

## Powerful Tools for Caregivers class

A family caregiver is someone who helps a relative or friend with the things that he or she can no longer do because of an illness or have become frail. Most caregiving experiences start with taking them to the doctor or grocery store and gradually increases to doing housework, preparing meals and assistance with bathing and dressing. In most situations the care continues, and as time goes by more and more of your time will be needed.

Often caregivers neglect themselves while providing compassionate comfort and support for a loved one. Many studies have shown caregivers are twice as likely to develop a chronic illness due to the prolonged stress.

Powerful Tools for Caregivers is a free educational series designed to provide the caregiver with the tools needed to take care of themselves so they can continue to provide good quality care. Classes consist of six 90 minute sessions held once a week.

Lisa Ledford and Rita Short co-lead the series, and both are experienced caregivers themselves who have successfully applied the techniques they teach. Interactive lessons, discussions and brainstorming will help you take the "tools" you choose and put them into action.

Classes will be held at the Liberty HomeCare and Hospice office located at 119 West Wade Street in Wadesboro. Sessions will be held each Tuesday, from 1 to 3:30 p.m. beginning on September 17 and ending on October 22.

For more information or to register contact Rita Short at 704-694-6217 or Lisa Ledford at 704-694-5992. Powerful Tools for Caregivers is provided by the Anson County Council on Aging and Liberty HomeCare and Hospice.

## After School Art Classes

The Cheraw Arts Commission is offering After School Art Classes this fall beginning Tuesday, September 10th. These Young at Art Classes will be taught by artist and educator Jenny Altman. Jenny is a South Carolina licensed teacher with a double certification in Art Education and Elementary Education who has a passion for creating and sharing her joy of art.

Participants will learn about various artists, art styles, and art history while creating two and three dimensional art projects. The young artist will have an opportunity to use different art materials, while developing an appreciation of art.

Registration for the classes is \$65 per month and is geared for 1st to 6th grades, but older children may attend. The classes will be held at the Cheraw Community Center - 200 Powe Street from 4:15 to 5:15 p.m. on Tuesdays. For additional information contact the Cheraw Arts Commission at 843-537-8420 x 12.

## First 'Tag and Tax Together' Combined Bills are Due September 1

**New bills effective for registration renewals, new vehicle purchases**

The first combined tag and tax notices for vehicle registration renewal and newly purchased vehicles are due September 1. The new bills reflect both vehicle property tax information from counties and other taxing jurisdictions, as well as vehicle registration and inspection information. Drivers used to pay for tags and taxes separately. The new "Tag & Tax Together" program requires one payment for both bills. Both tag renewals and tax payments must be paid in full to renew your vehicle registration.

Vehicle owners with a "9" (for the month of September) sticker on their license tag are due to pay the combined bill in September. With each month that passes, additional vehicle owners will receive the new notice when their renewal is due. By mid-2014, the program should include all North Carolina vehicle owners.

Combined payments will also be due on vehicles purchased on or after Sept. 1 unless the owner elects not to pay the property tax at the point of sale. In this case, the owner will receive a limited registration plate that expires 60 days after the vehicle is titled. The North Carolina Division of Motor Vehicles will send a reminder notice to the owner stating the amount of property tax due.

For leased vehicles, the person purchasing the license plate will receive the combined bill. Leasing companies will need to make arrangements with their lessee as to how they want to collect fees and taxes.

An easy-to-read map of the combined notice posted on the DMV website (<http://ncdot.gov/dmv>) shows where property tax information is listed and how to find vehicle registration information. After receiving your entire payment, NCDMV will renew your vehicle registration and forward the property tax portion of your payment directly to your county revenue office. Owners may pay the combined bill at their local license plate agency, online or by mail.

The DMV website features frequently asked questions about the combined billing program and contact information for county revenue offices across the state. A Spanish version of the questions has also been posted. (Vea una version en Español de las preguntas más frecuentes.) DMV has also produced a video to help explain the new program.

To figure out the projected total of your new bill, visit the Tag and Tax Estimator at the DMV website and plug in your vehicle information. Vehicle dealers and dealerships can also find information that explains how the program works with vehicle purchases, trade-ins and other situations.

The result of a law passed by the General Assembly in 2005, the new billing combination has required the incorporation of county tax rates into the vehicle registration system. It is designed to provide an easy one-time payment of vehicle tags and property taxes for vehicle owners.

In addition to the "Tag & Tax Together" information on the website, NCDMV, the NC Department of Revenue and North Carolina's 100 counties have worked together to inform vehicle owners about the new combined payment program.

Key facts about the program:

- The new "Tag and Tax Together" program is for your vehicle property tax only and does not affect your mortgage or home property tax.
- Your vehicle tax will be due at the same time your vehicle registration is due. The due date will be printed on the new renewal notice that you receive in the mail.
- Your vehicle's annual registration renewal fees will remain the same. The increase in your bill is from the addition of the vehicle property tax.
- No owner will have to pay taxes twice in the same tax year for the same vehicle. It is important to look at the vehicle property tax year rather than the calendar year. By law, the tax year for your vehicle begins the first month after your previous registration expires. While it is possible to pay twice in a calendar year, no vehicle owner will pay twice in the same tax year or for the same 12-month period.

## Whooping Cough Cases Continue in North Carolina

As Pertussis (whooping cough) cases continue in North Carolina the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) stresses the importance of vaccines for children and adults. After continued outbreaks of pertussis across the state, state health officials are encouraging people of all ages to be immunized against this highly contagious but preventable respiratory disease. As of August 14 state public health officials had tracked 326 cases of pertussis, including 50 cases in infants.

