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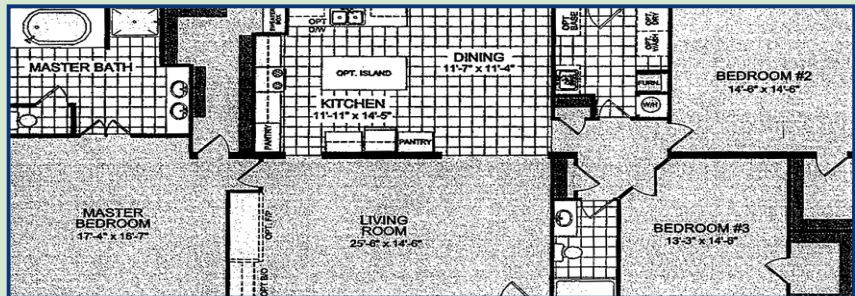
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Brown Bag Book Club

Meets September 15

The Brown Bag Book Club will meet at 12 noon on Monday, September 15 in the Pritchett Room at the Hampton B Allen Library. The covered dish luncheon will feature a talk by author Abby Cave-nough, editor of the Anson Record. Abby has recently written a book entitled *Going Home Again*, and she will be discussing it. She will have some paper-back copies and e-books for sale at the event. Please mark your calendars and plan to come to the library to hear Abby and join in the food and fellowship - you will be in for a special time.

If you plan to attend, please bring a dish and a friend.

For more information call the library at 704-694-5177.

Chesterfield Genealogy Society Meets September 14

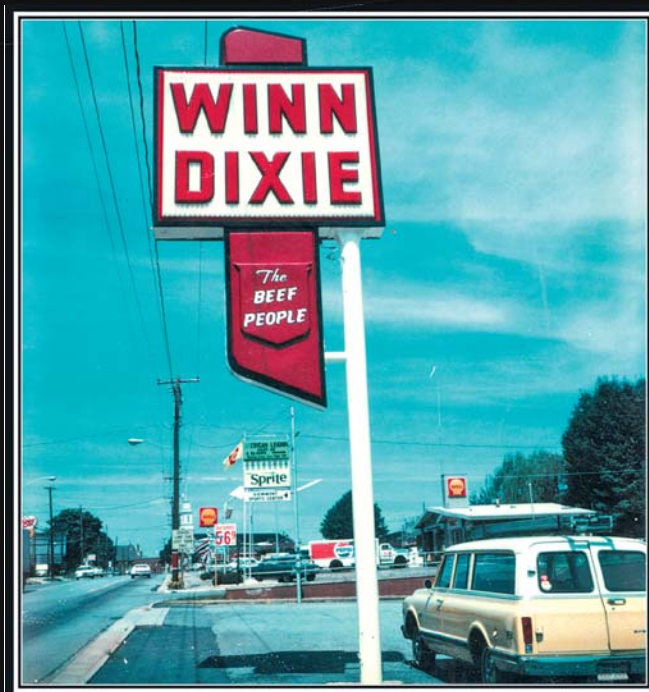
The Chesterfield District Chapter of the SCGS will meet Sunday, September 14 at 3 p.m. at the Visitors Center, (the old Court House), 100 West Main Street in Chesterfield. The speaker will be well known humorist and storyteller Randy Rayfield who will present the program, "Aaron Plyer's Gold." Everyone is invited to attend.

Their research library hours are 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturdays. It is open to the public, and someone will be there to help you with your research. Meetings and the research library are open to the public. More information is available at 843-623-2244.

Enjoy this Remembering column from 2004

Remembering.....

By Ed McBride



Winn-Dixie Stores

Some of you can remember how many business places - grocery and others - that were in downtown Wadesboro. This article, however is about mostly the first block of North Rutherford Street.

Yes, there were several grocery stores back in the period of 1940 to 1960, but then things began to change rapidly. Remember the locally owned Allen Stores, J. E. Gray Grocery, the Hi-Lo, Braswell's Market, Maner & Murray, the Western Auto with a large barber shop downstairs, Rivers Feed and Seed, J. B. Crider Jewelry ("B.J." - before Jimmy) - this was not nearly all that was on the block, but just a "sampling" of the businesses at the time.

The Allen Stores were sold to Dixie Home, which merged with Winn Stores - thus Winn-Dixie, whose first new store here was located at the place that is now Anson Regional Medical Center.

Again, remembering the sales promotion of giving "trading stamps" - Winn-Dixie (and others) gave S&H Green Stamps, some others gave F&H Gold Stamps - all of which was the "thing" to draw customers to their business - to spend so many dollars -

get so many stamps that could be "redeemed" for gifts!

As this "fad" faded out, so did the many merchants' use of green stamps in their promotions - of course Winn-Dixie had the outdoor signs that needed to be changed - and my friend Addison Moore did painting and decorating for many of their stores - blocking out all the S&H Green Stamps signage - just ready for me to do the new promotion - "The Beef People" - which they have kept for several years. This I did for several area stores including Charlotte, Newton, Lincolnton, Shelby, Gastonia, Hickory, Kannapolis, Rockingham - even Wadesboro and others! (Pictured above is Hickory Store #2079 - I painted on August 3, 1976.)

Now many of the stores have closed, and according to a recent news release, all stores will soon be closed in the Carolinas and some other locations as well.

As always, I am grateful for having had an opportunity to be a part of this "history making" - all these mentioned in this article on Rutherford Street who were at one time customers-as well as hundreds of others - Thank you!

Pee Dee W.A.L.L. to Hold Strategic Planning Meeting

In a release from Pee Dee W.A.L.L.: Pee Dee W.A.L.L. invites all concerned Anson County residents to an urgent strategic planning session to stop fracking from coming to Anson County on Sunday, September 14 at 5 p.m. at the Hampton B. Allen Library. The group reports that there were about 43 citizens at the last meeting in August, but Denise Lee, president of Pee Dee WALL said, "We need hundreds of Anson County citizens involved in this fight. This fracking fight is too big for a few."

The buzz is in the air that the state will be issuing permits for oil and gas companies to "frack" our NC counties as early as next spring 2015 according to comments made by former NC state legislator and Mining and Energy Commission chairman, Jim Womack, as a guest on WFAE 90.7 FM's "Charlotte Talks" radio program on fracking this past Monday.

It appears that fracking is coming, but Pee Dee W.A.L.L., a non-profit organization of concerned Anson County residents, has vowed to stop this potentially dangerous practice that can endanger our water, air, lives, and land. Other states that have allowed fracking have already experienced contaminated water, major accidents, air pollution, and devaluation of personal properties as a result of fracking.

"I am concerned that fracking may be the wrong environment for my bees," says nine year old beekeeper, Elijah.

"Anson County, we can stop it, we must stop it if you want to protect your water and the health of your family. The NC fracking laws to protect you and me are very weak," says pastor Cary Rodgers of Pathway to Peace Ministries and community organizer for Blue Ridge Environmental Defense League.

Pee Dee WALL encourages you to come to the next meeting. The NC Mining and Energy Commission also invites all NC citizens to make public comments online by September 30 about your concerns about the draft rules on fracking. The site to make public comments on the draft rules is portal.ncdenr.org. All Anson County citizens have an opportunity to let their voices be heard.

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