

# The Grey Area

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Local and National Unusual News

Online: [www.greyareanews.com](http://www.greyareanews.com)

## Rocky Mount 2015 Christmas Parade

*Released by Joyce Edwards Dantzer*

The Rocky Mount Railroad Museum (RMRRM) joined in the local Christmas spirit by taking part, along with the other hundred plus participants, in the Rocky Mount Annual Christmas Parade on Sunday December 6, 2015. The RMRRM entered the parade driving a Lincoln MKC 2015 SUV adorned with the museum's magnetized logo attached to each side of the car.

Many parade goers were heard, by the vehicle passengers, reading the museum's name aloud and inquiring of its location as the vehicle drove by them. The RMRRM has been in inception since December 2010. The members meet monthly at The Hunter Hill Cafe every second Thursday of the month.

The museum continues to proceed in procuring a physical location. That location will house educational information pertaining to the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad, its employees and contributions to the economic development of Rocky Mount in the 20th century, and operational Lionel model

trains. This is only a short list of plans that are being developed by the museum.

Monthly meetings are open to all. Team RMRRM welcomes your attendance and participation. Contact [president@RMRRailroad.org](mailto:president@RMRRailroad.org) or visit [www.RMRRailroad.org](http://www.RMRRailroad.org).

## Classic Holiday Film Showing in Wilson

Watch the film, *It's A Wonderful Life*, in Technicolor at a special showing in Wilson NC. Make it a holiday tradition and see it on the big screen again!

The *It's A Wonderful Life* movie showing is scheduled for December 19, 2015, at 7pm. The Police Athletic League (PAL) is hosting the holiday classic, at the low rate of \$3/person. Tickets are available at the door. Popcorn and soda will be available at the site for purchase.

The movie showing is at the Edna Boykin Cultural Center, 108 Nash Street NE, in Wilson. When coming to see the film, bring non-perishable food items to assist with a Holiday Food Drive being held at the Center. Donations help PAL provide a wonderful Christmas for those

in need. Questions, contact the organizers, Historic Downtown Wilson, at 252.399.2228, or visit [www.historicdowntownwilson.com](http://www.historicdowntownwilson.com).

## Zebulon Church Holds Special Events

Wakefield Central Baptist Church invites the community to their two upcoming special services: the Christmas Cantata and their Christmas Eve service.

The Chancel Choir Christmas Cantata, will take place on December 20, 2015, starting at 6:30pm. The "Breath of Heaven" Cantata, by Russell Maudlin, follows the story of Christ's birth as seen through the eyes of Mary and Joseph.

Then, the annual Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion Service follows on December 24. Come at 8pm for a celebration of the anticipated birth of the Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, through message, song and prayer.

Both events are being held at Wakefield Central Baptist Church, located at 308 Proctor Street in

Zebulon NC, across from Bojangles. For more information on the choir and these events, call 919.269.9512.

## SHARE Event Brings Kids Toys and Hope

*By Kay Whatley, Editor*

SHARE of Zebulon is holding a special children's event on Saturday, December 19, 2015, starting at 10am and ending around 5pm. SHARE stands for "Seeking Him and Reaching Everyone", and is a ministry founded by Roger Brantley, based in Dew 4 Him Ministries.

This year, SHARE is sponsoring Toys for Tots for kids in public housing in Zebulon, Wendell, and with several organizations expect to serve several hundred kids and families. One of the organizations SHARE partners with is a Zebulon-based horse organization that will be giving kids horse and wagon rides.

The free event is at Todd Park, 1300 Mack Todd Road, in Zebulon NC. For more information, contact Mr. Brantley through Dew 4 Him at 919.868.5931.



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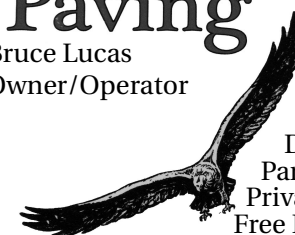
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## Things to Do in NC When You're Bored

### 11/25 Lake Myra Christmas -12/Lights (Nov 25-Dec 31)

31 The Most Exciting & Spectacular Light Show in NC. Sun-Thu 6-10pm; Fri-Sat 6-11pm. In downtown **Wendell**.

### 12/04 Holiday Ice Skating -31 (Dec 4-31)

Skating costs \$6/person, per 45-minute session. Public skating sessions are Friday-Saturday: 1-7pm & Sundays: 1-6pm. The Rink will be closed Dec 24-26. At The Imperial Centre, 270 Gay Street, **Rocky Mount**.

### 12/21 Story Time

#### 12/28 (Dec 21 & 28 @ 10:30-11am)

It's that time again boys and girls! Some of your favorite stories will be read to you by Miss Yvonne — don't miss it! Plus, play fun games. At Cooley Library, 114 W Church Street, **Nashville**.

