

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 15A
July 5–18, 2013**

Our Zebulon Boys and Girls’ Garden Club

Contributed by the Garden Club Kids

No need to water the gardens at the Zebulon Boys & Girls Club. On June 27th, the garden club met and 17 members participated. What we do in the garden club is plant vegetables and pick them when they are ready. We gather them in buckets, wash them and some members even get to try them. Some of the vegetables we grow are carrots, corn, tomatoes, and small peppers. We also learn about soil and how much to water our plants. All this extra rain is too much water and some of our plants are not growing well. We could use a little more sun and a lot less rain!

The garden club meets every other Thursday. Sometimes we weed and Ms. Kay always teaches us something new. The Garden Club is a program designed to inspire kids to love gardening and to give them the skills to someday have gardens of their own. Grow And Share has been with us for a year now. We really appreciate them coming to help us with our program.

A Little Bit of History

Eastern NC’s 1961 Nuclear Mishap

It was January 24, 1961. The Cold War was in full swing. Tensions were high between the US government and Russia. Americans feared a nuclear strike would be initiated by Russia. US aircraft with nuclear weapons on board criss-crossed the continent day and night, with hopes of reacting quickly in case of a nuclear conflict. Before leaving office, President Dwight D. Eisenhower severed relations with the Cuban government. President John F. Kennedy took office, and four days later two nuclear bombs fell from the sky over NC.

It was an accident. A US Air Force bomber completing its mission for the night ran into trouble. Their aircraft broke apart — five of the eight crewman escaped — and their payload of two nuclear bombs fell near the Davis farm in Taro. The village of Faro, a dozen miles northeast of Goldsboro, became a hub of military activity. Recovery of the nuclear bombs were of utmost importance. There were concerns that the bombs might explode, taking a large chunk of NC and many Americans with them.

One bomb’s parachute brought it to a relatively gentle drop by a roadway, making recovery easy. The second fell freely to the ground, broke apart, and pieces push more than 100 feet into the swampy earth of near Nahunta Swamp.

The farm of Charles T. Davis became a flurry of activity. Recovery teams and excavating equipment filled the field. Bomb parts emerged from the muck one by one. After weeks of searching, some of the bomb components were recovered and others were still missing — reportedly including radioactive uranium. The decision was made to fill in the deep, mucky hole and end the search. Unable to recover some of the nuclear components, the US Air Force purchased a permanent easement from Mr. Davis and his heirs. This ensured the area would be undisturbed as it prohibited any digging beyond standard farming depths.

Not long after this Goldsboro-area scare, President Kennedy authorized increases in “PALs”, Permissive Action Links, that would greatly lessen the risk of unauthorized nuclear weapon use. But it would be seven more years before the continuous airborne alerts with active nuclear weapons would be stopped. They were cancelled within twenty-four hours of the crash of a B-52 and Broken Arrow at Thule, Greenland in 1968.

It may never be known how close Faro came to disappearing. Incident records are classified. The government, initially claimed they were searching for a lost airplane seat, admitted they were seeking a “broken arrow” (lost nuclear device) after incurring almost half a million dollars in search costs. Witnesses involved in the recovery have said that the bombs came close to detonating.

Joel Dobson authored The Goldsboro Broken Arrow, a book released in 2011. The e-book was released this year. To find out more about this important NC happening, the book’s second edition can now be purchased through the website www.thegoldsborobrokenarrow.com.

According to Mr. Dobson, “...the most amazing thing to me was to find the people involved, people who were actually in this very unusual airplane crash and nuclear accident, and to get them all together at the actual place where it all occurred, fifty years later. And now we are discovering how important that crash was, probably the closest we have every come to a nuclear detonation on American soil.”

According to Mr. Dobson’s research, Dr. Jack ReVelle, the only man alive who has deactivated two thermonuclear weapons, said of the Goldsboro Broken Arrow: “How close was it to exploding? My opinion is damn close. You might now have a very large Bay of North Carolina if that thing had gone off.”

