

The Grey Area™

Local and National Unusual News

Rocky Mount, Nashville, Tarboro & Wilson NC Edition – 919.623.9392

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Eastern North Carolina

“I’M FREE—Take Me With You!”

**Volume 3, Number 12B
June 7–20, 2013**

Business Event Offers Possibilities to Be the Boss

The National Franchise & Business Opportunities Show in Raleigh showcased businesses available for entrepreneurs and those who would like to become entrepreneurs. Visitors walked through the expo and chatted with vendors, learning about each potential business.

For those exploring the option of self-employment, the two-day show (June 1-2) provided access to dozens of business offerings. While some vendors, like Blue Moon Estate Sales, are local, the majority had traveled to the NC State Fairgrounds from other states: Pennsylvania, Iowa, Illinois, and Florida — many vendors from Florida.



Hard Bean Coffee (photo) had traveled from Wyomissing PA to talk with entrepreneurs. Mr. and Mrs. Scott Bortz and their rep Liz Beck told their café ownership story and explained how

their unique coffee shop works. Their goal is to expand Hard Bean Coffee into NC.

Vendors shared information on product and service offerings and answered questions. For those walking through, the event was a chance to glean information from many businesses, and consider how to move into working for themselves.

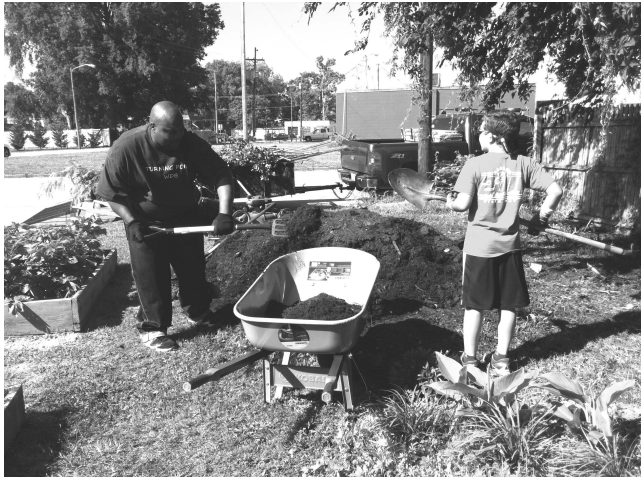
Down East Neighborhood Garden Helps Grow Leaders

Eighty-degree temperatures hovered as volunteers renovated the Down East Neighborhood Garden off of Eastern Avenue, Rocky Mount. The May 31st work-day was organized by the Rocky Mount Area Chamber of Commerce (RMACC)

Leadership Rocky Mount graduates as a day of service for the neighborhood.

RMACC’s Leadership Rocky Mount is designed for business professionals. The nine-month program is often covered by employers, who pay the \$1,000 fee. The class meets once a month and learns about Rocky Mount-Nash-Edgecombe area offerings, local government, area history, and more.

According to the RMACC’s Linda Mann, at Christmas time the class holds a Coats for Kids drive as part of their community studies. and then after graduation they perform a Legacy Project for a local community. The 2012 class built a playground. The newly-graduated 2013 class worked with the Down East Community Garden as their Legacy Project.



Shawn Neville and Trey Flaherty Move Mulch

The Down East Community Garden began in 2011 as a single garden of long rows. In an effort to better divide the work, and give residents choice in what to plant, the 2012 garden was rebuilt as raised beds.

Before the garden, the corner lot where the garden grows held a small building with several apartments built around 1925. When the apartments burned down, the lot sat empty except for glass, bricks, and trash. When the idea for the garden came up, arrangements were made to lease the land from the owner and the garden was born!

Leadership Rocky Mount students pitched in to create new growing space, plant trees, spread mulch, and update existing garden spaces. Tiffany Huddleston (CenturyLink) and husband Mike, Linda Mann and Bobbie Booth of the RMACC, Nancy Bullard (Southern Bank–Sharpsburg), Bill Boddie (Boddie-Noell Enterprises), Leigh Whitley (Poyner Spruill) and her daughter Jennifer, Sharon Flaherty (RMA) and son Trey, Damien “Shawn” Neville, La-Toya Shirley (Action Group), Audrey Burnette (US Cellular), and Class Facilitator Bill Griffin all volunteered for this Legacy Project. They also brought donated supplies: mulch, lumber, edging, and even an apple tree (donated by Allen’s Nursery on Halifax Road).

