The Grey Area

Eastern NC Edition - 919.637.6973

Distributed in Edgecombe, Franklin, Johnston, Nash, Wake, Wilson & beyond

Local and National Unusual News

Online: www.greyareanews.com

FCAC Heart for Art Gala

Contributed by Donna Campbell Smith, Franklin County Arts Council

Each year the "Heart for Art Gala" is held to provide a fun evening and to raise funds for the Franklin County Arts Council. The free event starts at 6pm and is open to the public.

The 2015 Gala is scheduled for February 5, 2015, at the historic home of Mr. and Mrs. Dudley Whitaker. This home is located at 210 Winston Street in Franklinton.

Mister Felix, a group from Wake Forest will provide music for the evening with a mix of jazz, rock, and pop favorites. Food will be catered by Mary Rose Joyner.

Admission is free, but organizers say, "Bring your money - cash and checkbooks (they will not be taking credit cards) for the silent auction and a Chinese auction." A sample of items donated for the auctions are: a twenty-

four hour retreat at Cedar Cross Retreat Center, handmade quilts, and season tickets for the Allen DeHart Concert Series at Louisburg College. Many other items including art, books signed by the authors, and gift certificates from area business will be up for bidding.

The proceeds from this event will help Franklin County Arts Council support and encourage local artists, and provide opportunities for them to showcase their artwork through shows and workshops. Franklin County Arts Council aims to encourage all people in Franklin County to experience and participate in the arts.

Donations for the auctions are still being accepted. FCAC is 501ec so your donations are tax deductible. Drop them off at FCAC Headquarters, 22 S Main Street, Franklinton during regular hours of 10:30am-5pm Thursday, Friday or Saturday or call for pickup 919.497.6910.

Painting by Billy Farmer

Tax Assistance Available via Library

Tax Preparation returns to the Nashville Cooley Library. Beginning January 29 and then every Thursday and Friday until March 27th, with one final chance on April 10.

Trained staff at the Nashville Cooley Library will be available under the federal Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program to assist local residents with tax return preparations. Assistance will be at the library 9am-5pm each Thursday and Friday. No appointments, just first come, first serve. Come take advantage of this assistance for less stress leading up to April 15th.

For more information on VITA and other locations offering tax preparation assistance, visit irs.treasury.gov/freetaxprep/ and enter your zip code and distance choice.

There are income limits for VITA; however, certain locations — such as the Family Resource Center of Raleigh — use a higher income threshold.

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 about the choices people make, and the thought process they go through to arrive at decisions.

Consider: Submitted for Discussion

You go to your local restaurant, where your family has eaten at least once a month for the past five years.

When you arrive one evening, there is a new waitress. It just so happens that you had an argument with this waitress, at another restaurant, a few months prior. You were livid about the service that she gave at that other restaurant, and let the restaurant know.

Now she is at one of your favorite, regular places.

Management at this restaurant knows you. Do you think that you would wait to see how well she provided service at your favorite place? Or, since you know the manager would you tell him about her service and attitude at the other place? How do you think you would handle this change in your regular eating spot?

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Lost, Frozen **Pup Gets a Rare Second Chance**

One cold day in January, Ronnie & Joey McLamb of Pro Scuba Center, Inc. found an abandoned puppy shivering behind a fence at their home. Ronnie found the little guy when he heard him barking.

The poor little pup was covered in sleet and freezing. They took him indoors, warmed him, and began the search for his owner.

After not being able to find his owner, they named him Thor and adopted him as a store mascot... the third mascot after their big dog, eight-year-old Jasmine, and fifteen-year-old Paco, their Amazon parrot.

Little Thor is one of the lucky ones: a pup thrown into the weather who was rescued and lived on! To visit this little survivor, stop by Pro Scuba Center, Inc. at 1155 N Wesleyan Blvd in Rocky Mount.



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Clayton Piano Festival Presents 3rd Annual Valentine's Day Gala

Contributed by Jonathan Levin levin_jonathan@hotmail.com



Concert pianist, Jonathan Levin, a Clayton native, brings classical music to the Wagner House.

