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**Talent Needed for Gospel Night**

The Cheraw Arts Commission will present a Gospel Night at the Theatre on the Green on Thursday, January 15. This is an opportunity for gospel singers and musicians to perform. Groups and individuals ages 10 and up can participate.

Participants will be received on a first come, first served basis and will be required to audition and provide a preview of performance material.

Deadline to apply is January 9. Call 843-537-8420 ext. 12 for additional information.

Enjoy this Remembering column from 2009

Remembering.....  
By Ed McBride



**Anson Telephone Company**

Thinking back and remembering some of the many things during our lifetime - so many changes and advancements - phones came into my mind. Can you remember when there were just a few phones in Wadesboro, and very few out in the county?

In Ansonville there was a small switchboard - Sadie Ingold had the day shift and Sister Emma had the night shift - 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Creeper Clark owned the Lilesville system - and I don't remember the others "right now!" Oh well, who "needed a telephone?"

The above picture is certainly a reminder of days gone by in the telephone industry - the ladies saying, "Number please" day in and day out,

24-7. With an all new building and Stromberg Carlson switching equipment, the North Carolina Telephone Company began operation (dial) in 1956. Through the years they changed their name to Mid-Carolina, Alltel and Windstream.

And now, the "cell phone era." Who would have ever thought that almost everyone would have at least one - even small children too. They take pictures, do math, talk back, have music - oh well, must keep "everyone happy!!"

Through the years I have known so many people who were involved in the industry, so many caring friends, acquaintances - good people trying to serve - and family too!

**Protect Your Dogs and Cats from Winter Woes**

In many areas, winter is a season of bitter cold and numbing wetness. Help your pets remain happy and healthy during the colder months by following these simple guidelines.

- Don't leave pets outdoors when the temperature drops. Most dogs, and all cats, are safer indoors, except when taken out for exercise. Regardless of the season, shorthaired, very young, or old dogs and all cats should never be left outside without supervision. Short-coated dogs may feel more comfortable wearing a sweater during walks.
- No matter what the temperature, windchill can threaten a pet's life. A dog or cat is happiest and healthiest when kept indoors. If your dog is an outdoor dog, however, he/she must be protected by a dry, draft-free doghouse that is large enough to allow the dog to sit and lie down comfortably, but small enough to hold in his/her body heat. The floor should be raised a few inches off the ground and covered with cedar shavings or straw. The house should be turned to face away from the wind, and the doorway should be covered with waterproof tarp or heavy plastic.
- Pets who spend a lot of time outdoors need more food in the winter because keeping warm depletes energy. Routinely check your pet's water dish to make certain the water is fresh and unfrozen. Use plastic food and water bowls rather than metal; when the temperature is low,

- your pet's tongue can stick and freeze to metal.
- Warm engines in parked cars attract cats and small wildlife, who may crawl up under the hood. To avoid injuring any hidden animals, bang on your car's hood to scare them away before starting your engine.
- The salt and other chemicals used to melt snow and ice can irritate the pads of your pet's feet. Wipe the feet with a damp towel before your pet licks them and irritates his/her mouth.
- Antifreeze is a deadly poison, but it has a sweet taste that may attract animals and children. Wipe up spills and store antifreeze (and all household chemicals) out of reach. Better yet, use antifreeze-coolant made with propylene glycol; if swallowed in small amounts, it will not hurt pets, wildlife, or your family.
- Probably the best prescription for winter's woes is to keep your dog or cat inside with you and your family. The happiest dogs are those who are taken out frequently for walks and exercise but kept inside the rest of the time. Dogs and cats are social animals who crave human companionship. Your animal companions deserve to live indoors with you and your family.

**Blood Drive is January 18**

There will be a Blood Drive at Lilesville Baptist Church on Saturday, January 18, from 1 to 4:30 p.m. All donors must weigh at least 120 pounds. The church is located at 118 Camden Street in Lilesville.

This Blood Drive is coordinated by the Community Blood Center of the Carolinas. More public drives can be found at their website [www.cbcc.us](http://www.cbcc.us). CBCC has donation centers in Charlotte, Concord, Gastonia, Hickory and Greensboro. Call 704-972-4700 or go to [www.carolinadonor.org](http://www.carolinadonor.org) to make an appointment at any location.

Thank You!

The family of Patrick Skally Terry would like to thank everyone for their prayers, calls, cards, visits, flowers, food and other expressions of kindness during this difficult time.

May God Bless You All.

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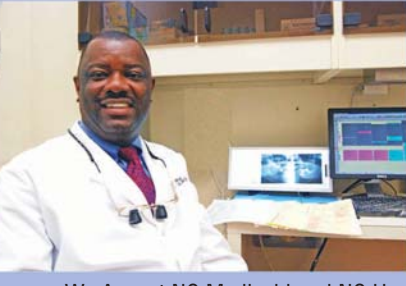
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