The work was overseen by Garden Manager Georgia Person, while several garden members worked their plots. Neighborhood garden members include Ashley and Donnie Ardis, whose tomato plants are already covered with large green globes, and Lewis Turner, who grows his own herbs, beets, radishes, squash and more in the largest raised bed.

Donnie Ardis also waters the entire garden in the evening. As garden manager Georgia Person pointed out, everyone helps each other in the garden. She explained that it is not just growing healthy food, it is also the neighborhood working together. Garden members grow together and share the harvest for the good of all nearby who need it. Part of the Twin City Vision is health, so the garden members are teaching people a different way — growing their own food. “The way things used to be,” Georgia points out.

To learn more about Leadership Rocky Mount, contact RMACC. For the Down East Community Garden, contact Georgia Person, Garden Manager, at 252.314.0999.

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

School is almost out, and your 16-year-old son has a few more days left. You watch him leave for school and you start driving to work. On the way, you pull into a local coffee shop for a cup of coffee. The school is not far away, and in the coffee shop are two of your sons friends! You think they are probably “ditching” school. You say hello and ask, “Shouldn’t you be in school?”

They look embarrassed. One of your son’s friends asks you, “Would you please not tell my mom!”

What do you think you would tell him? Would you call his parents? Do you think you would be more likely to talk the boy into telling his parents directly? If you were close friends with his parents, or both boys’ parents, do you think it would affect what you choose to do?

EASTERN NORTH CAROLINA POLYGRAPH SERVICES

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Things to Do in NC
When You’re Bored

* Nashville *

6/07 Compassion Cafe
-6/28 (Monday-Friday @ 11am-1pm)
Meal served once a month at the cafe. Corner of Church & Collins Streets, behind main Nashville UMC building. Contact 252.459.7178.

6/10 Kids’ Storytime
6/17 (June 10, 17 & 24 @ 10:30am)
6/24 Join each Monday for 30-minute story time. For ages 2-5. Give children a good start at being readers. At Cooley Library, 114 W Church St., Nashville
www2.youseemore.com/
cooleylibrary

6/14 Horse Camp
(June 14 @ 8-11am)
Town of Nashville’s Parks & Rec free Summer Athletic Programs is offering Horse Camp! To register, go by Town Hall & fill out a registration form. At JW Glover Memorial Park, 1434 South First Street, Nashville
Call Parks & Rec at 252.459.9796.

6/29 Dan Smith Kick-Drums Kids Show (June 29 @ 4pm)
Free event! Performance by Daniel Justin Smith. At Nash Arts Center, 100 E Washington Street, Nashville
More info at nasharts.org.

* Rocky Mount *

6/07 Lawn Chair Theatre
6/21 (June 7 & 21 @ 7pm)
Parks & Rec’s family movie nights are every other Friday. Before movie, kids can enjoy free activities. Free movies begin at sundown. Food, concessions, & drinks available for purchase. Bring blanket or lawn chairs. Movies *The Odd Life of Timothy Green* (June 7th) & *The Rise of the Guardians* (June 21st). At Imperial Centre for the Arts & Sciences, 270 Gay Street, Rocky Mt

6/07 Free Compost
6/14 (June 7, 14 & 21 @ 7:30am-4pm)
6/21 Free compost available to the public. At the city’s compost site, 1244 Arrow Road, Rocky Mount

6/13 Flower Arranging Workshop (June 13 @ 5:30-7:30pm)
Special library event. Bring flower arranging materials to the workshop. In the Warner Meeting Room, Braswell Memorial Library, 727 N Grace Street, Rocky Mount

6/13 Summer Music Series
6/27 (June 13 & 27 @ 6-8:30pm)
Downtown Live’s free concerts. Doors open 5pm. No coolers allowed. Bring blankets or lawn chairs. On the lawn at The Imperial Centre, 270 Gay Street, Rocky Mt

7/03 42nd Annual Independence Celebration (July 3 @ 6-9:30pm)
Free event with fireworks & much more. Food & activities galore. At Rocky Mount Athletic Stadium, 1400 N Church Street, Rocky Mount
Contact Debbie at 252.972.1151.

