

Mt. VERNON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

CHURCH HOMECOMING

SUNDAY, OCT. 8
11am with
Rev. Hugo Villagrana
Lunch Follows Service

CHARGE REVIVAL
October 8 - 11 7pm nightly

SUNDAY, OCT 8 MT. VERNON UMC
MONDAY, OCT 9 POPLAR HILL UMC

TUESDAY, OCT 10 POLKTON UMC
WEDNESDAY, OCT 11 WIGHTMAN UMC

Writers' Club Welcomes New Members

The Anson County Writers' Club meets on the fourth Sunday of each month, from 3 to 5 p.m. in the fellowship hall of First Presbyterian Church in Wadesboro, except in July and December. All meetings are open to the public. New members of all ages are welcome.

For more information call Sandy Bruney at 704-694-5211 or email sandy-bruney@gmail.com.

For several years in the late 1990's and early 2000's Bill Billingsley wrote a column for *The Express*. It began with the title 'Billingsley's This and That' with the title later evolving to become Billingsley's "T N T".

Bill managed WADE Radio station in Wadesboro for many years. He was extremely well known in the community, with many friends. He was also known nationwide for his pitch-perfect and authoritative 'radio voice.'

Due to a computer mishap, it appeared that Bill's "TnT" columns were lost. But, after working on the project for several years, we have managed to recover at least some of his work. Because of that good fortune, we are proud to present a column below that Bill wrote for the October 9, 1999 edition of *The Express*.

Billingsley's This and That

Have I told you about getting scared to death by mill strikers during the Depression?
You know by that question exactly what's coming next.



Rockingham was the place and, as you may know, there are several running mills, still, in that city. Some are now closed because of just such strikes.

To tell you the absolute truth, an uncle of mine was the head of one of the unions that caused the owner of one mill to dismantle the machinery, move it out, load it in eighteen wheelers and take to a port where it could be loaded on a ship headed for Brazil. By the way, the machinery was relatively new, but the union struck for more money per hour, so the owner retaliated. By doing it that way he could not be held liable for refuting the union since there were no jobs existing in that plant. Any how, he went with the equipment to establish a sweat shop, I assume.

Rockingham was not the only location of the better labor-force strikes. There were similar reprisings in Bessemer City, Forest City, Spartanburg and other cities. At that same time Wadesboro was spared and Polkton did not yet have the shirt factories.

While visiting with some cousins in Rockingham during this strike, a protest march was held by some of the strikes. I suppose it was to let their cause be widely known. So, they marched through the residential sections of the town carrying torches and beating on tubs and pans with a spokesman in front with a bull-horn explaining the lay offs and salary cuts, bad working conditions and the then Communist closeness with the labor unions. The managers of the various mills refused to meet with the union on account of the questionable affiliation (they said). People for and against the union staged protest marches which led to harsh words and even killings in some towns.

When the marchers come nearer to my aunts home the scarer I got. Some of the others watched out doors and windows (Behind curtains), but I elected to go to the back of the house where a wardrobe stood, climbed up on top of it and hid among the hat boxes that were stored there. I doubt you'll find a wardrobe today. Houses today are usually built with adequate closet space so people, likely, don't, need another place to store clothing. If they do they can go to any fine furniture store (as the commercial reads) and buy an armoire for that purpose. I didn't come down from my hiding place until I was assured, that although I still heard them, that they were not coming back and meant no harm to residents along the street. But that was about the most frightened I've ever been, to this day, I guess I should not be ashamed of it because grown people were scared, too. When a child of four or five hears strange noises or sees unusual sights, he, naturally, is frightened. I was unusually so!

Charles Willis, of Lilesville, one of my coffee partners gave me this Little Story:
This is the story about four people named Everybody, Somebody, Anybody, and Nobody.

There was an important job to be done and Everybody was sure that Somebody would do it.

Anybody could have done it, but Nobody did.

Somebody got angry about that because it was Everybody's job.

Everybody thought Anybody could do it, but Nobody realized that Everybody wouldn't do it.

It ended up that Everybody blamed Somebody when Nobody did what Anybody could have done. { 'nuff said }

Old Sayings:

Playing both ends against the middle - meant saying what both parties wanted to hear, even if they were contradictory.

Straddle the fence - meant the same as "political much speak", saying a lot but never saying which side of an issue your on.

Played out - meant gone as far as you can go or the bad is over or business failure; too tiered to continue.

Hooky - meant specifically skipping school, come to mean lay out of work, or not doing something you promised to do.

Play along with - meant going along with another verbally, but with no real conviction of his course.

Dealt a bad hand - Meant a bad start, bad deal all the way to the end.

Old Songs:

- Going to Kansas City
 - Perfidin
 - Carolina
 - Green Beret
 - Dixie
 - Battle Hymn of the Republic
 - Tonight We Love
 - Valse Triste
 - In The Garden
 - I Heard It Through the Grapevine
 - Midnight Train to Georgia
- "If you fail to plan, You plan to fail"
-Robert Schuller

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704-983-1195

Low or No Income? Uninsured?

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ANSON COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

110 Ashe Street
Wadesboro
704-694-5188

Funded by Title X Reproductive Health Services

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BBQ

GULLEDGE FIRE DEPARTMENT
Saturday, October 7 11am until...

CHICKEN OR PORK
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Cartons Available Warm or Cold

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