Building upon the success of the last two years' Valentine's Day events, Clayton Piano Festival presents another one-stop romantic outing with dinner, music, and song on February 14, 2015 at the Historic Wagner House. This concert, titled "Tales of love from Beethoven to Broadway," will be a departure from all other CPF events so far, in that it will feature music from multiple musicians.

of the piano as a collaborative instru-

ment and to feature some world class

"The was to show the great versatility

performers in other musical disciplines in the process", explains Jonathan Levin, the festival's founding director. "It's something I've always wanted to do for one of our events and I thought it to be particularly appropriate for our Valentine's Day concert, which has had such a broad appeal to all audiences, concert goers or not."

Jonathan will be performing and will be joined by Violinist Michael Danchi and Mezzo Soprano Nora Graham-Smith. For the past few years Ms. Graham-Smith has sung roles in operas the world over, as well as in America, collaborating with great artists and conductors like Lorin Maazel. She is currently a resident artist at Opera Memphis in Tennessee. Michael Danchi is no stranger to the triangle area, and has enjoyed a multi-faceted career as a violinist, composer, ballet dancer, sound engineer, and screenwriter. He has performed locally as a soloist with the Raleigh and Durham Symphonies and with the Carolina Ballet both as violinist and dancer.

In addition to dinner, the event features an eclectic musical feast. "You'll hear

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violin works, songs and musical theater numbers all transcribed for the piano, you'll hear vocal works on the violin. and you'll hear a mix of songs ranging from classical opera to Broadway hits", says Levin, who will premiere a couple of his own piano transcriptions of songs from the Great American Songbook.

After the concert there will be a reception where the audience will be able to mingle with the performers. For more information and to reserve tickets contact Paul Blackat at 919.585.1221 at The Historic Wagner House, which is located at 121 E Main Street in Downtown Clayton. For more information about Clayton Piano Festival go to www.claytonpianofestival.org.

For more information, visit the Johnston County Visitor's Bureau website: www.johnstoncountync.org.



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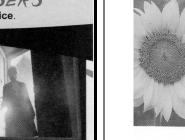
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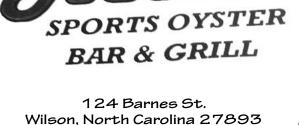


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Things to Do in NC When You're Bored

01/30 Boys2Men Meeting (Jan 30 @ 7pm)

"Bridging the Cap to Manhood" event open to the public. At Showers of Blessings Christian Center, 1740 E Raleigh Blvd, Rocky Mount.

01/30 Pickleball 02/06 (Fridays @ 11am-1pm)

Free fitness fun for grown-ups, teens, & seniors. Easy for beginners & a blast to play! A great workout too. At Zebulon Community Center, 301 S Arendell Avenue, **Zebulon**.

01/31 The Switch @ Ribeye's -Tarboro (January 31)

A new place for The Switch! Can't wait to see everyone! Come early, get some good grub, hang out for the best tunes on the East Coast with The Switch! At Ribeye's of Tarboro, 1404 Western Blvd, **Tarboro**.

02/01 Storytime in the Galleries 03/01 (Feb 1 @ 2pm)

Grab a spot on the rug and listen to a story. On the 1st Sunday of each month find the Storytime rug in the Arts Center Galleries. Info online at www.imperialcentre.org. At Imperial Centre, 270 Gay Street, **Rocky Mount**.

02/02 Kids Story Time 02/09 (Mondays @ 10:30am)

Stories and songs for Kids ages 2-5. At The Nashville Library, 114 W Church St., Nashville.

02/03 Certified Beekeepers Training (Feb 3 @ 6:30-8:30pm)

Class for the public interested in learning the basic of honey bee management. Upon successful completion of the course folks will have the opportunity to become certified beekeepers. At Edgecombe County Auditorium, 201 St. Andrew Street, **Tarboro**.

02/03 Gamers & Dart League 02/10 Night (Tuesdays @ 6-9pm)

Board games kick off at 6pm, darts at 7pm. At Common Grounds Coffee & Music House, 20 Cheves Road, **Bunn**.

02/05 Teen and Family Game Night (Feb 5 @ 5-7:30pm)

A variety of games (board, card, video, etc.)will be available for play with friends or family. Refreshments will be provided. GAME ON! Contact Scott Houston @ 252-442-1951 ext. 257 for more info. In the YA Area at Braswell Memorial Library 727 N Grace St, Rocky Mount.