Because of high numbers of pertussis cases in Davidson, Forsyth and Rockingham counties, DHHS has authorized local health departments in those counties to provide vaccine at no charge to anyone, regardless of insurance status.

"State law requires that kindergartners and all rising 6th graders be up to date on pertussis vaccination before going to school," said Acting State Health Director Robin Cummings, M.D. "But as parents are getting their children ready to go back to school, it is also a good opportunity for parents to check on immunizations for the whole family. Any adults or older siblings, especially those who will be around newborns, should be vaccinated against pertussis."

Infants who are not fully vaccinated against pertussis are susceptible to severe complications. According to the US Centers for Disease Control, in infants younger than 1 year of age who get pertussis, about half are hospitalized. Of those infants who are hospitalized, 1 or 2 in 100 will die.

Tdap vaccination is especially important for the following groups:

- women who are pregnant or may become pregnant
- all close contacts of infants under 12 months of age (parents, siblings, grandparents, household contacts, child care providers)
- anyone with pre-existing, chronic respiratory disease; and
- healthcare providers

Some children through the age of 18 are eligible to receive their immunizations at no cost through the federally funded Vaccines for Children (VFC) program which provides vaccines to those who are Medicaid eligible, American Indian or Alaskan Native, uninsured or underinsured. There is no fee for the cost of the VFC vaccine for eligible children; however a provider may charge an administration fee.

In addition to pertussis, all school children in North Carolina must be vaccinated against: Diphtheria, Hepatitis B, Hib Disease, Measles, Mumps, Polio, Rubella, Tetanus, and Varicella (chickenpox).

Individuals should contact their health care provider or local health department to determine what vaccines they should receive or visit [www.immunize.nc.gov](http://www.immunize.nc.gov) for more information. The Anson County Health Department's telephone number is 704-694-5188.

## Auditions Scheduled for Ansonia Theatre's Crimes of the Heart

*Crimes Of The Heart*, the Ansonia Theatre's next community play, is scheduled for performance on November 1-3 and November 8-10. Auditions for the cast, to include four women (ages 20-40) and two men (ages 20-40), will be held at the theatre on Thursday, September 5, from 6:30 p.m. until. If you cannot make that date, please call the Anson County Arts Council at 704-694-4950 as soon as possible.

*Crimes Of The Heart*, written by Beth Henley, is a comedy about serious topics. It was the winner of the 1981 Pulitzer Prize and the New York Drama Critics Circle Award, and was later made into a movie, which was filmed in North Carolina.

You may stop by the Arts Council office, located at 112 South Rutherford Street in Wadesboro, for sample scripts. Please bring your calendars with any conflicting dates to your audition. The theatre would also like to encourage volunteers for set construction, backstage, costuming, makeup, marketing, ticket sales, etc. Please contact the Anson County Arts Council or email [ansonart@windstream.net](mailto:ansonart@windstream.net).

# Remembering.....

By Ed McBride



## A Few Years Back

This is not hearsay...I was there...so many years ago, even before I finished high school in 1939. Ansonville Methodist Church members and others were "treated to a treat" at Welika Lake. (A time so far back, there was nothing in the area except holes of water that had all the white rock removed by mining operations!)

Welika (this was before the restaurant) had a small shelter with a small area floored. On the floor was an original Piccolo, the name for the earliest jukeboxes. The Piccolo played 78 rpm records, a nickel at a time!

This day at Welika was a real treat to all of us. It included a lot of swimming, except for me! Not many of those attendees are still living to tell what a great day it was. There was nothing loud, no roller coasters, no things of today...but it was a nice outing. What a change from today's entertainment - even financially.

Ed

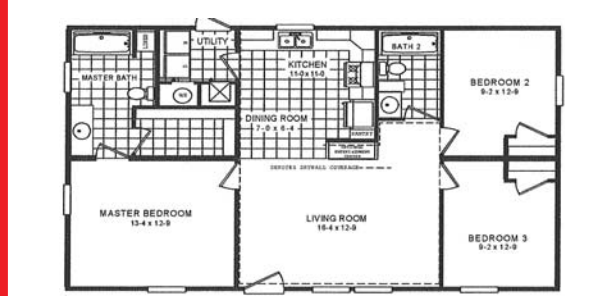
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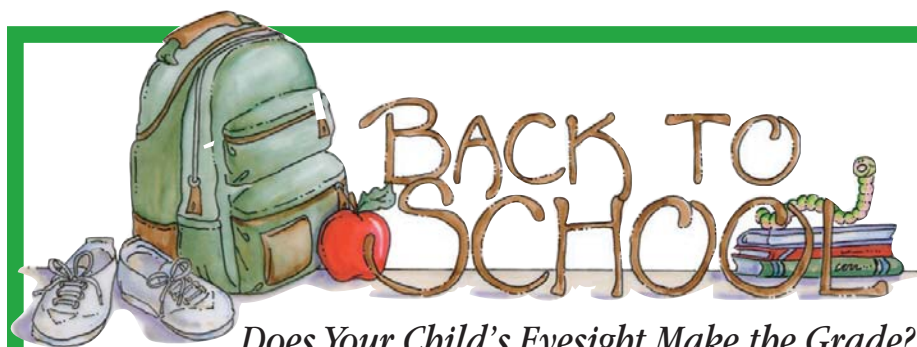
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