### 12/21 Mother Goose Story Time

#### 12/28 (Dec 21 & 28 @ 10:30-11am)

Children's literacy program held on most Mondays. At Braswell Memorial Library, 727 N Grace Street, **Rocky Mount**.

### 12/21 "Behold The Lamb"

#### -24 Drama 2015

##### (Dec 21-24 @ 6:30pm)

A must-see outside Live Nativity drama. Bring a lawn chair & blankets, then sit back & relax as the story unfolds. Nativity is free; donations will be accepted. For additional information, contact Debra Dunn Robertson, Drama Director, at 919.961.3028. At Good Hope Baptist Church, 4209 S Smithfield Road, **Knightsdale**.

### 12/23 Christmas in the Barn

#### (Dec 23 @ 7-9pm)

Jesus is the reason for the season! Animals in stalls, a short message, special music, fellowship, a bonfire, cider, & hot chocolate. Event is free, but collecting voluntary donations for two 4-H families with medical bills. In the barn at Ray Family Farms, 6913 Pearces Road, **Bunn**.

### 12/31 First Night Raleigh 2016!

#### (Dec 31 @ 2pm

#### - Jan 1, 2016 @ 12am)

Celebrate New Year's Eve & "North Carolina Firsts"! With performances & activities at over 30 venues around town, there is something for everyone! Full schedule online at [FirstNightRaleigh.com](http://FirstNightRaleigh.com). Downtown **Raleigh**.

### 01/01 Cosmic Bingo!

#### (Jan 1, 2016 @ 6-9pm)

Test your luck of the New Year at Cosmic Bingo on New Years Day. Play bingo with glow in the dark daubers, music, & refreshments. Wear your favorite glow in the dark clothes & get a glow stick to match! Win up to \$500 cash & prizes. Fees may apply. At NC Beach Bingo, 306 S White Street (The Event Gallery), **Wake Forest**.

### 01/09 2nd Saturday Game Night

#### (Jan 9, 2016 @ 9-11:30pm)

Teams will compete for prizes in a board game competition! Game to be announced. Bring a team or join one at the Pub. At The Underground Pub, 101 E Church Street, **Tarboro**.

*The "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.*

## New Bobcat Arrives at Conservators Center

Contributed by Mandy Matson

The latest resident of the NC Conservators Center is Fuzzy Bobcat, a 16-year-old male bobcat brought in as a new companion to a female bobcat named Reno.

Reno Bobcat's companion, Bobby Fargo, passed away from old age recently. The Conservators Center animal caretakers knew that they needed to find a new roommate for her, so Reno wouldn't be lonely.

Soon after, they received word about a male bobcat from a reputable facility that was ready to retire to a new home: Fuzzy. Fuzzy arrived at the Conservators Center in Fall 2015. The hope was that Fuzzy and Reno could be good companions for one another.

Well, Reno can be too independent for her own good... and standoffish... and very picky... and sometimes downright rude. So they waited with bated breaths to see if she would accept this new friend. Thankfully, it was immediately clear that Reno and Fuzzy were going to get along.

Fuzzy's introduction to Reno has brought about changes in her behaviors. Her former companion, Bobby Fargo, retired from a zoo and was very comfortable around people. Reno, however, came from the wild. She came to the Center after she was hit by a car in Wendell NC, and could not be returned to the wild. This meant Reno was less friendly with people than Bobby.

Bobby loved coming to the fence to greet his favorite people, and get scents and treats. While he was alive, she preferred to stay in the background. After he passed away, Reno started coming to the fence to chat and ask for treats. New resident Fuzzy is still a little more shy than Reno; but, with time, he will likely get more bold. And

if he doesn't, he's fine to watch people from a distance.

As of this writing, Fuzzy is still a little shy, but he is warming up quickly to the faces he has grown to recognize. The two bobcats share a habitat; with each animal seeming to prefer their own territory within their habitat, for now.

To find out more about these and other animals at NC's Conservators Center, visit [www.conservatorscenter.org](http://www.conservatorscenter.org).

## BTW Community Center Hosts Holiday Activities

Released by Tameka Kenan-Norman

Children ages four to 12 are invited to the Booker T. Washington Community Center (BTW) for holiday fun. The free festivities begin Monday, December 21, 2015, with arts and crafts.

According to Heather White, recreation program supervisor, arts and crafts will include activities like cutting out snowflakes, decorating cookies, as well as using crafts to make a Christmas gift.

Holiday activities continue on Tuesday, December 22, with Movie Day. *Polar Express* will be the featured movie, and attendees can indulge in popcorn and drinks.

"We tried to find a family friendly movie that kids would enjoy," says White. "From our research, *Polar Express* was continuously rated #1 among holiday movies for kids."

On Wednesday, December 23, 2015, events will wrap up with a visit from Santa who will bring cookies and milk. Parents are encouraged to bring a camera to capture the moment.

This marks the first year that BTW has hosted holiday events. White says staff at the center wanted to offer family friendly activities for everyone.

