

The Anson County Board of Education's September 29 regular meeting has been moved to Thursday, October 2. The meeting will begin at 5:30 p.m. with Closed Session taking place immediately after the opening of the meeting. Open Session to the public will begin around 6:30 p.m.

The meeting will be held in the Charles Riddle Staff Development Center, located on 320 Camden Road in Wadesboro.

Matter of Balance Class at Grace Senior Center

Do you have concerns about falling? A Matter of Balance can reduce the fear of falling and increase the activity levels of older adults who have concerns about falling.

The Matter of Balance classes help participants learn to:

- view falls and fear of falling as controllable
- set realistic goals for increasing activity
- change their environment to reduce fall risk factors
- promote exercise to increase strength and balance

The Matter of Balance class is designed to benefit community-dwelling older adults who:

- are concerned about falls
- have sustained a fall in the past
- restrict activities because of concerns about falling
- are interested in improving flexibility, balance and strength
- are age 60 or older, ambulatory and able to problem-solve

Grace Senior Center is offering A Matter of Balance Managing Concerns About Falls Class, October 7 to October 30. This class will meet twice a week for four weeks on Tuesdays and Thursdays, from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. at Grace Senior Center. Call Wanda Talbert or Findey Knotts at (704) 694-6616 to register or for information.

Remembering.....
By Ed McBride



National Hotel & Coffee Shop

The National Hotel and Coffee Shop goes back quite a few years - yet has many interesting "happenings" for so many people who are still here.

The hotel was open for business when we moved to Wadesboro - and was a busy place on the block that began at Parsons Drug Store - going down the hill west to the corner and including the First National Bank, a bakery, offices, other businesses that included parts of the foundation of First Baptist (now on Lee Avenue). Dave Mills was operating the hotel then, later Mattie Davis (sister of Pines) and husband Vic...and still later M. J. Hamer and wife Louise kept it going until it was sold to D. B. Goodman.

Many traveling salesmen lodged there, even some who had come to town on the train.

Talking with Harry Hodges as he remembered friends of his dad (H. G. Hodges, Sr.), some of whom made their home at the hotel. One was Burgess Medley. He had a room there, as did Deacon Rivers who was at that time President of Wade Manufacturing Company and Mayor of Wadesboro. Deacon had a new Buick, but he couldn't drive it - instead, he depended on Harry Huntley's dad, "Mr. Henry," to drive or have someone who could take him to the office!

About the two men in the picture sitting on the bench close to the barber shop entrance - they could have been hotel guests or "haircut customers!"

The coffee shop was a good place to eat. Allen Lyon's grandfather, Dr. Bob Lyon, who was the first Wadesboro Lions Club president, dined there in the early years while planning, and then, after chartering in 1949, the Lions Club. The Wadesboro Lions had their monthly meetings there - all enjoying a "good home cooked" meal, home made hot rolls, dessert and coffee/tea....all this for \$1! Loretta Oliver, who was a young waitress there, still remembers some of her early working days.

The barber shop next door was operated by Ned Harkey and Dewey Hildreth for a time - later Dr. James Smith had his office there (later moving to South Greene Street) and the last ones in that part of the building were J. B. Crider and his wife. They opened their jewelry and repair business in the 1940's.

About to forget, I only did signs on the hotel windows one time...in the 1940's. I did gold letters with black trim - and the cost - well it couldn't have been much!

Now the main hotel/coffee shop building was closed about 1950, and D. Bruce Goodman opened a furniture store, displaying furniture not only in the lobby, but in special rooms as well. However, on March 31, 1958, a very disastrous fire destroyed the entire building, including Bun and Gertrude Crider's jewelry store.

Thanks to so many who have shared some of their memories on this and other articles! Ed

NAACP Meetings

The Anson County Branch NAACP will meet at 7 p.m. at the Hampton B. Allen Library on Tuesday, October 21 and December 16. Elections will be held November 16, from 2 to 6 p.m. Call President Donnie Lewis 704-320-6376 for more information.

Are You Ready for College? Webinars Scheduled to Help

This fall, College Foundation of North Carolina will be offering two webinars to help families navigate the college admissions process and the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid). This is open to both parents and students!

The first webinar, An Inside Look at the College Admissions Process, will be held October 15 at 6 p.m. The second, Step-by-Step Guide to Completing the FAFSA, is scheduled for December 9 at 6 p.m.

Families are encouraged to take advantage of these resources and can register at CFNC.org/events.

Class of 1974 Reunion Meeting

The Bowman High School Class of 1974 will hold a class reunion meeting at Lady Bug Restaurant at 10 a.m. on Saturday, October 18 to finalize the plans for the reunion.

Call Annie McCoy Smith at 704-465-1149 for more information.

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Mr. Thomas Parson celebrated his 100th BIRTHDAY on Wednesday, September 24
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Pictured here with Mr. Parson are, from left, Kendrick Parson, Ruby Lilly, Malachi Sturdivant, Mary Sturdivant, Annie Medley, Vanessa Smith, Lucy Smith, Mary Caple and Clarence Parson.

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