Cafe
-30 (Monday-Friday @ 11am-1pm)
Meal served once a month at the cafe. Corner of Church & Collins Streets, behind main Nashville UMC building. Contact Nashville UMC at 252.459.7178.

* Rocky Mount *

04/02 Dare To Discover Teen Book Club
(April 2 @ 5:30 -6:30pm)
April topic is “Cultures and Countries”. For teens (13-18). Braswell Memorial Library, 727 N Grace St., Rocky Mount Contact Leslie at 252.442.1951 x.257.

04/04 Live Music Thursdays
(April 4, 11 & 18 @ 7pm)
Live music along Sunset Avenue. April 4th-BnB, April 11th-Rob Alford, & April 18th-Chandler Bowling. At Westridge Grill, 3639 Sunset Avenue, Rocky Mount Call 252.937.7299 for info.

04/06 Indoor Yard Sale
(April 6 @ 6:30am-2:30pm)
Tri-County Arts Booster Club indoor yard sale & business expo. Members only \$5 for a 10x10 spot & \$10 for nonmembers. Held at 1964 Stone Rose Drive, Rocky Mount Email tricountyarts@gmail.com.

04/06 Paws in the Park
(April 6 @ 11am)
Pet parade, largest dog, smallest dog, best dressed, best tricks, & other contests for prizes. Veterinarians provide health tips, microchips & rabies shots. Small fee. All pets must be on leash & owners show proof of rabies shots & vaccinations. At Sunset Park, Rocky Mount Contact Parks & Rec at 252.972.1151 or john.battle@rockymountnc.gov.

04/06 NASH Autism Day
(April 6 @ 7pm)
Come enjoy music by Chickweed & join the fun. At Westridge Grill, 3639 Sunset Avenue, Rocky Mount Call 252.937.7299 for info.

04/12 Arbor Day Celebration
(April 12 @ 10 -11am)
Includes mayor & city council presentations, live band performances, & announcement of the poster contest winners. This event is open to the public. At the Rocky Mount Senior Center, 427 S Church St., Rocky Mt. Contact Allen at 252.343.3130.

04/13 Achieving Success Through Challenges in Engineering & Technology
(April 13 @ 10am)
Free. Hands-on STEM activities for elementary students & their parents. Explore amazing world of engineering with goal of improving STEM awareness in the community. At the Harrison Family YMCA, 1000 Independence Dr., Rocky Mt. More at www.harrisonfamilyy.org.

04/18 Back to Work Job Fair
(April 18 @ 9am-12pm)
Open to college students & adults. At Nash Community College, Brown Aud., 522 N Old Carriage Road, Rocky Mt. Contact Michael at 252.451.8307.

04/18 How to Start a Successful Business
(April 18 @ 6-9pm)
No charge. 3-hour workshop gives an overall understanding of the steps needed to take to make the dream of owning a business a reality. At the Business & Industry Center, Nash Community College, Room 1211, 522 N Old Carriage Rd., Rocky Mt.

04/18 NC Back to Work Job Fair
(April 18 @ 9am-noon)
No registration necessary. Professional dress required; no shorts, jeans, or caps. At Nash Community College, Business & Industry Center, 522 N Old Carriage Road, Rocky Mt.

04/24 Job Fair
(April 24 @ 11am-3pm)
Come by & learn about local job opportunities. In the Warner & Wiley mtg. rooms, Braswell Memorial Library, 727 N Grace Street, Rocky Mount Contact Brenda at 252.442.1951 x. 243.

04/26 Pantene Beautiful Lengths Ponytail Drive
(April 26 @ 4-8pm)
Trinity Lutheran Church hosts a ponytail drive at their Relay for Life tent. All qualifying donated ponytails will be transformed into free, high-quality wigs for women undergoing cancer treatment. At the Rocky Mount Athletic Complex, 600 Independence Dr., Rocky Mount Contact Jessica Smith at 252.443.7462.

04/27 The Art Garden
(April 27 @ 10am-5pm)
An arts & flower festival for artists & flower enthusiasts from community creating original works. At Maria V. Howard Arts Center, Imperial Centre, 270 Gay Street, Rocky Mount To reserve an art booth and for more information, call 252.972.1175.

* Wilson *

04/04 Improve Your Credit Score To 740+ Get Business/Personal Loan
(April 4 @ 6-9pm)
Free seminar includes info about history of credit scoring, credit reports & how they are calculated, importance of maint. good credit, etc. At Small Business Ctr, NCC Business & Industry Ctr, Rm 1213, 522 N Old Carriage Road, Wilson

4/16 Hackney Library Book Signing
(April 16)
With author Stephanie Barnard. At Barton College, Hackney Library, 400 Atlantic Christian Col Dr NE. Wilson Call 252.399.6501 or email gwloveland@barton.edu.