* Wilson *

6/11 Film Screening: The Hobbit (June 11 @ 5-8:30pm)
Bring the family & enjoy this movie based on J.R.R. Tolkien’s children’s story. At Wilson County Public Library, 249 Nash St. W, Wilson
To register, stop by the library’s ref. desk, or call 252.237.5355 ext.3.

6/12 Downtown Alive! (June 12 @ 5:30pm)
Free summer concerts return to Wilson. Spend the evening listening to live music & relaxing with the family. Performance by *Yo Mama’s Big Fat Booty Band* June 12th. At Grassy lot, 210 S Tarboro St., Wilson

6/12 Wilson Tobs Baseball Opener
6/13 (June 12, 13 & 15 @ 7:05pm)
6/15 Good family fun! Come for the ball game, enjoy a good time with family or friends! Small ticket fee. At Fleming Stadium, 300 Stadium Street SW, Wilson
Online at www.wilsonslobs.com.

NEW
* Tarboro *

6/01 Beach Music and BBQ Festival (June 1 @ 12-6pm; gate 11am)
Live music, food & lots to do. Tickets \$15 in advance, more at the gate. At Edgecombe Comm College, 2009 W. Wilson Street, Tarboro
Call Karen Andrus 252.823.5166 or andrusk@edgecombe.edu.

6/14 Foot Care Services (June 14 @ 2om)
Doctor Sellers providing the service. Space is limited; expect a wait. At the E.L. Roberson Senior Recreation Center, 305 W Baker Street, Tarboro
For more info, call 252.641.4263.

6/17 Junior Sheriff’s Academy
-28 (June 17-28 or July 8-19 @ 8am-4-pm Mon-Fri)
7/08 -19 Youth between 13-18. Learn about law enforcement. Ride along with a deputy. \$30 registration fee. By Edgecombe County Sheriff’s Office. Call for info 252.641.7915.

6/28 The Ambassadors Quartet (June 28 @ 6:30pm)
Live Music event. At Gospel Fellowship Ministries, 1010 Fountain Street, Tarboro, NC

* Elsewhere *

6/07 Washington Summer Festival -09 (June 7-9)
Free community festival committed to providing a variety of family-centered activities. Includes annual street fair, food, arts, crafts & commercial vendors, free concerts, children’s entertainment & activities. Stewart Parkway & Festival Park events, Downtown Washington

6/08 Karaoke Saturdays (June 8 @ 7-10pm)
Stop by for the fun with James & Samantha Bradley. At Showside Grill, 102 N Pine St., Spring Hope
Info at www.showsidegrill.com

6/08 Stepping Into the Past Series (June 8 @ 10am-3pm)
Workshop included with museum adm. New topic each week. *Professional Storytellers* (June 8th). At Tobacco Farm Life Museum, 709 N Church Street, Kenly
www.tobaccofarmlifemuseum.org

6/08 Antique Farm Expo (June 8 @ 9:30am)
Enjoy a great day with antique farm equipment exhibits, parades, horse shows & demonstrations to delight all ages. Parade at 9:30am, through downtown Edenton with horses & horse drawn carriages. At American Legion Fairgrounds, 1317 West Queen Street, Edenton
Contact ectoppin@hotmail.com.

6/08 31st Annual Rogallo Kite -09 Festival (June 8-9)
Free. Two days of kite flying to honor Francis Rogallo, NASA scientist & inventor of the flexible wing. Come see large kite displays, learn to fly various kites, kite making, & more! At Jockey’s Ridge State Park, Nags Head
Info email events@kittyhawk.com

6/09 Sunday in the Park Concert
6/16 Series (June 9 & 16 @ 7-9pm)
Bring blankets or chairs & enjoy the concert series’ live music. Events free & open to the public. On the Town Common, Greenville
Info at www.grpd.info.