"We were trying to look for creative ways to get the entire community involved, especially during the first week when children are out of school for the holidays," notes White. "This is also a way to give families something to do with no cost involved."

All activities begin at 5:30pm. The Booker T. Washington Community Center is located at 727 Pennsylvania Avenue, Rocky Mount NC. For more details, call 252.467.4925.

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## The Frogs Are Ready to Jump!

Contributed by  
Nicholas Pediaditakis,  
MD, DLFAPA

There is a story which can be used as a powerful metaphor for us humans, facing the same problem. A group of frogs placed in scalding hot water will jump right out, reacting to the high heat; but, if the same frogs are placed in a pot of cold water and then the temperature slowly raised to boiling, the frogs will stay in the pot, oblivious to the rising peril — and they would end up cooked.

Similarly, humanity has a lag in perceiving the reality of the oncoming dangers we have created. To our favor, humans are more nimble; but, not much it seems. We are more nimble especially when acting collectively

## Dr. Nicholas' Corner

prompted by enlightened leaders. The latter act as catalysts, and become crucial in mobilizing and precipitating a collective action; thus, all of us in unison can now recoil from the lethal, approaching event.

Recently, as an optimistic sign for eventually solving the rest of the dangers facing us, we managed to collectively — all 200 nations of us — declare in unison that, indeed, the atmosphere around us — which we have been using as a sewage for decades — is about to cook us, while the rising seas may drown half of us!

We are now preparing not only to collectively jump, as it were, but to reduce the heat as well. Local interests and politically-motivated denials are still dragging the rest of humanity back from the effort and delaying necessary actions. There indeed still exists the danger of being cooked to death at the end, anyway.

Our fate may be similar to that of the aforementioned group of

frogs. Nevertheless, the recent gathering in Paris of leaders representing the entire planet is significant, not only for creating a plan for preventing the looming climate catastrophe; but, our rational reaction to this particular peril is a good sign as to how we may be able to collectively face the additional problems in front of us; for instance, the destruction of biodiversity, the misallocation of wealth, and the spears of old — now turned into atomic bombs. Numerous nations are poised now to throw them at the ever-changing adversary.

Indeed, the greatest peril at present is the readiness of aggressive territorial action and eagerness to make war, killing each other not only for profit and gain, but also for ideological symbols — such as, “My God is a bigger God than your God” — coupled with an inane thirst for glory and valor.

That may be the toughest problem of them all.

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## Little Bits

### Search and Circle of the Issue

B N R F F O I R F N R B A C  
M W K A R E H L Z R R Y E X  
M L A Q E V L M O D X L K Y  
N U R Z S Y K L K V E L L F  
J A M R H P W V O B E I W J  
J D N A S J X E R W M D L P  
O C B M T E P A N A S H U N  
Y A Y P A G T P F Z S H L Z  
Q I G L R E D I N N E R I B  
A I U G T V Y A D I L O H P  
A N B Z H Z E C Q X D T Q L  
M E F J D F L Z L D N C T G  
R E S O L U T I O N A R D I  
Z K H W K E Z W L H C E Z J

CANDLES	CELEBRATE	DINNER
FAMILY	FELLOWSHIP	FRESH START
HOLIDAY	JOY	LOVE
NEW YEAR	RESOLUTION	

### Cryptogram of the Issue

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

Hint: H = W.

G L F O F H A F N M  
T G N O P T C F R D M F Q T '  
Z K U F N J L N B G F M K O  
N C D D U ' H N K G K O Y  
G D C F H M K G G F O H F  
J N O L F Z B H M K G F  
G L N G T G D M A C A  
T F G G K O Y Y D N Z T '  
I F Z D P A C F N G G K F

Answer to the previous issue's cryptogram:

*Since you get more joy out of giving joy to others, you  
should put a good deal of thought into the happiness that  
you are able to give.  
--Eleanor Roosevelt*

### Cryptogram Note:

The second hint for this puzzle is G = T.

### Quote of the Issue

**Charles Kettering (American Inventor; b.1876,  
d.1958)**

"Every time you tear a leaf off a calendar, you present  
a new place for new ideas and progress."

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own & do not necessarily reflect the views  
of The Grey Area news and its staff.*

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### Chuckle of the Issue

An out-of-towner visiting the big city at the height of  
the tourist season decided to revisit a restaurant he'd  
enjoyed on a previous trip. He put in his name for a  
table and began to wait. And wait.

Finally, he caught the eye of an overworked waiter and  
said, "You know, it's been over five years since I first  
came in here."

"I'm sorry, but you'll have to wait your turn, sir,"  
replied the waiter. "I can only serve one table at a  
time!"

### Word of the Issue

**"defenestration"**

**Definition:** The act of throwing someone or something  
out a window; also, may be used to describe the act of  
removing someone from a position of authority.

**Example:** "The defenestration of his computer led to  
his own defenestration."

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