

SPCC Announces Quality Enhancement Plan

After many months of preparation, South Piedmont Community College announced its Quality Enhancement Plan, or QEP. This plan, titled "TRAC: Teaching Responsibility, Readiness and Resourcefulness through Advising Connections," focuses on the college's efforts to improve student advising.

SPCC's QEP was announced as part of the requirements for its upcoming accreditation visit by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges, or SACSCOC, in October. Once it gets the required approval from the SACSCOC, the QEP will be implemented over a five-year period. Surveys given to students, employees and faculty, as well as research conducted by the QEP team, led to the topic of academic advising as SPCC's area of most-needed improvement.

TRAC will focus on five key advising strategies: (1) placing an organizational emphasis on advising, (2) restructuring the advising process to create intentional partnerships, (3) integrating technology into the advising process to increase efficiency, (4) fostering a culture where "advising is teaching" through development, and (5) redistributing advising loads to strengthen advising connections.

The art of advising will be tackled from several angles, including pre-advising for new students through new Advising Centers and program workshops that teach new students the ins and outs of their chosen program of study.

"The QEP puts the focus on student learning," QEP Co-Chair and Reading Instructor Jennifer Chicosky said. "Learning how to develop an academic plan puts students on 'TRAC' to reach their educational goals."

Makena Stewart, QEP co-chair and Student Success counselor, noted that students are frequently uncertain about what is expected of them in the advising process. " Oftentimes students are not aware of their responsibilities in the advising partnership," she said. "This plan clarifies the student's role and connects them with available resources pertinent for their success."

For more information about SPCC's Quality Enhancement Plan, contact Jennifer Chicosky at jchicosky@spcc.edu or Makena Stewart at mstewart@spcc.edu.

Diabetic Support Group to Meet

The Diabetic Support Group will meet on Thursday, September 27, from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. at Calvary Episcopal Church in Wadesboro. Rita Short of Grace Senior Center will speak on living healthily with Diabetes and also on programs at Grace Senior Center.

If you need more information contact Ruth Hildreth at 704-694-3979.

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WADE Jingle / Jangle

I am sure that few of you remember the above picture. My friend Risden Lyon opened radio station WADE "1210 on your radio dial" in 1947, and it being early after World War II, there was no television or any of "today's stuff" on the air here in Anson County. The station was originally located on the third floor of the former Fox & Lyon Building.

The pair above did put on a good show. My job was to do the artwork including the advertising cards. There was not only the radio program Jingle/Jangle featuring Jack Hawkins and Uncle Pete, but Bill Billingsley had the "real serious stuff" - if you can believe such!! Oh yes, this was many years before Allen's days, of which Bill B. said, "Allen missed all the real excitement!"

Of course this was some of my very early artwork days, years before the big fire that destroyed the Fox & Lyon Building plus those buildings that surrounded it in January 1983...a disaster that we still feel in downtown Wadesboro. Thank you. Ed

Celebrating the Living Legacy - 75 Years

Brown Creek Soil and Water Conservation District Nation's First Soil Conservation District

On August 4, 1937, NC Secretary of State Thad Eure made history when he signed the certificate establishing the Brown Creek Soil and Water Conservation District as the first in the state, the nation and the world. The original Brown Creek Soil and Water Conservation District contained only the parts of Anson and Union Counties within the Brown Creek watershed. Included in this area, in Anson County, was the birthplace of Hugh Hammond Bennett, the father of soil and water conservation.

In 1947, the boundaries were expanded to include five counties, including Anson, Union, Stanly, Montgomery and Richmond. Over time, these other counties formed separate soil and water conservation districts. Today Anson County retains the original title, Brown Creek Soil and Water Conservation District.

Today North Carolina has 96 Soil and Water Conservation Districts covering all 100 counties in the state. These districts are serving over 85,000 school children and adults each year through their conservation education efforts. In addition, these districts are instrumental in improving the state's natural resources by providing technical assistance to landowners to help them solve their natural resource problems through voluntary, incentive based conservation programs. Their actions are improving the lives of all North Carolina citizens through implementation of programs that protect and improve soil and water quality on both agricultural and non-agricultural lands.

Submitted by Tina Rowell

SC Jazz Festival Fine Arts and Crafts Exhibit Call for Artists

The 7th Annual SC Jazz Festival will be held in Cheraw on the weekend of October 18 - 21. On Saturday, October 20, the SC Jazz Festival Fine Arts and Crafts Exhibit will be held in downtown Cheraw from 10 a.m. to 6p.m. This will be the fifth year for the juried Fine Arts and Crafts Exhibit. Categories include: Painting, Photography, Drawing and Graphics, Fiber, Glass, Jewelry, Leather, Metal, Mixed Media, Sculpture, Watercolor, Wood, Clay, Digital Art, Original work will be accepted with no imported, mass-produced or manufactured items allowed.

Interested artists must submit photos of work to lbennett@cheraw.com and include contact information or mail to Cheraw Arts Commission, PO Box 219, Cheraw, SC 29520 by September 28. Accepted artists will be notified by October 1 or before. Registration/information forms will be forwarded to participating artists with acceptance notification.

For additional information about the festival visit www.scjazzfestival.com or call 843-537-8420 x12.

The Cheraw Arts Commission is supported by the SC Arts Commission which receives funding from the National Endowment for the Arts and the United Way of Chesterfield County.

Democratic Party Meets September 11

A Democratic Party meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 11 at 6 p.m. at the Hampton B. Allen Library. The purpose of the meeting is to finalize the banquet, and turn in tickets, ads or sponsorships for the banquet.

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