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*Remembering.....*  
By Ed McBride



**Telephone Pioneers**

Pictured above is the 'forerunner' of the many telephones that we see and use every day - the only thing is that the above picture was made about sixty years ago (yes Allen, I was here).

So many people who have done so much in helping to make our communications better, not only with each other locally but all over the world. I can remember the small switchboard in Ansonville (then inside the Bank of Ansonville) which was run by Emma and Sadie Ingold. The above picture was taken in Wadesboro some years later, just prior to the early days of 'dial.'

Some of the operators I can remember were Lou Bell Ballard, Sara Benton, Ann Sullivan, Pat Wheless, Audrey Drye and Ruth Hill (all deceased). There were many 'young ones' like Virginia Ballard (Staton), Mattie Tyson (Gaddy), Betty Jo Lee - and the list goes on.

The switchboard pictured above was upstairs along West Wade Street. For heat there was a 'potbelly' stove. This was a time when every call was 'operator handled' - there were no such things as cell phones, not even manual dialing. Not much of today's phone technology is related to 'days that used to be.'

We are very grateful for the people who have helped bring us this far - as we continue 'our journey!'  
Ed

**Calvary Episcopal Church  
Service to Honor Lib Taylor**



This is a release from Calvary Episcopal Church: The bells of Calvary Episcopal Church will toll at 6 p.m. on Sunday, March 20, calling our community to a service of Evensong. The Calvary Choir has prepared a score of sacred music particular to the Lenten Season and in preparation for Holy Week.

This service honors the life of Lib Taylor, the gifts of her musical talents and the love she shared with us. Her elegant presence in our community continues to walk with us in light, in strength, grace, humility, compassion and faith. In this remembrance of her, the Calvary Choir and congregation, through worship and song, give thanksgiving for her powerful example of an earthly life lived exceptionally and the knowing that her present peace passes all human understanding. Please join us in the light of dusk to rejoice in the Light of Light.

**Connections Family Support Methamphetamine  
Awareness Workshop to be Held March 22**

Connections Family Support and Community Collaboration Program is hosting guest speaker, Special Agent Chris Moody with the N.C. State Bureau of Investigation (SBI) on Tuesday, March 22 at the Anson County Cooperative Extension Office, from 12 noon to 1:30 p.m. Special Agent Moody will be speaking on the topic of methamphetamines.

Anson County ranked fourth in the state among North Carolina's 100 counties in 2015 with having the highest number of meth labs. Special Agent Moody will be discussing what methamphetamine is, how it is made and used, and the consequences and dangers of long-term use. He will also discuss the signs and symptoms of use and the legal ramifications for users and their families.

Family members and any providers and professionals working with children, such as: teachers, social workers, case managers, therapists, counselors and court counselors are encouraged to attend. Space is limited and we ask that you register in advance and no later than March 18. Resources and lunch will be provided at no charge.

Connections Family Support and Community Collaboration Program is funded by Sandhills Center and contracted through National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) in North Carolina. To learn more or to register for this workshop, please contact Suzanne Maness in Anson and Richmond Counties toll free at 877-211-5995 or by email at [connectionsfsfp@gmail.com](mailto:connectionsfsfp@gmail.com).

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