04/20 Wilson Police Department Shred A Thon
(April 20 @ 10am-2pm)
Wilson Police Department annual Shred A Thon. Bring documents to have shredded. Businesses, please do not bring large amounts. Parking lot beside K&W Cafeteria, by Old Kroger, Wilson

4/05 Family Engineering Night
(April 5 @ 3pm)
Free. NC State’s Engineering Place is coming to Imagination Station Science Museum! Discover your inner engineer. Design catapults, straw rockets, & more hands-on. Fun for all ages! At Imagination Station Science Museum, 224 Nash Street East, Wilson More at www.imaginescience.org.

4/18 Gardening Program
(April 18 @ 7-8pm)
Welcome Helen Yoest, Author of *Gardening with Confidence*, as she presents a program. In the assembly room, Wilson County Public Library, 249 Nash Street NE, Wilson To learn more, visit author’s site www.GardeningwithConfidence.com

4/20 Kid's on the Lawn
(April 20 @ 10am-3pm)
Celebrating Week of the Young Child & Child Abuse Prevention Month. Enjoy goodies & great food. Free community & child care info available. If rain, event held at the Ag Center, same date/time. Wilson County Public Library, 249 Nash Street NE, Wilson Contact 252.206.4235.

* Elsewhere *

4/06 Karaoke w/ James & Samantha Bradley
(April 6 @ 7-10pm)
Stop by for the fun each Saturday. At Showside Grill & Bakery, 102 N Pine Street, Spring Hope Info at www.showsidegrill.com

4/20 Home Run 5K Run/Walk for the Children
(April 20 @ 9am-11:30am)
Run for fun or competitively. Proceeds benefit Children’s Home. At Free Will Baptist Children’s Home, 7907 Buck Deans Road, Middlesex To register online: www.active.com/running/middlesex-nc/home-run-fir-the-children-2013

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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Come shop – Clothing, jewelry, handbags, bath, body and hand care products, have free assessments, and resources. \$1 admission. Ladies you don’t want to miss this event!!!
Afterschool Care Program - Registration Now!! School-Ages 2:30p-7p
Extended service/ Drop Off also available Affordable Weekly Fee Call 252-543-9663
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Phone: (252) 543-9663 For Sign up/ Enrollment & All Details

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Visit Local Home Gardens on
Wilson Garden Tour

Contributed by Linda May

The Wilson Garden Tour is returning May 3rd & 4th. This year, participants may tour eight unique gardens in Wilson! Walk through some unusual garden designs and see beautiful flowers in bloom!

Tour runs 10am through 4pm. both days. Friday, attend a reception and silent auction at the Wilson Woman’s Club, located on Broad Street (May 3rd at 5-7pm).

This year’s tour include these area gardens:

- Dr. and Mrs. James Cummings, whose garden includes a pond, vine-covered fences, sitting areas and a pool.
- Dr. and Mrs. Jim Taylor, whose yard includes multiple garden beds including numerous family heirloom plants from eastern NC; two unusual Chinese firs; and a koi pond shaded by a Japanese Maple.
- Mr. and Mrs. Ken Hill, described as an intimate Southern living garden next to a massive stone fireplace, gas grill and dining area ideal for entertaining.
- Ms. Carol Wikfors and Ms. Sheila Forbes. Ms. Wikfors is a local artist whose garden incorporates her love for art into a whimsical landscape.
- Mr. and Mrs. Ben Skinner, whose lawn is bordered by an array of southern plants including boxwoods, azaleas, hollies, camellias, dogwoods and rhododendrons.
- Mr. and Mrs. Dickie Barnes, whose garden is decorated both with flower-filled containers and art created by their daughter, Sherrod.
- Mr. and Mrs. Bill Andrews, whose lawn showcases a formal rose garden surrounded by a black, wrought iron fence.
- Mr. and Mrs. Tim Webb, a two-acre country oasis, surrounded by beautiful gardens, whimsical accessories and barnyard animals.

This annual garden tour is sponsored by the Wilson Botanical Gardens, the Wilson County Extension Master Gardener Volunteers, and the North Carolina Cooperative Extension



Photo by Cyndi Lauderdale

Service Foundation. Proceeds from the tour benefit the Wilson Botanical Gardens’ “Children’s Secret Garden” construction. Tickets (\$25 apiece) are available at the Raleigh Road Garden Center, The Nook, The Flower Pot, and the Wilson County Agricultural Center.

For more details or to participate in this Spring bloom review, call 252.237.0113 or visit www.wilson-co.com/arboretum.html, or search for “Wilson Botanical Gardens” on Facebook.

The Strange-ness

Animal Ghosts

Do you believe in ghosts? Despite any officially recognized evidence or proof, many people believe. A quick online search leads to thousands of strange tales. People from all walks of life relate stories of visits from relatives, hauntings by strange specters, and visions of pets who have passed on.

In some cases, the witness’ perceptions are given as evidence. Sometimes, though, there are photographs to back up the stories! Beloved dogs, cats, rabbits, and other pets which have passed on show up in photos or videos, seeming to confirm their return from beyond to see their families and other house pets. Visions of animal ghosts seem to be almost as frequent as those of people.

In March 2013, a UK woman reported a visit from her dead cat. She, and her remaining cat, both experienced a “presence” at the same time.

