

The Grey Area™

Local and National Unusual News

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

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Eastern North Carolina

“I’M FREE—Take Me With You!”

Volume 3, Number 19B
Aug 30–Sept 12, 2013

North Carolina Continues to Draw Movie Makers

By Kay Whatley, Editor

North Carolina's Film Office is drawing more and more film industry activity. Expanding efforts in Raleigh are expected to fuel more action in Zebulon, Louisburg, and beyond.

In a recent conversation with Guy Gaster of NCFilm.com (North Carolina Film Office), Mr. Gaster explained that the state film industry grows around *regional centers*. Wilmington is one regional center, and filming generally takes place within a 30-mile radius around Wilmington. Raleigh is a regional center, with many nearby locations of interest for film makers.

Charlotte has long been a location for commercial production and filming NASCAR-oriented movies. When NC became one of the states with film industry incentives, the level of activity in and around Charlotte increased greatly. As of this writing, Charlotte has two TV series filming, and many motion pictures under its belt. In addition to the well-known *Hunger Games*, independent and Hallmark movies have been filmed there.



Zero Budget crew filming at Taste of Paradise, Rocky Mt

Another regional center has brought increasing production to the center of the state. In Mr. Gaster's words, “one or two big feature films” will bring heavy industry growth to the Triad region. Contributing somewhat to filming in the area is the UNC School of the Arts, which has an internationally-renowned film program. Other parts of the state have pulled minimal production, including Western NC.

The Raleigh regional center is made up of thirteen counties, including Franklin and Wake. Mr. Gaster pointed out that several filmmakers have recently expressed interest in using locations in Franklin County farm areas and in Louisburg.

The NC film industry has grown significantly since the incentives were put in place. Just in 2013, one-third of NC's counties have been locations for film shoots! This means in-state spending, tax revenue (minus a small rebate/incentive), and local jobs.

NC-based movies and TV series lead to jobs for actors and for people to: build the sets, decorate the walls, manage the sound, run the cameras, and work behind-the-scenes. Film-makers depend on skilled labor as close as possible to locations selected for shooting. When film crew members travel long distances, overnight stays and other expenses are incurred by the production company. Work considered “distant” costs more; and, like any business, movie makers work on a budget. Cost savings by hiring locally are attractive.

One independent crew shooting in Rocky Mount this summer is Zero Budget. They are using Rocky Mount and Tarboro locations for the horror movie *La Liorona*. Their efforts are good for the area. Towns benefit directly when the production purchases supplies, food, and equipment. Since the company and crew purchased locally, there is a direct economic impact on the community. Local crews like Zero Budget typically buy what they need nearby, which in this case is benefitting Rocky Mount and Tarboro.

As the NC film industry continue to grow, Raleigh's regional center should become more active. Potential for filming within 30 miles of Raleigh may soon translate into movie-making in Zebulon, Louisburg and northeastern locations.

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 car in for an oil change. The shop is fast, so you wait for your car. It is done in less than half an hour and you are on your way.

Later that afternoon, you're driving home and roll down the window to feel the cooling air. You smell oil, and realize the car is smoking a little. Quickly you pull into a parking lot, park, and raise the hood to check the engine.

The oil cap is missing. Oil coats the inside of the hood and over parts of the engine. It seems clear that the person who just changed your oil left the cap off. Checking the oil level with the dipstick, it is still above the minimum mark.

Likely, you would immediately return to the shop to locate the cap. Do you think that you would argue for them to not only replace the cap but also clean the engine? What else might you ask them to clean, repair, or replace? In your opinion, would a refund also be in order? If they denied it was their fault, do you think that you would react angrily, or keep your cool? If the shop did clean your engine, are you still likely to file a complaint on paper or online?

All's Quiet while Facing the World's Biggest Problem

Contributed by Chris Chappell

The biggest disaster in the history of the human race took place on March 11, 2011 in Japan. An 8.9 magnitude earthquake spawned a tsunami. It took out villages and killed 19,000 people. This event, although very tragic and destructive, is not what I'm speaking of. I'm referring to what has happened since the news footage was taken off the TV and has been long forgotten by most people: The Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant meltdown.

This event is not over and has been ongoing since early 2011. It has been reported that there is more than 300 tons of radioactive water into the ocean on a daily basis. “I believe it's been leaking into the ocean from the start of the crisis two-and-a-half years ago,” disclosed a 12-year TEPCO veteran identified only as *Suzuki-san*. (Source: North Asia news correspondent Mark Willacy.)