02/05 Brainstormer Trivia 02/12 (Thursdays @ 7:30-10pm)

Not too hard, not too easy - just right! Team registration begins at 7:30pm & game kicks off at 8pm. At Underground Pub, 101 E Church Street, **Tarboro**

02/06 First Friday Coffee (Feb 6 @ 7:30am)

Not held in January 2015. At Nashville Exchange, West Washington Street, **Nashville**.

02/07 Vegetable Gardening (Feb 7 @ 2-3pm)

Learn from a Master Gardener how to start an area to cultivate and grow vegetable plants. Register-919.217.5300. At East Regional Library, 946 Steeple Square Court, **Knightdale**.

02/10 Basic Bookkeeping & Taxes for Your Small Business (Feb 10 @ 6-9pm)

Understand the different accounting methods & become familiar with financial terms that can be confusing. Basic intro to bookkeeping & software available. Register by Feb. 9. At Wilson Community College, Small Business Center (Room G-240), 902 Herring Ave, **Wilson**.

02/13 Free Movie & Popcorn (Feb 13 @ 7pm)

Second Friday of each month. For all ages. Parent or guardian must be present. Call 919.823.0432 for movie title. At the Zebulon Community Center, 301 S Arendell Avenue, **Zebulon**.

02/13 Family Movie Night (Feb 13 @ 7pm)

Free movie & popcorn for all ages. A parent/guardian must be present for all children. March 13 too. At the Zebulon Community Center, 301 South Arendell Avenue, **Zebulon**.

02/14 NITE OWL at Heroes (Feb 14 @ 9pm-2am)

Nite Owl's rock & blues debut at Wilson's newest hot spot! At Heroes Sports Oyster Bar and Grill, 124 Barnes St, Wilson.

02/16 Tunnel Greenhouses and CSA (Feb 16 @ 5-6pm)

Karen Coleman, works at her family farm, is the owner of Absolute Affordable CSA, is presenting the program. At Wilson County Agricultural Center, 1806 SW Goldsboro St., Wilson.

02/28 See Spot Read (Feb 28 @ 11am-12pm)

Practice reading to a therapy dog! At Zebulon Library, 1000 Dogwood Dr, **Zebulon**.

03/05 Senior Games Fundraiser (March 5 @ 5-8pm)

The Upper Coastal Plain Council of Governments' Area Agency on Aging is holding a fundraiser. Funds raised go toward the Down East Senior Games & Adaptive Events coming in April and May. For more info, contact Kendra Dixon at 252.234.5959. Purchase eat-in or to-go. At Chick-fil-A, 2407 Forest Hills Road West, **Wilson**.

03/07 Dig In (March 7 @ 8:30am-1pm

Advocates for Health in Action (AHA) hosts the annual Dig In, a community gardening and urban ag workshop. Optional farms service, 2pm. See www. advocatesforhealthinaction.org. At Marbles Kids Museum, 200 East Hargett Street, Raleigh.

03/31 Food Service Business Start-up (Mar 31 @ 6-9pm)

Free workshop. Ever think of starting a restaurant, food truck, or catering business? Come to this informative seminar. Register via www.nashcc.edu/sbc . At Nash Community College Small Business Center, 522 N Old Carriage Rd, Rocky Mount.

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.





The Grey Area TM

Things We Did in NC When We Were Bored

By Kay Whatley, Editor

January 28 and 29, we spent our mornings at an auction in Pinetops NC. Local auctioneers from Meekins Auction Company were auctioning an electrical company and the owner's estate, and it was the largest auction I think we have ever attended.

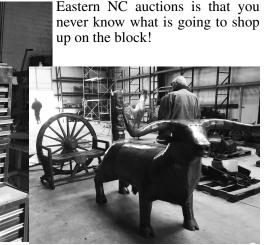
Piles of ladders. construction equipment, fleet vehicles, tools, and odd items were auctions over the long hours.

Farm, equipment, and household auctions are held year-round in NC, with many coming up this Spring. We

enjoy going to auctions. Sometimes we find little things for the house. Or, that special something that we might give as a gift later in the year. Finding good tools is one of my husband Frank's goals.

Though we didn't plan to buy a vehicle at auction, some of the cars in Pinetops were great work vehicles and the bidding low enough to make us consider it! It was well worth the trip, and in this case the auctioneers were very open about letting folks look in advance, and walk around during the auction too.