6/14 301 Endless Yard Sale -15 (June 14-15 @ 8am)
Towns along US 301 & Johnston County holding the first annual “Endless Yardsale”. The communities along US 301 join together with deals, antiques, collectibles & more. Along the 30-mile stretch of highway between Kenly & Benson
See www.301endlessyardsale.com.

6/15 Summer Fun Family Luau & Tiki Run (June 15 @ 6-8pm)
Free entertainment, food, games, a Tiki Run, prizes & more! Proceeds go toward Special Blessings programs & services,. At Wendell Rec Center, 601 W Third St., Wendell
Info www.specialblessingsinc.net.

6/16 Father’s Day (June 16)
6/18 Knightdale Business Expo ’13 (June 18 @ 2-7pm)
Knightdale Chamber of Commerce annual expo! 100+ businesses showcasing products & services. Network through the day, register for door prizes, & attend professional development seminars. Free. At Knightdale High School, Bryan Chalk Ln, Knightdale
Visit www.knightdalechamber.org

6/22 Bunn Berry Social (June 22 @ 11am-3pm)
Part of Centennial, celebrating 100 years of Bunn. Cornhole tournament, hot dogs, & much more. At Vollmer Farm, 671 NC 98 Hwy East, Bunn
Info, call 919.426.5806 or email sherry.mercer@jacobs.com.

6/26 Set The Woman Free -28 Conference (June 26-28 @ 7:30pm)
At Salvation & Praise Full Gospel Church, 9243 Marlboro Road Farmville

The above “Things To Do...” listings are free, at publisher’s discretion, and as space allows. Up to 5 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

The Archibald White House

Taking a walk through Tarboro means an opportunity to see centuries-old homes, to shop in a walker-friendly downtown, and to take a summertime walk in the park.

Well-maintained sidewalks run through the business district, through neighborhoods, and around the 50-acre Town Common — one of the two original Town Commons in the US! A Highway Historical Marker placed along Main Street early in the 20th century marks the “Town Common”. Handicapped-accessible ramps provide for easy access by all.

Look up the Tarboro Historic District on Wikipedia.org, and there is mention of The Archibald White House. At 228 years old, this is the oldest house still in its original location. It was built in 1785 when the country was young.



The Archibald White House in 2013 after Renovations

Recently listed for sale, this historic home was renovated in 2008-2009. Located on a square corner lot, 111 West Church Street faces one-way Church Street, with the side facing Trade Street. The backyard edges a retail parking lot, so it has been fenced for privacy. This well-kept home is within the downtown, serving as an important piece of the Tarboro Historic District — and in the National Register of Historic Places.

The Archibald White House’s five mantled fireplaces would have been necessary for warmth in the old days. Now they serve as extras within the 2366 sq. feet of heated space.

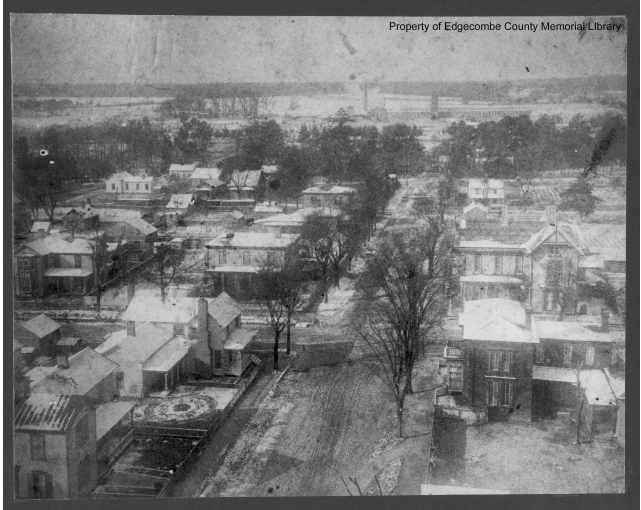


Photo circa 1890 provided by Edgecombe County Memorial Library. Likely taken from Tarboro Town Hall clock tower by W.H. Zoeller. Dwelling was 105 years old. Tarboro Cotton Factory is in the background.

