

The Malsgate



Veterans Day
All Veterans Receive a Discount on Friday

THE MALSGATE RESTAURANT & HOUSTON'S BAR

121 East Wade Street in Uptown Wadesboro
 704-694-2206 • TheMalsgate@gmail.com
 Monday - Wednesday 11am to 9pm • Bar 11am to 11pm
 Thursday 11am to 10pm • Bar 11am to 11pm
 Friday 11am to 10pm • Bar 11am to midnight
 Saturday 4pm to 10pm • Bar 4pm to midnight

Compassionate Friends Meet Thursday

The Compassionate Friends, a support group for families who have lost a child of any age, meets at 7 p.m. on Thursdays, November 10 in the Training Room at Pee Dee Electric on Highway 52 South in Wadesboro.

For information call 704-694-8774 or 704-475-5005.

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Hornwood Employees Give \$14,000 to United Way Fund



Employees of Hornwood, Inc. donated \$14,000 to the United Way of Central Carolinas. The money donated will help assist thirteen programs supported by United Way in Anson County. Pictured are the Hornwood partners who serve on the Partner contribution Committee: Georgina Brown is presenting the check to Caroline Goins of United Way. Behind them, from left are Mary Liles, Athan Tillman, John Marshall, Robbie Chambers, Darrell Goodson and Anita Mullis. Lowery Spencer is not pictured.

Ambulance Simulator Gives SPCC Students Almost-Real-World Experience

"How'd you get that in here?" That is the reaction of many people when they see what looks like an ambulance parked in the middle of a classroom on South Piedmont Community College's Old Charlotte Highway Campus, said Dennis Baucom, SPCC's director of Vocational Trades. Some have looked around the corner into the next room to see if the front of the ambulance is there.

"Several people have asked where the front of it was," said SPCC Emergency Medical Services Coordinator Robby Smith. "The gas cap on the side really gives it some feel like it was driven in here." As the gas cap illustrates, no detail was spared in creating an ambulance simulator for SPCC's EMS students. The same attention to detail went into the inside of the simulator, which is actually an ambulance that was stripped apart and rebuilt inside the classroom.

"We've put everything in here an ambulance would have - oxygen, a vacuum pump system," Baucom said. "It actually gives them the look of a real ambulance to practice in prior to going to clinical," Smith said. "Another benefit is they're learning to work within their space restraints. Paramedic students are used to working with large tables to put in IVs. There are actually documented studies that show when you put students in the environment, with pictures and noises, it will increase their adrenaline and cause stress."

The simulator has that, with a 23-minute looping video, complete with siren blaring, on a screen where the cab would be that gives the impression the ambulance is traveling down the road. There is also a camera mounted in the ambulance that allows students in an adjacent classroom to watch, on a monitor, what's going on. Jackson, SPCC's high-fidelity training mannequin, is on a stretcher in the ambulance. A computer connected to the ambulance allows Smith to create scenarios and have the students respond accordingly, or a two-way radio allows Smith to pretend he is at the hospital, giving instructions to the paramedic students as they are en route.

The simulator also allows for better training in what might seem like simple tasks - like lifting a stretcher into the ambulance with a body on it. In a recent class, the students took turns being "the body" and found out what it feels like to be lifted off the ground and pushed into the back of an ambulance.

Smith noted that even professional EMS workers have been impressed by the simulator. "They say, 'this is really neat,'" he said.

How the simulator came to be is a story in itself. Smith and former EMS Coordinator Chris Johnson discussed having one before Johnson died of cancer in 2007. "Basically, Robby has been dreaming of this for a couple of years," Baucom said. "They have simulators available, for \$30,000 to \$40,000. He came to me and said, 'Can you build it?' He brought me some blueprints." Baucom thought that he could, but before he got to that point, a friend of Smith's alerted him to a pediatric ambulance without an engine that had been sitting at First Class Emergency Vehicles in Charlotte for five years. "They said we can have it," Baucom said.

Over a period of seven to eight weeks, Baucom, Smith and Vocational Trades instructor Terry James stripped the ambulance down and rebuilt it in the classroom. Baucom and James framed up walls, raised the floor and then rebuilt the ambulance around their framework. "We covered the outside with aluminum coil," Baucom said. "We put screws all the way to give it a rivet effect. We tried to make it look as much like an ambulance as possible. They put cabinets back inside the ambulance and covered them with vinyl. They had to brace a grab bar attached to the ambulance ceiling to the top of the building. The flooring is the same as what would be in an ambulance. Even the exterior flashing lights work.

"We had about \$1,500 in materials," Baucom said. "Versus 30 or 40 grand? I think it's pretty good."

Future plans include taking three offices around the corner from the simulator and converting them into a simulated living room, bedroom and bathroom. Once those renovations are complete, EMS students will have to pick up "patients" in the type of environment where they might find them, put them on the stretcher, wheel them to the ambulance and load them up.

"You can buy commercial ambulance simulators for training purposes," Smith said. "This is the real thing."

Want to see it? The ambulance simulator will have an open house during a health fair sponsored by Carolinas Medical Center-Union and the Union County Chamber of Commerce on Nov. 12 from 8 a.m. to noon.



Dennis Baucom, SPCC's Vocational Trades director, stands outside the ambulance simulator. The flashing lights and the gas cap add to the simulator's realism.



Robby Smith, SPCC's Emergency Medical Services coordinator, sits in the ambulance simulator with Jackson, the school's high-fidelity training mannequin.

Apply, Test and Register!

Spring 2012 on-campus registration for new and returning students:
 Nov. 21 - 22 & Jan. 3-6 • Classes start Jan. 9

REGISTRATION LOCATIONS:
 L.L. Polk Campus, 680 U.S. 74 West, Polkton
 Old Charlotte Highway Campus, 4209 Old Charlotte Hwy., Monroe



Registration for spring college-credit classes automatically enters you in a drawing for these prizes:
 • iPad 2 • iPod Touch
 • \$100 Best Buy gift card

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Green Beans.....	\$7.99 \$4.99		
Potato Salad.....	\$2.99 LB.		

Large Pan Serves 12-15
 Small Pan Serves 4-6

Order Through Monday, November 21st, Pick-up by 6 pm Wednesday, November 23rd
 \$25 deposit required for all orders over \$50

704-694-5937

Peachland-Polkton Elementary School Receives Flag

On Thursday, October 27th, Peachland-Polkton Elementary School was presented a North Carolina flag by N.C. House of Representative Mr. Frank McGuirt. This flag was actually flown over the State Capitol Building in Raleigh on October 5th. Mr. McGuirt presented the flag during an assembly at the school.