> One of the great things about Eastern NC auctions is that you



Snow Ball Open dance for ages 10 and up with special needs and their families! Come join the Dance food, fun and dancing! Saturday, February 28 6:00-8:00 pm For more information contact: Kathy Kirby **Bunn High School Cafeteria** 252-478-5081 Joyce Greene-McLeod 29 Bunn Elementary School Road 252-478-3737 Bunn, NC 27508

Fruit Tree Pruning Demonstration

Released by Debbie Roos, Extension Agent, Agriculture-Sustainable/Organic Production, Chatham County NC

North Carolina Cooperative Extension will offer a fruit tree pruning demonstration on Saturday February 21 from 10:00 am - noon at Howard's Farm a few miles west of Pittsboro on Hwy 64. Annual training and pruning are needed for fruit trees to develop proper shape and form but many growers are intimidated by pruning and neglect this important task. Properly trained and pruned trees will yield high-quality fruit much sooner and live significantly longer. Dr. Mike Parker, North Carolina State University Fruit Tree Specialist, will demonstrate proper pruning techniques for apple and peach trees.

This demonstration is open to the general public and appropriate for both commercial growers and home gardeners. Howard's Farm is located at 7393 US 64 West, in Pittsboro.

There is no cost to attend but a RSVP is requested. To RSVP, send an email to extension.programs@chathamnc.org

and put "Pruning Demo" in the subject line.

For more information contact Debbie Roos at 919.542.8202.







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Dr. Nicholas' Corner: And Now All About Biodiversity



Contributed by By Nicholas Pediaditakis, MD, DLFAPA

Biodiversity. What is it? What does it mean? Biodiversity is an established scientific fact. It means simply this: all living creatures on this earth from humans and mammals to fish to plants, grass, trees, to lowly worms as well as the unseen-but-being-everywhere-

including-in-our-guts microbes, germs, birds, flowers, lions, deer, and bees — the whole lot — form and then each-in-its-own-way, helps to maintain a common web on this planet of ours.

All — and I mean all — creatures are contributing and being contributed to. Together they create a delicate balance of sharing and maintaining what is out there. It is like a fine flexible cloth; it gives when pressed. Press a lot and the cloth gets torn and a hole is created. The hole gets bigger and bigger if not repaired, then trouble develops, small and slowly at first but gets bigger and bigger, faster and faster with time and then it get to us. And who is the one tearing this delicate cloth? You may have guessed. It is us!

Let me explain. The Yellowstone National Park of 2,000 square miles is a wonderful place — and I have been there a few times — established by a great President, Theodore Roosevelt. Yellowstone has everything including majestic mountains, enormous waterfalls, hot springs, Geysers, elks and deer, meadows, bears, wolves, and many other animals. God's Country! So, a few years ago, humans killed the wolves that used to eat the surplus, sickly elks that overgrazed the meadows. With the wolves gone, the number of elk increased and overgrazed destroying the meadows — and a whole lot of animals depending on the meadows.

We got wise. We reintroduced the wolves and restored the balance. The meadows again are now healthy by supporting the animals and fewer elks.

Another example (and they are endless): you take an antibiotic to kill the bugs that make you sick. If you take the antibiotic for fewer days than you have been told, some of the bugs may survive the antibiotic. You now have a new superbug and the antibiotic becomes ineffective. Further, if you take them too long, you mess up the good bugs of your guts; some of them create vitamin K needed for your blood as well other bugs important for your nutrition.

And another example... This is a big one. We have been using our atmosphere as a sewer dump for some time now, mainly in the form of CO2 and methane, and lots of it the world over. Both hold heat from the sun so the ice caps melt, then the sea rises, and the weather gets erratic and more severe. Think!

So, next time you're walking in the woods, look around in wonder and say, "hello there," and take what you need; but, think a little more - easy does it - and leave something behind. And, never mind saying, "I do not believe this. I do not believe that." We are talking about science and facts here. You can believe anything if it makes you comfortable; but, facts are facts and if we pay attention to them we may make it.