To this day, the North Carolina Division of Radiation Protection tests groundwater in the Faro area to ensure the uranium bomb material has not leached into the water table.

In 2012, a NC Historical Marker was erected in the town of Eureka, three miles northwest of the Faro crash site. The Historical Marker bears the title, “Nuclear Mishap”. It includes mention of the three crewman lost: Sargent Francis Roger Barnish (age 35), Major Eugene Holcombe Richards (age 42), and Major Eugene Shelton (age 41).

Ed. Note: With thanks to Joel Dobson for his assistance on this article and sequence of events.

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 click a video link which an online friend posted. All the link said was “Fun at School”.

You’re watching the video and you recognize several young kids in it. They go to the same school as your family. In fact, a couple of the kids in the video have been to your home.

The “Fun at School” turns out to be a child pouring something into a teacher’s drink while the teacher is out of the room.

Do you think you would contact the school or the teacher? How about the children you know? Do you think it would be best to contact the parents? If the video did not show what happened to the teacher, do you think it would be prudent to contact the police?

Would it make a difference if you knew the teacher, or had heard that he or she had recently been ill?

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Things to Do in NC
When You’re Bored

* Bunn *

7/08 Poetry Club
7/15 (July 8 & 15 @ 6-8pm)
Every Monday. Bring your poems. At Common Grounds Coffee (and Fun) House, 20 Cheves Road, Bunn

7/11 A Blessing Soup Kitchen
7/18 (July 11, 18 & 25 @ 11:30am)
7/25 Thursdays free meals served to residents in need. Collaboration of local nonprofits using donations & volunteers. Donations welcome. Broad Building, Bunn

7/26 Bunn’s Centennial Movie Night (July 26 @6pm)
Centennial event. Movie *Jackson’s Run*. Special guests! At Norris Creek Outdoor Entertainment Complex, 751 Old Halifax Road, Louisburg. (See ad below.)

* Knightdale *

7/16 Networking in Knightdale (July 16 @ 11:30am-1pm)
Connect with other businesses. All welcome to attend. Members: pay for meal order. Not-yet members, \$10+meal order. At Applebee’s, 6609 Knightdale Blvd., Knightdale
To register, call 919.266.4603.

7/24 PWNG - Professional Women's Networking Group (July 24 @ 11:45AM-1PM)
Meet professional women in friendly environment. Network & give commercial. RSVP required. Fee \$10-\$20. Knightdale Chamber. At 207 Main Street, Knightdale

7/25 Food Truck Rodeos (July 25 @ 4-7pm)
Local Food Trucks join Knightdale’s Market in the Park for an evening of food & fun! In Harper Park, 207 Main Street, Knightdale

7/28 Evening Of Praise: Peace Rules Concert (July 28 @ 5pm)
Peace Rules back for an “Evening Of Praise”. At New Covenant Life Baptist Church, 3332 S Smithfield Road Knightdale
Info, call 919.266.0573.

* Wendell *

7/07 Backpack Outreach School 7/13 Supplies (July 7 @ 1pm)
To donate school supplies, drop off before this date. Supplies distributed to those in need July 13th (10am-1pm). At Hephzibah Baptist Church, 1794 Wendell Blvd, Wendell
To participate, contact Kim Lumley at 919.217.0102 or Sue Mustgrave at 919.269.4046.

7/17 East Wake WIN (July 17 @ 11:45am-1pm)
Both Wendell & Zebulon Chambers. Members: pay for lunch; Non-members: \$5+lunch. Call for location or to RSVP 919.269.6320.

* Zebulon *

7/05 Pickleball 7/12 (July 5, 12 & 19 @ 11am-1pm) 7/19
A net, paddle, & whiffle ball! Instructions given for beginners. Free. At Zebulon Comm Ctr, 301 S Arendell Avenue, Zebulon

7/05 Mudcats Baseball -07 (July 5-7 & 17-23) 7/17 -23
Baseball, hot dogs, & more. Small ticket fee. At Five County Stadium, 1501 NC-39, Zebulon
Online at www.gomudcats.com.

