

North Carolina Telephone Company

Fred Fincher did most of the phone service for Anson Phone Company in Wadesboro. That was when one of several telephone operators said, "Number please," then plugged you into your "asked for number or name." There were no dial phones here, certainly no "cell" phones or any of this stuff of today's telephone messaging.

In my mind I can still see those operators with ear phones, using both hands "plugging in" numbers that were asked for!! Some of this was my "era of time." At that time our shop number was 40 - no prefix, no area code -"just 40," when we began our business in 1947.

The truck above is the second one after Anson Phone became North Carolina Telephone Company - and, as always, it was hand designed and painted, even

Not many remember when the painted phone on the door which, believe it or not, was like some of the early desk type phones! They were all a "far cry' from some of the older boxy oak wood wall phones that preceded!

There were quite a few people through the years who we have known - not only the operators, but also service and office personnel. I remember one Monday holiday when so many people were not working. Naturally someone "knocked down" a telephone pole. All the service personnel were off, leaving an area with no phone service. Manager Jack Miller came by shop all upset, so I took my Suburban and ladder to his rescue, and that was the nearest that I have ever come to "working the telephone business!"

Many of the "old timers" have gone on, but many are still here to cary on though!! A great group of people!

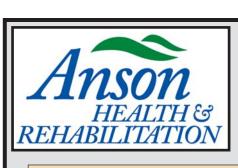
Free Groceries for Families in Need February 5

For families in need, free groceries will be available. The Anson and East Union Missional Network, Anson Crisis Assistance Second Harvest Food Bank Mobile Food Pantry will be at Wingate United Methodist Church, located at 111 Hinson Street in Wingate, on Wednesday, February 5. Please arrive and register between 8 and 10 a.m. The food distribution begins upon the truck arrival, usually between

• Be sure to bring your own bags, boxes or carts to carry your food. • Arrive between 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. to be sure you can receive food. • If it is raining the day of or before the delivery, contact Anson Crisis Ministry for a recorded message to know if it is cancelled: 704-694-2445. • You can only pick up food for yourself and one other registered household.

Interested in volunteering for the Mobile Food Pantry? Email tschumpert@wnccumc.net. The goal of the Mobile Food Pantry is to feed the hungry and serve

If you are in need before or after the distribution of food date, please contact Anson Crisis Ministry at (704) 694-2445 or Union County Crisis Assistance at (704) 225-0440.



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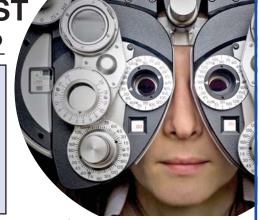


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