Several additions to the home during the 1800s expanded its original space. Recent renovations followed historic property guidelines, making it a beautiful and more-than-comfortable place to raise a family — or start a business.

Zoned as “B-1” in Edgecombe County means that this White House is in a “neighborhood business district”. It may be utilized as a residence, a service location, retail space, or office space. Its spacious floor plan means possibilities are endless!

Take a drive by, and see that it is in a well cared for area with other historic homes, within two blocks of dozens of businesses. There is even a large parking lot across the street where an IGA grocery store used to be, and where a walk-to grocery store may potentially be again some day.

To find out more about sale of this property, contact Mary Ann Cumpata of Tarboro Realty at 252.823.7588 (office) or 252.904.0387 (cell).

Benjamin Bunn (1844-1907)

Twin County Museum and Hall of Fame’s mission is to “celebrate the history, culture, people, and accomplishments of Nash and Edgecombe Counties.” One celebrated person, inducted into the Hall of Fame in 2011, is Benjamin Bunn.

He was born in Rocky Mount in 1844. He served during the Civil War, then returned home and studied law. In 1866, Benjamin received his law license. He practiced law until his death in 1907.

Benjamin also served in the NC General Assembly, and the US House of Representatives from 1889-1895. It was his efforts, in part, that led to the establishment of Rocky Mount in 1867; after which he was elected its first mayor.

For more information on Benjamin Bunn and others, visit www.twincountyhalloffame.com.

Summertime Camping, Day Camps & Fun for All Ages

Ah, the hot weather has finally arrived! As soon as the kids are out of school, the fun can really begin! Eastern NC has much to offer for families — days, evenings and weekends.

Day camps are available varying from a few hours to all day. Program offered cover gymnastics, science, martial arts, religion, and the arts. Parents may send children for a day to some camps, or for a little more may send them for several weeks during summer break.

Music academies, karate schools, and museums provide educational camps for the kids. For a small fee, the children can go learn (while playing), and parents can work or get their own break to do something fun. A variety of camps are available throughout Wake, Nash, Wilson, Franklin, Johnston, and Edgecombe Counties.

Multiple Eastern NC cities and towns provide free music, indoor and outdoor movies, and festivals during the cooler evenings. These events can be a welcome opportunity to leave the house after dinner and let the family relax together.

For an Eastern NC “getaway”, the state parks offer camping, fishing, hiking, and more. Possibilities include:

- Cliffs of the Neuse State Park
- Dismal Swamp State Park
- Goose Creek State Park
- Jones Lake State Park
- Lake Waccamaw State Park
- Merchants Millpond State Park
- Medoc Mountain State Park
- Pettigrew State Park
- Singletary Lake State Park

Some parks offer overnight camping, while others are geared toward daytime visitors. The NC State Parks website lists activities by park: ncparks.gov. The Search tool allows choosing of Eastern NC to locate parks closer to home.

Whether choosing activities for children, themselves, or the entire family, people throughout Eastern NC may choose a variety of activities for summertime fun.



The Strange-ness

Crop Circles in Wilson

The appearance of Crop Circles was reported to MUFON, the Mutual UFO Network, on May 23rd. The circles reportedly appeared on May 20th in several Wilson County NC fields. Photos show waves of grain pressed flat in several areas, forming strange designs.

Just a year ago, May 2012, crop circles were reported in several countries including Italy and the UK.

While UFO landings are frequently blamed for crop circles, they are also theorized to be caused by weather, crop fungi, animals, and pranksters.





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Source: AM Best 2006 Combined Lines PC ©2008 Nationwide Mutual Insurance Company and Affiliated Companies. Nationwide Life Insurance Company. Home office: Columbus, Ohio 43215-2220. Nationwide, the Nationwide Frammark and On Your Side are federally registered service marks of Nationwide Mutual Insurance Company. Not available in all states.

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