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A Little Bit of History

Branch Grove — Enfield NC

Halifax County is the current home of the Branch Grove homestead. This 3,000 sq. feet is for sale for \$9,000. The catch is, the home must be moved to a new location after purchase. From the presnc.org website, the home description is as follows:

Branch Grove is a classic "tri-partite" house, a style built for leading planters in the Roanoke River Valley/ Virginia-North Carolina border. It was home to the prominent Branch family, notably Alpheus Branch, founder of Branch Bank (BB&T).

The three-part design, derived from Palladian ideals, features a pedimented central section with flanking lower wings. It has a characteristic cross-hall plan with a large, formal parlor. High quality, intact Federal-style woodwork remains throughout the house. Three of the original mantels have been secured off-site. The older, smaller house at the rear features Georgian details. Branch Grove is the perfect project for the lover of early architecture.

Branch Grove must be relocated to a suitable nearby site. Appropriate property ranging from 5 to 20 acres has been identified nearby. Enfield is convenient to Raleigh and recreational activities.

Branch Grove requires a complete rehabilitation including all new systems. Historic preservation tax credits may be available.

See more at: www.presnc.org/properties/branchgrove.

Contact Robert Parrott, the Regional Director at Preservation NC at 919.832.3652 x230, or email rparrott@presnc.org.



The Grey Area TM

Horses Need Warmth through Winter Weather

Contributed by Kim Haselhuhn R.N. E.S., Kindred Spirits Farm

Here we are right in the middle of the "winter woes" in NC. With the sunny spring like days one week, and the rain, sleet and cold temps the next- who knows whether to pull out the shorts or the heavy coats!

With the drastic ups and downs in our weather I do worry about the 6 horses at our farm. My first instinct is to wrap everybody up in their warmest, toastiest blanket and tuck them into a heated barn with all the hay and drink they can handle BUT... as my horsey friends remind me that would be the WORST thing I could do for them.

The horses winter coat is a horse's first defense from the cold. When allowed to grow, a horse's natural hair coat acts as a very effective thermal blanket, it increases both in length and density as the days grow shorter. A Horses winter coat is also naturally greasy, which helps it repel snow, ice, and sleet. A heavy winter hair coat is a tremendous insulator and provides as much warmth as the best blankets.

Horses have the ability to fluff out their coats in cold weather, thereby trapping a layer of air in the coat which provides them an insulating layer. Once the hair coat becomes wet, the hair lies down and loses its insulating ability then we humans might have to intervene. Horses acclimate to winter conditions extremely well but need to be able to escape the bitter winds and moisture. A small, three sided run in shed or timberline to provide escape from



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strong winds and rain, snow or ice is often all that is necessary for pastured horses.

Horses must have access to plenty of warm (tepid) water when the temp dips below freezing. Horses can drink up to 20 gallons a day, without proper hydration can lead to serious health issues including death.

As the weather gets colder a horses energy needs increase. To keep them warm they should have plenty of hay available to them. The process of digesting fiber helps keep the horse

Along with good grooming and exercise our horses will be healthy and comfortable even when we just want to curl up in front of the fire with a hot drink in hand.

Kindred Spirits Farm is located in Zebulon NC. More information on their horses, including photos, is at www.kindredspiritsfarmnc.com



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Crossing

Disclaimer: Crossing the Line? poses questions for readers to consider. Authors are not licensed medical or legal professionals. Consider the issues, and draw your own conclusions.

Many cities and towns in Eastern NC do not require a permit or fee payment for residents who would like to hold a yard sale.

A few towns do require payment of a yard sale fee. Others require fee payment only when more than one or two yard sales are held each year, and there is not a limit on sale frequency. At a local level, most towns recognize that homeowners are free to sell items or hold events on their property.

Then there is Georgia. In Georgia, many counties or towns require a license to be acquired in advance and displayed throughout the sale. A fee is not always charged; however, the license helps enforce municipal codes that limit the number of sales at a location during the year.

In Texas and several other states, if you do hold more than a couple of yard

sales a year, you're required to get a sales tax permit and collect state sales tax on what you sell!

While various reasons — traffic, noise, signage, neighbor complaints — are given by the states, counties, and towns requiring yard sale paperwork, the result is the same: residents sometimes have to get permission for what will happen on their own property.