7/06 Brown Bag Lunch Ministry 7/13 (July 6, 13, 20 & 27 @ 7/20 11:30am- 12:30pm) 7/27
Free grab-and-go lunches for those in need. At Fellowship Hall, Zebulon UMC, 121 W. Gannon Avenue, Zebulon
Info: www.zumchurch.org.

7/12 Movie on the Lawn (July 12 @ 8:30pm)
Second Friday of the month. Free movie & popcorn! A parent or guardian must be present for all children. At the Town Municipal Complex, 1003 N Arendell Avenue, Zebulon

7/12 Family Movie Night (July 12 @ 7:30PM)
Free film. Bring the family for a fun evening & popcorn. Parent or guardian must be present. At Zebulon Community Center, 301 S Arendell Avenue, Zebulon
Call 919.823.0432 for movie info.

7/16 5 County Beekeepers Assoc. (July 16 @ 7-9pm)
Monthly meeting on the 3rd Tuesday. All interested welcome. Refreshments at 6:30pm. At Zebulon Community Center, 301 S Arendell Ave, Zebulon
Info, huntercsllc@gmail.com

* Elsewhere *

7/11 Stevia Production in NC (July 11 @ 4-6pm)
What is stevia and could it be a crop to add to crop rotation? New buyers in NC give this crop economic potential. Come see first and second year field-grown plants, learn about production practices, new research, & market demand. At Avoca Farms, 841 Avoca Farm Road, Merry Hill
For more info or to register, contact Molly Hamilton at 828.273.1041.

7/13 Men Cooking with Jazz Cook-off (July 13 @ 1-9pm)
Free entry. Bring lawn chairs. Features cooking contest, vendors, jazz & blues bands, face painting & Sybil the clown (4-6p). Benefits High Hopes Foundation. At Spring Forest Road Park, 4203 Spring Forest Rd, Raleigh
For info, call 919.757.3527.

7/13 West Edgecombe Mini Pullers 8/03 (July 13 & August 3 @ 6pm)
Come out for the lawn mower pulls, organized by West Edgecombe Farm Heritage Museum & West Edgecombe Ruritan Club. concession stand serving hot dogs, burgers, fries, nachos and soft drinks with proceeds going to community work. Gates open at 3pm. 12180 NC-43 North, Rocky Mount
www.westedgecombeminipullers.com

Bunn’s Centennial MOVIE NIGHT
Will be joining the Impact Challenge Outside UNDER THE STARS at Norris Creek
Friday-July 26, Gates open @ 6:00pm Movie @ 8:00pm
This is a 3 day event for only \$5.00!!
Come Praise & Worship, hear live music, Meet & Greet with some of the cast and crew of the film as well as actors from the movie, Courageous’ and former NFL player Bryon Williams
Call Sherry Mercer with ?’s 919-426-5806

North Carolina Premier Showing of
Jackson’s Run

Wear your Centennial T-shirt You just may get a Prize!!
Come out & enjoy Food, Popcorn, Snacks, Drinks & Fresh Lemonade

IMPACT CHALLENGE
Christian Youth Weekend
July 26, 27, & 28th

A weekend of Christian music by *Second Perception*, performance of *Satan’s Kiss*, debut showing of *Jackson’s Run*, celebrity speakers, food, fun, fellowship, vendors, and more! **Bring a tent and camp with us!**

at Norris Creek Entertainment Complex
751 Old Halifax Road, Louisburg, NC

Three Days of Praise

\$5 Advance Registration & information online at www.impactchallengenc.org
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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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Grateful To Live In America

Essay submitted by Nnanna Okafor, 14,
son of Felix and Ravita Okafor

(Subtitles are excerpts from the song “America”)

“My Country ‘Tis of Thee, Sweet Land of Liberty”

I am blessed to have been born in America. I did not choose America as my place of birth, but living here in this country has afforded me many civil liberties. Opportunities such as free education aren’t available in all countries. The United States’ government considers its citizens in the decisions that are made, unlike many other countries. Voting and impeaching of elected, political, and government officials help us to keep laws fair. These liberties, in my opinion, literally make us all a part of America.

