

The Grey Area

Eastern NC Edition – 919.637.6973

Distributed in Edgecombe, Franklin, Johnston,
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Local and National Unusual News

Online: www.greyareanews.com

Zebulon Nonprofit Seeking Shoes for Kids

Contributed by Cindy Privette

Zebulon United Methodist Church is currently working with Note in the Pocket and their "Kicks for Kids" campaign.

Note in the Pocket believes it is unacceptable that children are limited in their educational and social development because they do not have appropriate clothes for school. The purpose of the "Kicks for Kids" campaign is to collect new or gently-used, school-appropriate shoes for children in need.

Donations are being accepted through July 19, 2015. The greatest need is for tennis shoes/sneakers in Pre-K through adult sizes. Gift cards and cash donations will also be accepted.

Donations may be dropped off at the church office which is located on the corner of Church Street and Sycamore Street in Zebulon. For more information please contact the church office at 919.269.9408. Thank you for helping our children in need!

NASA's Three-Billion-Mile Journey to Pluto

Released by Dwayne Brown/Laurie Cantillo (NASA), et al

After a decade-long journey through our solar system, New Horizons made its closest approach to Pluto Tuesday, about 7,750 miles above the surface -- roughly the same distance from New York to Mumbai, India -- making it the first-ever space mission to explore a world so far from Earth.

"I'm delighted at this latest accomplishment by NASA, another

first that demonstrates once again how the United States leads the world in space," said John Holdren, assistant to the President for Science and Technology and director of the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy. "New Horizons is the latest in a long line of scientific accomplishments at NASA, including multiple missions orbiting and exploring the surface of Mars in advance of human visits still to come; the remarkable Kepler mission to identify Earth-like planets around stars other than our own; and the DSCOVR satellite that soon will be beaming back images of the whole Earth in near real-time from a vantage point a million miles away. As New Horizons completes its flyby of Pluto and continues deeper into the Kuiper Belt, NASA's multifaceted journey of discovery continues."

Per the plan, the spacecraft currently is in data-gathering mode.

Follow the New Horizons mission on Twitter and use the hashtag

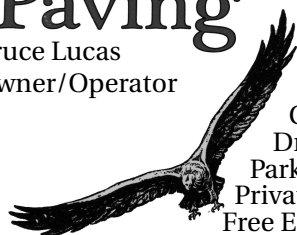
#PlutoFlyby to join the conversation. Live updates also will be available on the mission Facebook page.

For more information on the New Horizons mission, including fact sheets, schedules, video and images, visit: www.nasa.gov/newhorizons and solarsystem.nasa.gov/planets/plutotoolkit.cfm.



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The Strange-Ness

By Kay Whatley, Editor

A few weeks ago, my youngest and I came across a strange sight: a beetle on the sidewalk which measured more than two inches long. It looked more like an Egyptian scarab than something you'd expect to see in NC.



Turns out, it is an Eastern Hercules Beetle, and though it is found in NC it is a type of scarab. The beetle shown above — on the sidewalk of a Nash County building — is a female Eastern Hercules Beetle. The males have “rhinoceros” horns on their heads and are even bigger than this 2+ inch female. Although it cannot be seen in this grey newspaper, the beetle is green with darker spots.

NC is home to some big, bright, unexpected bugs and critters. Some are creepy, and some beautiful. What interesting NC creatures have you come across?

The following “Things To Do in NC When You’re Bored” listings are free, at publisher’s discretion, and as space allows. Up to five 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.

Things to Do in NC When You’re Bored

07/17 Lawn Chair Theatre (July 17 @ 7-9:30pm)

Free family movie nights. July 17: *Big Hero 6*. Before movie, kids can enjoy free activities. Doors open at 7pm, & movie begins at dusk. Food, concessions, & drinks available for purchase. Bring blanket or lawn chair. At Imperial Centre for the Arts & Sciences, 270 Gay St, **Rocky Mount**.

07/17 Spring into Summer Outdoor Movie Night Series (July 17 @ 8pm)

Knightdale Parks & Rec hosts. Free & open to the public. Bring a blanket or chair. Movies will begin at dusk. Be seated by 8pm. July 17-Night at the Museum. For info, contact megan.young@knightdalenc.gov. Movies in the Knightdale Station Park Amphitheater, 810 N First Avenue, **Knightdale**.

07/18 Stepping Into The Past 07/25 (July 18, 25 @ 10am-3pm)

Demos, with paid admission. July 18: Showing films reminiscent of rural farm life. July 25: Watermelon slices available to the public, seed spitting contest. At The Tobacco Farm Life Museum, 709 N Church St., US Hwy 301 N, **Kenly**.

07/23 Downtown Live! (July 23 @ 6-8:30pm)

Free Summer concert series. Come be a part by trying out your dance skills or relaxing to great music. Concerts start at 6pm & end at 8:30pm. Bring your lawn chair or blanket. Concessions will be available for purchase. No coolers. See www.imperialcentre.org. On the lawn of the Imperial Centre, 270 Gay St., **Rocky Mount**.