One Eastern NC resident reported that after her cat was killed in an overnight accident, she was awakened in the middle of the night by the cat jumping on the bed. Reaching down to pet him, she found nothing where moments before she had felt the cat’s weight on her legs.

Zebulon resident Diana Trent has a photograph showing her beloved dog, Marlow, watching over them. In a 2001 Christmas photo, Marlow’s spirit can be seen seated next her other dogs, Luther and Foxy, alongside her grandson Joey and Santa.



Ghosts have been reported for hundreds of years. Is it likely that the people relating encounters with ghosts are misunderstanding what they see or hear? There are many believers, spanning many countries and cultures, and records going back more than a thousand years to support the idea that spirits do indeed come to visit.

What have you experienced? Do you believe?



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KCAG Family Fun Day at “King’s Dominion”
May 18, 2013

Leaving Styles Masters, 224 Goldsboro Street SW, Wilson, NC at 7am Sharp.
Returning to Wilson 8pm.

1st Deposit due by March 25 – \$40 per person. Final payment is April 25. Kids under 2 FREE.

\$80 includes Transportation to & from, Admission in the Park, & Bus Drivers Tip.

Please contact Dee or Gil 252-543-9663

Reserve your seat at:

<http://kingsdominion518.eventbrite.com/#>

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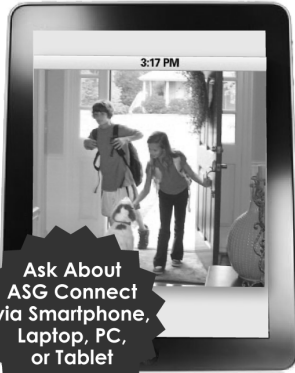
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Little Bits

Chuckle of the Issue

It was the end of the day when I parked my police van in front of the station. As I gathered my equipment, my K-9 partner, Jake, was barking, and I saw a little boy staring in at me. “Is that a dog you got back there?” he asked.

“It sure is,” I replied.

Puzzled, the boy looked at me and then towards the back of the van.

Finally he asked, “What’d he do?”

Word of the Issue

raptor

Definition: A bird of prey, often known to catch their food while in flight. Example raptors: eagles, hawks, and owls.

Example: “The raptor flew across the road, a flopping fish clutched in its talons.”

Quote of the Issue

“As you grow older, you will discover that you have two hands, one for helping yourself, the other for helping others.”

--Audrey Hepburn

Translation of the Issue

English — “fish”

Irish — iasc
Latin — piscis
German — fisch

Spanish — pescado
Italian — pesce
Dutch — vis

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: X = A.

X N C V L X P V L L Q C U D

H V P T U M C Y H X B B C Y V D

G U Q T U P B H V P T V B

T U C L P B H X B B C Y

-- H X Y W B J X V P

Answer to the previous issue’s cryptogram:

*The Most Valuable
Possession You Can Own
Is An Open Heart. The
Most Powerful Weapon
You Can Be Is An
Instrument Of Peace.*

-- Carlos Santana

Recent Ribbon Cuttings

Another Ribbon Cutting was held March 21st in Wendell, as a variety of new restaurants open in short order. This photo shows Ruben Pichardo and Martha Torres at the La Familia Bakery ribbon cutting, held by the Wendell Chamber of Commerce. This bakery (panadería) and coffee shop is the new location for the Wendell Chamber’s weekly “Coffee Break” networking events (Tuesdays at 8am).



Photo by Frank Whatley

Writer’s Block

By Kay Whatley

For many years, I worked in book and technical manual publishing. What I found in many of the Technical Writers I worked with were “frustrated authors” wanting to get out! Many of the folks I talked with had ideas for novels or short stories, and were just waiting to have the time to write for themselves.

Every life is different, and often worth writing down either for publication or to share with one’s family. Add to this the possibilities imagination brings to the table — the ability to write about anything real or pretend. Every person who enjoys writing has something worth writing down.

If there never seems to be a good time to start, and for those who don’t take the time before then, what about November? Every November is National Novel Writing Month (nanowrimo.org). In June, there is a similar “Camp NaNoWriMo” is held to help authors become, well, authors. Helpful tips for getting stories out of the mind and on to paper, and in less than a month, are available through that website. For those with a love of writing, aiming for these June or November “deadlines” — or a deadline you set on your own — can help you move forward in sharing your tales or imaginaries with the world.

If you don’t take the time to put your words to paper, who will?

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something new • give back • pay it forward**

News from The Grey Area

This March 29th issue’s event listing includes a variety of business meetings, local news, Spring-related activities, and several job fairs. All are public, and most are free.

More Spring and outdoor events are coming, along with information on local farmers’ markets and free movies/concerts. Watch for Cinco de Mayo, Mother’s Day, and summer camp information in the coming issues.

The Grey Area newspaper is published in two Editions, covering Bunn, Knightdale, Rocky Mount, Wendell, Wilson, Zebulon, and surrounding areas. To advertise, call 919.637.6973. Issues of *The Grey Area* come out every other Friday year-round. Previous newspaper issues may be read in the online “Archives” at www.greyareanews.com. If interested in submitting an article or editorial, please email us at kayw@greyareanews.com.

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