Where, then, do you feel that code requirements cross the line? Is it when you are forced to collect and submit sales tax on your old sneakers and furniture sales? Or, is the line crossed when you have to purchase a license to set up tables in your own front yard? Or, is it crossed as soon as you have to ask permission just because you've already held a yard sale on your property?

Do you feel that if you own your property, you should be able to use it as you see fit? How do you feel this might be different if it was your property where you paid your annual property taxes — versus if you are a renter?

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Editorial: Is snack-smuggling at movies ethical?

This is the opinion of Nancy Williams, the coordinator of professional education at UNC Asheville. Contact her at nwilliams@unca.edu. Reprinted with permission of Asheville Citizen-Times.

At Carmike movie theaters, the 2015 refillable popcorn bucket is \$20. Refills are \$4 each, all year long.

This intrigues me. Going to the theater a-carrying yer bucket seems odd. I can't image you'd show up for a date with a popcorn bucket under your arm. New this year is a lid for the bucket (\$1.50). Even more intriguing. Why do you need a lid?

I don't buy movie popcorn. It costs about 10 cents a kernel. Too much for me after I've bought a movie ticket. Movie theater popcorn is tasty, though. All them chemicals are good. Popcorn slathered in butter-flavored motor oil is delicious.

If I did buy popcorn, I wouldn't take the leftovers home. The day after, that stuff is even more greasy. Actually, it's not possible for it to be more greasy, yet it just seems so. Because the lard has congealed on it. A friend who worked in theaters said they pop the popcorn way in advance and store it in plastic bags. Then as people are coming in, they pop fresh popcorn to mix in with the stocked stuff so the place will smell good. Marketing to your nostrils.

This year, the bucket is on my bucket list. I may buy one. I live close to the theater, so maybe I could go down, get a refill and not even stay for a movie. Take buttered popcorn to covered dish events. Upper class friends would bristle and disapprove. (Which is why I don't have many upper class friends. Just one or two for novelty.)

Company stops by the house, and I'll say, "Y'all just hang on here a second. I'll be right back with a bucket of corn." Just imagine summer evenings sitting on the front porch munching from the bucket.

I may rent my bucket to others. Buy a bag of popcorn at the theater for \$8. Or rent my (larger) bucket for the night for \$2 plus \$4 for the refill. Maybe I should buy several and rent them to people in

the parking lot. Pssst. I can get you twice as much popcorn for half the price.

While I don't buy movie popcorn, I don't go sans nibbles either. I smuggle in. There, I've said it. Very out of character for me, such a law-abider. But it's not a law that you can't take in food in a theater. I think the posted signs are more suggestions. Strong suggestions, yes, but there are no North Carolina statutes that directly address this matter.

A pious friend was shocked I carry food in to the theater. She said, you know that's stealing, right? Um, no, it isn't. It's yahoo and classless, but it's not stealing. Me reaching across the counter and grabbing some Raisinettes is stealing. Failure to buy them is concession self-supply, not theft.

I rationalize it some by the fact they aren't checking our purses. If they really cared, they'd station one of the people at the entrance to dig around in incoming pocketbooks, like they do at ballgames. (When they do that, we think they are looking for contraband like weapons or terrorist supplies, instead they are looking for cokes or beer. You have to buy your drinks from them at 1700 percent markup.)

I can bring in fireworks or knives. But no Diet Coke.

Guys usually aren't the sneakers of food because they don't have purses. However, I've seen a few of them sneak, too. I spotted one guy taking a piece of somewhat wadded pizza out of his front pocket. The napkin it had been wrapped in was wet with grease, and the cheese had stuck to his pocket. Ick.

Another day, I saw a man flatten a sub sandwich and put it in his pocket. Mashed from fluffy sub to pocket panini. He looked sheepish and said, "I'm hungry."

While I break the movie theater rules carrying in snacks, I still have personal code for what's OK and what isn't. Honor amid dishonorable behavior. A slippery slope. Ethics for snuck-in movie food.

Nothing smelly. No tuna sub sandwich or oranges. Strong aroma is distracting to others.

Nothing loud. If you are smuggling, you don't have to announce it with a crinkly bag or pop-top can.

Nothing messy. Can't throw stuff in the floor when you are finished. Apple core or banana peels. After my friend ate an apple, I whispered to ask what she did with the core. Put it in the floor, she said. You can't do that. It's nasty, I told her. Like the floors of theaters aren't nasty anyway, she said, your shoes stick to them. Doesn't matter, the floor isn't a composting area.