“Of Thee I Sing, Land Where My Fathers Died”

Even though my ancestors were brought here under subhuman circumstances, I am proud to continue building on the legal, educational, and social rights they secured. As a citizen, I accept my responsibility to assist the country in its progression. With all the rights, privileges, and opportunities supported by the Constitution, we are well-equipped to identify and meet the needs of all of our citizens. One of the main problems hindering people from achieving their goals is the economy’s current state and high unemployment rates. My goal is to study to become a surgeon and to use my wealth to assist the sick and otherwise disadvantaged members of our society.

“Land of the Noble Free”

America grants many freedoms to its citizens. Through the First Amendment, we have guaranteed rights regarding freedom of speech, the press, assembly, religion, and petition. We are fortunate to have established laws that protect us from imprisonment or death if we speak out against any practice or person of power. Unfortunately, some countries maintain laws that discriminate against groups of people. I have read about this problem affecting foreign countries and even in American history. These stories grieve my heart and strengthen my determination to make this country a better

place. Thankfully, in America, we have the right to pursue legal action if our rights are violated.

The inalienable rights granted to citizens of the United States allow members of the society to pursue their dreams and enrich to the greatness of this country. We have laws that protect an individual’s pursuit of happiness. The United States’ government is a democracy, and I am proud to pledge my allegiance to the flag of the United States of America and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with Liberty and Justice for all.

My Country, ‘Tis of Thee

Essay submitted by Kathy Cockrell, Knightdale

What do these words mean to me? Penned nearly 200 years ago by the Rev. Samuel Francis Smith, why do the lyrics still stir the hearts of patriotic Americans throughout the land, especially at our beloved Independence Day celebrations?

For me the answer is in the second line of the song, “sweet land of liberty”. “Liberty” means that I am free to chase my dreams wherever they may lead me. I am free to define “success” as I see it - family, career, sports, hobbies - and no monarch or despot may define it for me or erect hurdles to my success.

Considering the revolution launched by Thomas Jefferson's beautifully-composed Declaration of Independence, I ponder the motivations of the colonists. Our ancestors risked the infamy of death by hanging as the penalty for treason against the Crown, and then fought a bloody seven-year war to make the Declaration more than scroll and ink. General Washington's bedraggled army taking on the well-trained ranks of the 18th century's dominant empire was truly a David-and-Goliath match-up. A Patriot victory was far from assured but the rebels fought on. As I marvel at their defiance of the odds, I recall Patrick Henry's passionate cry “I know not what course others may take, but as for me, give me liberty or give me death!” ...and I understand.

Over the course of the ensuing two centuries, our nation of liberty thrived and expanded. After another long and painful war, we fulfilled our destiny to make this a “sweet land of liberty” for those of every race. Slavery will remain an ugly stain on our treasured history, as is the case with far too many civilizations. It was - and is - completely irreconcilable with our cherished freedoms.

Time and again, this land of liberty gave the world brilliant thinkers who would change history. George Washington Carver transformed agriculture in the South. Alexander Graham Bell's telephone launched a communications revolution which continues today. Thomas Alva Edison's light bulb banished the darkness. Henry Ford ushered in the era of mass production. More recently, the ideas of people like Steve Jobs and Bill Gates changed how we work, store and manipulate data, communicate with each other, and even how we spend our leisure time.

Is it coincidence that these revolutionary minds grew up in the land of the free and the home of the brave? I truly believe that it is not; coincidences are few in this world. A mind shackled by the fear of a Siberian gulag, a Chinese tank, or an unbending Sharia code does not thrive. This is why countless immigrants have struggled to reach our shores; they yearn to define their own success and to one day be able to stand beside us and proudly sing “My Country, ‘Tis of Thee!”