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July 18: Peach Recipe Contest, Poe Center Educators Program. The Jim Riche Project will be our live music.

July 25: Musical Performance by DryBread Road, Wake County Human Services Educational Program, Open Basketball for Ages 9-12

August 1 & 8: National Farmers' Market Week, Musical Performance by DryBread Road, Raffles for Free Baskets of Produce, Squash Recipe Contest, Watermelon Seed Spitting Contest, Largest Watermelon of the Season Contest

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Dr. Nicholas' Corner:

The amazing true story of Beate Serota

Contributed by
Nicholas Pediaditakis,
MD, DLFAPA

In a previous article, I wrote about humanity's looming troubles. But, as I have said, I am optimistic. I share with you an inspiring story of a young girl's special accomplishment—one of many she had—giving all of us hope.

Beate Serota was just 22, a graduate from Mills college in Oakland, at the end of the war with Japan in 1945. She was fluent in Japanese. (She was also fluent in Russian, English, German, French, and Italian.) She was desperate to reunite with her parents, stranded in the devastated Tokyo, where she had left them just before the war—off to complete college in the US.

Her father, an immigrant from Russia by way of Austria, was employed as an important pianist in the imperial college of Japan. Beate Serota managed to get employment as an interpreter in General McArthur's staff. She—along with two young lawyers—were assigned by him to write the new constitution of the defeated Japan! She and the two lawyers, by working day and night, did a brilliant job in a few days, insuring dignity and equality for the Japanese women in the years to come. Previously, the women were treated like hired serfs. Japan for centuries was a tribal country of warriors, full of Shoguns and Samurai. Regularly were swords cutting each others heads or, if one felt slighted, kneeling and opening their belly with a

sharp knife—they called the "Honored act" *Seppuku*, known in America as *Harakiri*.

Japan under her new constitution outlawed war, prospered as a peaceful civilized enterprising nation, and has been in peace now for seventy long years.

Beate Serota—now Beate Gordon—went on to accomplish much in arts and cultural international understanding. She died in 2012 worried about peace and women's rights—for good reason. Recently, the current Chieftain in Japan—who still considers the previous carnage of the past, as great Glories—tried to change her constitution so Japan would be able to again start wars! Fortunately, his effort was defeated by the sophisticated citizens of his country.

The lessons of the story: A single brilliant and good-faith person can make a mind-boggling difference.

The second lesson; War is neither necessary nor inevitable.

Finally, the third; Citizens do not buy foolishness as often as in the past.

As for Beate Serota-Gordon; She did find her parents alive and well. She lived a long, happy, and accomplished life with her beloved husband who himself died a few months before she did.

When at home in a quiet moment, think about it. I have reflected upon this amazing true story, myself.

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Little Bits

Chuckle of the Issue

Bob gets a job as a weatherman in the West; however, try as he might, he can never get a forecast right. Eventually he's fired and has to fly home.

His aunt asks why he's back so soon. Bob replies, 'The climate didn't agree with me.'

Translation of the Issue

English — “airplane” or “plane”

German — flugzeug

Spanish — avión

Danish — flyvemaskine

Italian — aereo

Irish — eitleán

Dutch — vliegtuig

Translations for these and many languages may be found in online (translate.google.com, babelfish.yahoo.com, etc.) and print resources.

Quote of the Issue

William Arthur Ward (American Writer)

“A warm smile is the universal language of kindness.”

Cryptogram of the Issue

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

Hint: A = O.

U H R N B H R A Z A B N
W A N M ' Z A B N W A N K '
V O K Z A B N X N Y H O K
-- D H O N Z K V I Y K
R D A N H V B

Answer to the previous issue's cryptogram:

*Like a welcome summer rain, humor may suddenly cleanse
and cool the earth, the air and you.
--Langston Hughes*

Cryptogram Note:

The second hint for this puzzle is H = E.

Word of the Issue

Visceral

Definition: Relating to deep feelings rather than intellect.

Example: “He had a visceral fear of the dentist.”



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Shades of Grey

*Some situations are viewed in black and white; right and wrong. Yet, many people think situations also have a **grey area** where solutions are not so easily discerned. This is about the choices people make, and the thought process they go through to arrive at decisions.*

Consider: Submitted for Discussion

You decide to take your family out to see a PG-13 movie at your local theatre. You have your 10-year-old and teenager with you. After getting popcorn and drinks, you settle in with your kids just as the previews begin.

A few minutes later, you feel someone tapping on your shoulder. It is a man you don't know, and he tells you that your child is too young to see the movie. He comments about your lack of parenting abilities.

Do you think that you would find it easy to ignore him and just enjoy the movie with your family? Could you let it go, confident in your judgement and family choices, or would you get angry? Do you feel this man's behavior should be reported to the theatre manager?

Alternatively, what if your spouse was with you, became embarrassed, and wanted to leave? Do you think that would change your actions? What if your spouse ended up in a fight with the stranger?

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