Nothing complicated. I saw a dad and son bring in all the makings for s'mores. Oh dear, this might get interesting, I thought as I considered how one would melt it together. They didn't. They just

ate them raw. Still, stacking a s'more in the dark movie theater was no easy undertaking. Lots of unwrapping and whispering about uncooperative marshmallows.

Nothing you wouldn't want to give up if they came to confiscate it. A lady I know was nervous about joining me on the dark side where we break concession rules. I talked her in to sneaking in a can of toasted pecans. Then I "went to the restroom" but really went to talk to the bored ticket taker and convinced him to go shine a flashlight on my girlfriend. "Ma'am is that illegal food you have there?"

"Yes, it is. I have pecans. Because my friend Nancy told me it was OK and that we wouldn't get caught." (Took her three full seconds to squeal on me.) Then she tried to turn the pecans over to him. I'm just kidding, he said. She insisted he take them from her. No, I can't he said, I have no authority. She said, I can't eat them now, I know they're wrong.

What I like best about the bucket with the \$1.50 lid is that there's no more need for pocketbook sneaking. Just buy the bucket and the lid, then fill 'er up. Popcorn, ha. Put whatever you want in it. Vienna sausages and moon pies. Chocolate milk. You can swing it through the lobby in broad daylight without a care. They can't see inside because of the lid they sold you.

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The Backside—Jan 30-Feb 12, 2015

The Grey Area www.greyareanews.com



Page 8 — The Backside

Little Bits

Search & Circle

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CHAMPION FOOTBALL MVP REFEREE

DEFLATE GOAL PIZZA SUPERBOWL

TOUCHDOWN

Chuckle of the Issue

While cleaning the attic, Marge and Bill found an old claim check for some clothes that they had taken to the dry cleaners shop 10 years earlier.

Rather than throw it away, they thought it might be funny to go to the cleaners and see if the clothes were still there. So they did. They handed the stub to the counter man who took it and looked in the back.

After a minute, he came out again and said, "They'll be ready on Tuesday."

Quote of the Issue

Edgar Allan Poe: "If you wish to forget anything on the spot, make a note that this thing is to be remembered."

Word of the Issue

Magnitude

Definition: Of great size or great importance.

Example: He did not realize the magnitude of the personnel changes.





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Cryptogram of the Issue

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

Hint: J = A.

 $\overline{S} \ \overline{W} \ \overline{V}$ $\overline{T} \ \overline{J} \ \overline{M} \ \overline{Q}$ $\overline{I} \ \overline{W}$

 $\overline{K} \overline{Q} \overline{J} \overline{E} \overline{U} \overline{I} \overline{T} \overline{Q}$

 \overline{E} \overline{V} \overline{K} \overline{Q} \overline{R} \overline{W} \overline{G} \overline{I} \overline{T} \overline{Q}

 $\overline{C} \ \overline{J} \ \overline{B} \ \overline{Q} \ \cdot \quad \overline{J} \ \overline{U} \ \overline{X} \quad \overline{I} \ \overline{T} \ \overline{Q} \ \overline{U}$

 $\overline{S} \overline{W} \overline{V} \overline{V} \overline{T} \overline{J} \overline{M} \overline{Q} \overline{I} \overline{W}$

 $\overline{Z} \overline{K} \overline{J} \overline{S} \overline{A} \overline{Q} \overline{I} \overline{I} \overline{Q} \overline{E}$

 \overline{I} \overline{T} \overline{J} \overline{U} \overline{J} \overline{U} \overline{S} \overline{W} \overline{U} \overline{Q}

 $\overline{Q} \overline{K} \overline{R} \overline{Q}$

 \overline{J} \overline{K} \overline{A} \overline{Q} \overline{E} \overline{I}

 $\overline{Q} \overline{H} \overline{U} \overline{R} \overline{I} \overline{Q} \overline{H} \overline{U}$

Answer to the previous issue's cryptogram:

Do not go where the path may lead, go instead where there is no path and leave a trail. --Ralph Waldo Emerson

Cryptogram Note:

For a second Cryptogram hint, email trivia@greyareanews.com.