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### Winter Tour of Wingate University Singers and Chamber Choir will End with Free Concert in Wingate

The Wingate University Singers and Chamber Choir will travel to five North Carolina cities this month before concluding their annual Winter Tour on the campus in Wingate. The vocal ensembles begin the tour in Raleigh on February 21. Other performances are scheduled in Winston-Salem, Wilmington, Wilson and Gastonia. The final concert will be Thursday, February 25 at 7:30 p.m. at the McGee Theatre in the Batts Center at Wingate University. The concerts are open to the public and there is no cost for admission. Dr. Kenney Potter, chair of the Wingate University Music Department and director of choral activities, will conduct the 36 vocalists. The concert will feature a varied repertoire ranging from Monteverdi and J. S. Bach to South African folksongs. "This program is geared to those who love choral music as well as the casual listener," Potter said. "The students are working hard to develop an engaging experience for the audience." The Wingate University Singers will be a featured choir in March at the Southern Division Convention of the American Choral Directors Association and will be the only university choir representing North Carolina at that event. In May, the group will give choral performances in Austria and the Czech Republic.

### Pesticide Purchase and Use Information

To be able to purchase and use restricted-use pesticides in North Carolina you must be a certified applicator, licensed through the North Carolina Department of Agriculture. In North Carolina certification requires passing a closed-book, multiple-choice exam with a minimum score of 70%, as well as paying all required fees. An opportunity to sit for an exam for this license will be available on Wednesday, March 2 at 1 p.m., at the Union County Agricultural Center in Monroe. Exam registration is available online at [www.ncagr.gov/SPCAP/pesticides](http://www.ncagr.gov/SPCAP/pesticides) and must be completed prior to attending the exam. Official photo identification is required on day of the exam, as well as a calculator and pencil. Cell phones are not allowed to be used as a calculator. License holders who have expired licenses and have not completed their required continuing education hours must retake the exam and receive a passing grade. For more information on license types and the exam and where to find study materials, please contact your local Cooperative Extension Agent. In Anson County contact Jessica Morgan at 704.694.2415 or [jessica\\_morgan@ncsu.edu](mailto:jessica_morgan@ncsu.edu).

### Helping Seniors Stay Safe from Fire

Insurance Commissioner and State Fire Marshal Wayne Goodwin congratulates the North Carolina Department of Insurance Office of State Fire Marshal and the North Carolina Baptist Aging Ministry on their successful partnership to help make seniors' homes safe from fire. Through grant funding provided by the Federal Emergency Management Administration, OSFM life safety educators have been providing two-hour smoke alarm installation training courses and smoke alarms to NCBAM volunteers so they can properly install them in seniors' homes while providing other vital services. "We are fortunate to have this opportunity to partner directly with such a hard-working and influential organization like North Carolina Baptist Aging Ministry," said Goodwin. "NCBAM embodies the community spirit necessary to help protect North Carolina's growing senior population." More than 572 volunteers have attended the training and installed more than 1,430 smoke alarms during 465 home visits. The volunteers have also helped residents develop home fire escape plans. The program has been so successful that several churches affiliated with NCBAM have expanded the program outside of the church and are going door-to-door in low-income areas to install alarms and get to know people in their communities. Dr. Sandy Gregory, director for NCBAM, says the partnership is a key component of NCBAM's Priority #1: Prevention initiative. "Having access to free, life-saving smoke alarms provides churches with a great way to minister to aging adults in their own congregations and in their communities," Gregory said. "We're thrilled to have partnered with the Office of State Fire Marshal and to be making life safer for aging adults in North Carolina." Visit [www.ncdoi.com/OSFM](http://www.ncdoi.com/OSFM) for more information about NCDOT's Office of State Fire Marshal and [www.ncbam.org](http://www.ncbam.org) for more information about the North Carolina Baptist Aging Ministry.

### Respiratory Etiquette - Stop Germs at the Source

Here are a few tips for those suffering from a cold, to not impose on others around them.

- 1) Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or your upper sleeve when you cough or sneeze.
- 2) Do not cover your mouth or nose with your hands when you sneeze.
- 3) Always place your used tissue in the waste basket.
- 4) You may be asked to put on a surgical mask to protect others.
- 5) Coughing persons should sit at least three feet away from others.
- 6) Regularly wash your hands with soap and water or clean with alcohol-based hand cleaner.

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## REPUBLICAN CONVENTION

SATURDAY, MARCH 5TH  
 9 a.m to 11 a.m.

Registration 8 a.m. - 9 a.m.  
 Little Theatre at Hampton B. Allen Library

Guest Speakers  
 NC Sen. Tom McInnis • NC Rep. Mark Brody



Come hear the opportunity to be a Delegate or Alternate to the 8th District Convention in April and the State Convention in Raleigh, Saturday June 6th.