I have been avoiding seafood like the plague since the BP oil spill, and then Fukushima happened. I haven't eaten anything from the ocean in years. That's my personal choice, what you do is your decision.

The radioactive particles have been making their way to the US for quite a while now as well, coming across the Pacific Ocean. The International Journal of Health Services *alleged back in 2011* that 14,000 people in the United States had died as a result of fallout from Fukushima. The rise in reported deaths after Fukushima was largest among US infants under age one. Pediatrician and founding president of *Physicians for Social Responsibility* Helen Caldicott said recently: “May I say that North America has received quite a large amount of fallout itself. We're going to see an incredible increase in cancer, leukemia, and — down the time track — genetic disease. Not just in Japan but in the Northern Hemisphere, particularly North America”.

There seems to be breaking news out of Fukushima every couple of months yet the TV news doesn't mention it. Take this article from Naturalnews.com:

“Fukushima: Radioactive cesium levels jump 9,000 percent in just three days, nobody knows why”.

I would call that huge news, yet I haven't seen it on the evening news, have you? I am more concerned with outdated nuclear power plants than I am about being attacked by a nuke. Most of our own nuclear plants in the US are outdated and in need of repair, even the Shearon Harris nuclear power plant in Wake County — right here in our own backyard — has been in the news a few times this year, once in May and again in August.

I guess the “out of sight, out of mind” saying really works with the TV media. If they don't mention it, then it's not a problem. Do yourselves a favor and turn off the TV and plug into your own gut feelings and other news sources. The song by Don Henley “dirty laundry” really says it all.

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Things to Do in NC
When You're Bored

* Nashville *

9/09 Ident-A-Kid Event
(September 9 @ 4-7pm)
Photos & fingerprints taken by the Nashville Police Dept. Parents provided with kits. At Town Council Chambers, Cooley Library, 114 W Church Street, Nashville Info, call 252.459.4545.

9/16 Coffee With A Cop
(September 16 @ 11am-1pm)
Join neighbors & police officers for coffee, tea & conversation! No speeches. A chance to ask questions, voice concerns, & get to know officers! At Nashville Exchange, 229 W. Washington St., Nashville Contact Officer Bull 252.459.4545.

9/21 The Ambassadors Quartet
(Sept 21 @ 7pm)
40th Anniversary Sing With Guests: The Carlson Trio. At Taylor's Chapel Ph Church, 1933 Sandy Cross Rd., Nashville

9/27 2013 Outdoor Movie Series
(September 27 @ 7:30pm)
By Nashville Parks & Rec. Bring a chair! Concessions. *Wreck-it Ralph*. At Stoney Creek Envir. Park, 455 W Washington St., Nashville For info, contact 252.459.9796.

* Rocky Mount *

8/30 Rocky Mount Fair
-9/07 (August 30-September 7)
Helicopter rides, daredevils, fun & fair foods! Rides, games, competitions, karaoke, & more. General adm. \$5; special discounts. Parking free. At Rocky Mount Fairgrounds, Hwy 64 Bus. East, Rocky Mount Online at rockymountfair.com.

9/05 Free Seminar: Grant Writing
(September 5 @ 6-9pm)
Free seminar includes making preparations, focusing on priorities, developing the project, researching the potential, writing the proposal, & evaluating the process. At Nash Community College Business & Industry Center, Room 1211, 522 N Old Carriage Road, Rocky Mount Info online at www.nashcc.edu.

9/05 Summer Music Series
(Sept 5 & 19 @ 6-8:30pm)
Downtown Live free concerts. Doors open 5pm, music starts at 6pm. No coolers. Bring blanket or lawn chair. On the lawn at Imperial Centre, 270 Gay St, Rocky Mount www.downtownrockymount.com

9/14 Original Master's Reunion
(September 14 @ 7pm)
40 year reunion of the Original Master's. The years were 1973 through 1976. Special guest *The Taylors*. Food served in church cafe at 5:30pm. Love offerings accepted. At Northside Community Church, 1660 Beaver Pond Road, Rocky Mt Call 252.567.5365, 252.985.2985.

9/14 West Edgecombe Mini Pullers
(Sept. 14 @ 6pm; gates 3pm)
Lawn mower pulls, organized by West Edgecombe Farm Heritage Museum & Ruritan Club. Concession stand proceeds go to community work. At 12180 NC-43 North, Rocky Mount www.westedgecombeminipullers.com

* Tarboro *

9/03 Children's Story Time
9/10 (Sept 3, 10 & 17 @ 10:30am)
9/17
Tuesday story times include music, games, crafts, & more! At Edgecombe County Memorial Library, 909 Main Street, Tarboro See www.edgecombelibrary.org.