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The Strange-ness

Local Bigfoot Sightings

While the *Finding Bigfoot* show on Animal Planet focused on Bigfoot sightings in Western NC, did you know that Eastern NC residents have seen bigfoot too? Bigfoot reports indicate the creature also walks the Eastern NC woods.

In Johnston County, only one sighting has ever been reported. Two witness saw a bear-like figure with long arms in July 2002. Greene County residents reported hearing, not seeing, a strange animal.

The longest sighting occurred November 1989 in Bertie County. Two men observed a tall, ape-like creature covered with matted dark hair for almost 10 minutes! Once it noticed them, it screamed toward the sky and ran away.

Sure, that was years ago... Is that what you’re thinking. Well, Nash County had sightings “way back when” — in Rocky Mount, 1979 and 1999. However, Nash County *also* had a sighting six months ago! Just after Christmas near Castalia a walking bigfoot was spotted,

Sightings were near heavily wooded areas frequented by deer. To see the reports directly, visit www.bfro.net. And if you see a large hairy man-like creature, you can add your report to that site.



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The Grey Area™

The Backside



Little Bits

Chuckle of the Issue

A man and a woman were riding in a stagecoach. Suddenly, a teenager riding a horse pulled up to the left side of the stagecoach, and a riderless horse pulled up to the right.

The teen leaned down, pulled open the door, and jumped off his horse into the stagecoach. Then he opened the other door and jumped out onto the other horse.

The surprised woman asked the man, “What was all that about?”

He replied, “Nothing. he’s just going through a stage.”

Quote of the Issue

Tom Vilsack, Secretary of Agriculture

“One out of every 12 jobs in the economy is connected in some way, shape or form to what happens on the farm.

Word of the Issue

esoteric

Definition: Exhibiting knowledge that is specialized or restricted to a small group.

Example:“She focused on an esoteric type of work.



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Translation of the Issue

English — help or help me)

German — helfe

Italian — aiuto

Spanish — ayúdame

Latin — adiuva

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

Cryptogram of the Issue

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

Hint: X = O.

C X Y T B S E S P S B G X X

X A V G X D S G T E X G U S B

I X T A X B G X V B S T Q T

E S Z V B S T Q

-- W D A S Z F D

Answer to the previous issue’s cryptogram:

*Our most basic
common link is that
we all inhabit this
planet. We all
breathe the same
air. We all cherish
our children's
future. And we are
all mortal.*

-- John F. Kennedy

News from The Grey Area

Hopefully you and yours have had an enjoyable Independence Day and are looking forward to many more summer days. The weather seems cooler than usual, perhaps providing the opportunity for more time outdoors.

This issue includes some things to do, including offerings from communities and organizations. Kids camps abound, providing families with many options during the day. Of course, a variety of establishments offer evening live music and other activities for adults. Please note that these are not listed in the free events this month, as there are many summer activities being offered that don’t require a purchase to attend.

The next issue comes out for July 19th. If you have an event, story or community happening you’d like us to cover, please call 919.623.9392 or email kayw@greyareanews.com.

To advertise, call 919.637.6973. Issues of *The Grey Area* come out every other Friday. Advertisers may place their ad in one Edition or both, covering eight cities.

Storms & Emergency Preparedness

While the list below is not exhaustive, it includes helpful items to keep in the house at all times.

Water (bottled for drinking)

Canned Food (a variety of vegetables, fruits, meats, etc.)

Pet Food (if you have pets)

First Aid Kit (pain relievers, bandages, antiseptic, etc.)

Prescription Drugs (at least a week’s worth)

Handy Repair Tools (knife, duct tape, etc.)

Flashlights & Radio

Extra Batteries

Hygiene Products (soap, toothpaste, toilet paper, etc.)

Clean Clothing (plus coats, rain wear, or blankets)

Cooler (fill with ice before storm or event)



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