9/18 Residents Rights
(September 18 @ 10:30am)
What are loved one's rights if moved to a long term care facility? Ty Whitaker goes over residents' rights, Q&A. At E.L. Roberson Center, 305 W Baker St, Tarboro Info, call 252.641.4263.

9/21 Bluegrass Festival
(September 21 @ 10am-6pm)
Family-oriented. Bring blanket or lawn chair. Supports Edgecombe County arts. Tickets \$20 each; ages 12 & under free. At Indian Lake Park, 3002 Western Blvd, Tarboro Contact Joyce at 252.823.4159.

* Wilson *

9/06 First Friday on the Lawn
(September 6 @ 6-9pm)
Country music with Katelyn Marks band. At Wilson County Public Library Lawn, 249 W Nash Street.

9/07 Children's Gardening Program
(Sept 7 @ 10-11am)
Composting & vermicomposting. At Wilson Botanical Gardens, 1806 SW Goldsboro Street, Wilson. Contact 252.237.0111.

9/10 Small Business Labor & Wage Issues
(Sept 10 @ 6-8pm)
Learn difference between hourly, salary, exempt, or non-exempt employees — & more. Register by Sept. 9th. At Small Business Center, Wilson Comm. College, Room E-101, 902 Herring Ave E, Wilson More info at www.wilsoncc.edu.

* Elsewhere *

8/31 Macclesfield Mayhem "Back To School Bash"
(Aug 31 @ 7pm)
Special Appearances by NWA Legends Ivan & Nikita Koloff, plus wrestling matches. Tickets \$5-\$10, kids 12 & under free. At the Family Life Center, 2771 Webbs Chapel Road, Macclesfield Info: 252-907-5137, 704-577-5503

9/06 13th Annual Justice Community -07 Antique Tractor, Car & Engine Show
(September 6 & 7)
Parade of cars & tractors, music & entertainment, events for children, crafts, bake sale, home-made ice cream, good food, & fellowship. At Duke Memorial Baptist Church. 3976 NC 581 Hwy North, Spring Hope (between Spring Hope & Louisburg). For more information contact Philip Rice, 919.853.3161.

9/07 72nd Annual North Carolina -08 Gourd Festival
(Sept 7 @ 9am-5pm & Sept 8 @ 10am-4pm)
Features gourds from around the world, workshops, & vendors. Competitions awarded ribbons & prizes. Live auction Saturday at noon. At 1025 Blue Ridge Blvd., Raleigh See www.ncgourdsociety.org.

9/10 Elm City Storytime
9/24 (September 10 & 24, 4-5pm)
Bring kids by for storytime. 2nd & 4th Tuesdays. At Elm City Branch Library, 114 N Railroad St., Elm City Info, call 252.236.4269.

9/14 Rabies & Microchip Clinic
(Sept. 14 @ 11am-2pm)
Cat & dog owners, get 1- or 3-year rabies vaccinations for \$5. Only \$15 for Microchips. Pets must be with an adult; dogs must be leashed & cats must be in carriers. SAFE Haven for Cats, 8431-137 Garvey Dr., Raleigh. Details, call 919.872.7233.

9/14 Annual Tar River Festival
(Sept 14 @ 10am-5pm)
Live entertainment, rides, games, food, crafts, family fun. At Riverbend Park, S Church St, Louisburg Call 919.496.3056 for info.

9/17 Lenoir County Agricultural -22 Fair
(Sept 17-22 @ 5pm-10pm)
Animals, rides, demolition derby, concerts, competitions, lots of fair food. At Lenoir County Fairgrounds, Fairgrounds Road, Kinston Info at www.lenoircountyfair.org

These "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 space to provide more details for events.


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The Greening of Bunn

By Kay Whatley, Editor

Imagine driving along an NC roadway, and coming up to a small town. As you drive by the Town Limit sign, you see a large field of solar panels generating energy for the town. Coming in to town there are signs for organic farms. Near Town Center, you pass a park-like area full of new trees. It’s not just your imagination: it is the Town of Bunn.

Bunn is situated in Franklin County, about halfway between Raleigh and Rocky Mount. The town council and local farmers have embraced green energy and organic farming, giving Bunn a “green” image.

Starting September 27th, the Town is planting Centennial trees as part of its 100-years celebration. Residents can stop by and take photos as the new trees and park benches are installed.

The Centennial Team has coordinated a face-lift to the Bunn by-pass area. A more scenic drive is coming, with help from local businesses — including Taylors Nursery, Mr. Landscape and Chris’s Greenhouse — and Bunn High School students who helped to build the new park’s benches. The face lift to the Bunn by-pass is scheduled to be complete by October 4th.

Last year, O2 Energies constructed a solar farm to provide power for part of the town. Local farmer Chad Ray provides sheep to keep the grass down around the solar panels. The sheep eat the grass, so that the solar field is low mown. The grass-fed sheep are then, well, served as a healthy and hormone-free alternative to store-bought meats.

Carvel Cheves’ farm is a hop, skip, and jump from the solar field. His Clover C Farm raises hormone- and antibiotic-free lamb, which they sell alongside wool, eggs, and hay. In addition to meat, Cheves’ sheep yield wool and wool products. Just like Bunn, Cheves uses solar energy to power half of the farm’s water system.

Cheves partnered with Mann Mullen, and Karl Hudson of Rare Earth Farms, which offers pasture-raised beef and free range eggs at the NC Farmer’s Market in Raleigh. Rare Earth is AWA approved for their animal husbandry practices. Mann Mullen farms in Bunn, and Karl Hudson farms in Zebulon. As Rare Earth Farms, they work to tell the story of their all-natural, grass-fed, grass-finished Angus cattle operation to local consumers.

A little further up the road (Route 98) you’ll find Vollmer Farm. At different times of the year, this family farm provide ingredients for salads, side dishes, and desserts! Organic lettuce, sweet corn, strawberries, blackberries, and blueberries can be picked or purchased from their farm market. Vollmer Farm grows pumpkins in time for Halloween, and after you pick a pumpkin you can play on their farm-built “back forty” — lots of fun things to do.

Take a turn back toward town, pass the middle school, and visit Ray Family Farms. This organic family farm on Pearces Road, while technically a Louisburg address, is close to Bunn. The Ray family produce beef, pork products, turkeys, chickens, and eggs. Working with other area farms, Ray Family Farms offer honey and dairy products — including butter and cheese — at their on-the-farm Old Thyme Farmers Market.

So, the next time you are traveling the NC roadways and want to see some “greenery”, come visit Bunn! Take a look at this changing small town. Check out the solar farm, visit family-run organic farms, and sit under a Centennial tree. Enjoy this old town as it moves into a greener, more sustainable next 100 years.

Sharpsburg Seeking Chief

The Town of Sharpsburg is seeking an energetic & highly motivated “Working Chief” of Police with proven leadership skills & a diverse law enforcement background.

Successful candidates must have stable, accomplished & verifiable work history, and at least 10 years of continuous law enforcement experience — with 5 years in a supervisory capacity. Ideal candidates will have experience & knowledge in community policing, grant writing, crime prevention, coordinating criminal investigations, patrol tactics, police administration & law enforcement training.

The Chief reports to the Town Manager. Salary DOQ. Please send a résumé, cover letter, & Town of Sharpsburg job application to Town Manager, Post Office Box 1759 Sharpsburg, NC 27878 or email all required information to edaniels@sharpsburgnc.com no later than September 18th.

Job application must accompany all submittals for consideration. More details and applications may be downloaded at sharpsburgnc.com.

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Little Bits

Chuckle of the Issue

A very dirty little boy came in from playing in the yard and asked his mother, “Who am I?”

Ready to play the game, she said, “I don’t know! Who are you?”

“Wow!” cried the child. “Mrs. Carter was right! She said I was so dirty, my own mother wouldn’t recognize me!”



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Word of the Issue

Oxyopia

Definition: Unusually acute sight.

Example: “A person with oxyopia can read smaller letters at greater distance than normal.”

Translation of the Issue

English — slow

German — verlangsamen

Italian — rallentare

Latin — retardatis

Spanish — lento

Polish — powolny

Irish — mall

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: S = U.

N Q Z K S L G S D M Z K S

B M N J V G J R Z K S U E Z

B M G B P G Q S A A R G Z

B M G B P G M F U V K Q

G R G Z

Y N X O G A O G J K

Answer to the previous issue’s cryptogram:

*Better to remain
silent and be
thought a fool than
to speak out and
remove all doubt.
--Abraham Lincoln*

Quote of the Issue

Nelson Mandela

“Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.”

News from The Grey Area

This issue includes events and news from Eastern NC alongside a little news from other parts of the world — and other times, in the case of the Strange-ness. The next issue of *The Grey Area* newspaper comes out for September 13th. If you have an event, story or community happening you’d like us to cover, call 919.623.9392 or send an email to kayw@greyareanews.com. To advertise, call 919.637.6973.

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