

SkyLine Gives the Gift of Life

On February 21, SkyLine hosted its semi-annual blood drive. What better way to kick off the new year than to give the gift of life? Giving blood may seem like a small thing, but small things can make a huge difference. Consider the power of these small things:



- A match
- A seed
- A moment

All of these small things are full of huge potential, and depending on how (or even

"if") they are used, there could be positive, negative or no consequences at all. We may never know the impact we make by deciding to give or not to give blood. SkyLine hosts blood drives in an effort to encourage people to use the power of a small act to effect change in huge, positive ways. To a recipient, a small donation of blood could literally mean the difference between life and death. We were proud to open our blood drive to the public this year, for the first time since the pandemic began. Special thanks to our employees and the other individuals who were able to provide a total of 40 units.

The Power of 2 Gig

Remember the days of agonizing dial-up connections and pixelated video calls? Thankfully, those relics of the past are fading fast, especially with the arrival of blazing-fast 2 Gigabit fiber optic internet. But beyond just "fast," let's dive into the mind-blowing speed that empowers you to conquer online tasks like never before.

What Can I do with 2 Gig Internet Speed?

Imagine this:

- Downloading a 50GB game in under 3 minutes. No more staring at progress bars that inch along slower than molasses. Dive into the action instantly and dominate the competition.
- Uploading a 4K video to YouTube in mere seconds. Share your creative genius with the world without the wait. Let your online audience revel in the crisp quality, not buffering frustration.
- Supporting an entire household of streamers, gamers, and content creators simultaneously. 2 Gigabit is built for multitasking. Everyone can enjoy their online activities without lag or bottlenecks.
- Video conferencing that feels like you're in the same room. Experience crystal-clear calls with near-instantaneous response times. Remote work and virtual connections will feel more natural than ever.
- Cloud storage that feels like local storage. Upload and access massive files with ease. Say goodbye to the limitations of traditional hard drives and embrace the flexibility of the cloud.

These are just a taste of the possibilities unleashed by 2 Gigabit fiber. It's not just about speed; it's about

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Co-op Camp Returns in 2024 Applications Close April 5

The Cooperative Council of North Carolina announced the dates of its annual Cooperative Leadership Camp, a weeklong summer program for high school students sponsored by cooperative organizations throughout the state, including SkyLine.

Scheduled June 24 through 28, the overnight camping program will take place at the lakefront Camp Monroe in Laurel Hill, North Carolina.

Co-op Camp is an experiential learning process where the teens form a worker/owner tee shirt cooperative, elect a board, hire a general manager, and design, produce and distribute tee shirts. Throughout the week, they learn about leadership, cooperative governance, and the cooperative business principles. The teams put together cooperative principles skits, have a leadership awards banquet night, and learn what it means to be a part of the greater good that cooperatives offer. The week also includes workshops from a wide range of cooperative industries including the agriculture sector, credit unions, retail and telephone/broadband and electric utilities. Every activity is hands-on and interactive. Camp also includes swimming, canoeing, sports, games and meeting new friends from all across the state.

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April is National Safe Digging Month



Know what's below. Call before you dig.

Each year, lives are endangered, money and time are wasted and property is destroyed because individuals fail to follow safe digging practices. The "One-Call" system, which is free to the excavator as well as the homeowner, helps those who dig to comply with the safety rules and regulations of the construction industry.

In a typical neighborhood, a complex web of utility lines are buried under lawns, sidewalks and driveways. When digging, one wrong move might cause the community of residents to be cut off from heat, electricity, telephones, water, broadband, 911 calls and other vital services. When you make the free call to the One-Call Center, the One-Call staff notifies their member utilities to mark the ground with color-coded paint. After the utilities

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NEED TO CONTACT US?

CUSTOMER SERVICE

LOCAL
118

TOLL-FREE
1-800-759-2226

REPAIR SERVICE, 24/7

LOCAL
611

TOLL-FREE
1-877-475-9546

Additional Local Repair Service Numbers:

ALLEGHANY
336-372-4444
(10-DIGIT DIALING)

ASHE
336-982-3111
(10-DIGIT DIALING)

AVERY
898-9250

WATAUGA
297-4811

JOHNSON
739-4500

LENOIR
929-2872

INTERNET TECH SUPPORT, 24/7

TOLL-FREE
1-866-759-7591

WORTH NOTING:

Co-op Camp Applications due April 5

STAFF:

- Kim Shepherd
Chief Executive Officer
- Brian Tester
Chief Operations Officer
- Angie Poe
Customer Service Manager
- Jamey Jenkins
Retail Sales Manager
- Edward Hinson
Chief Marketing & Sales Officer
- Hallie Grubb
Public Relations Administrator



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unlocking an entirely new level of online freedom and efficiency.

But is the 2G Internet speed right for you?

Consider your online habits. Do you stream 4K content, game competitively, or upload large files regularly? If so, 2 Gigabit could be a game-changer. However, if your internet usage is more casual, a slower plan might suffice.

The bottom line: 2 Gigabit fiber optic internet is a glimpse into the future of online experiences. It's the ultimate upgrade for those who demand speed, reliability, and the power to do more, faster. So, ditch the waiting game and experience the exhilaration of online tasks completed at lightning speed.

Ready to break free from internet limitations? Explore 2 Gigabit fiber optic options today!

Some restrictions may apply. Higher internet speeds available in fiber-served areas.

are marked in your work area, you have taken the first step to avoid damage or injury. In fact, North Carolina state law requires homeowners, contractors and excavators to contact the One-Call Center at least two business days before digging.

The "Dig Safely" campaign is the centerpiece of the North Carolina Utility Notification Center's efforts to increase public awareness of North Carolina excavation laws and safe digging practices.

The North Carolina One-Call Center provides a toll-free telephone number, 8-1-1, to help reduce damages to underground facilities, thereby reducing the loss of service to the public and the loss of time and money to excavators, utilities and taxpayers. And, our Johnson County customers can contact the Tennessee One-Call Center by dialing 8-1-1 from their home or business. Provide the following information when you call:

- Location of work – street address, county and town
- Nearest cross street
- Area to be marked
- Date and time of excavation or digging
- Type of work
- Your name and number or the contractor's information

So, be safe, not sorry: Know what's below... Call before you dig... Dial 811.



Bus transportation to and from designated stopping points along the route are provided through the camp sponsorship. SkyLine/SkyBest will provide student transportation to the nearest bus stop location.

SkyLine will sponsor up to 10 area high school students to attend this year's program, and student participants are eligible to apply for a \$1,000 Jim Graham Cooperative Leadership Scholarship during their senior year of high school.

Camp applications are available through all area high school guidance departments, all SkyLine Customer Center locations, and SkyLine's website at www.skybest.com. The application deadline for this program is Friday, April 5. For more information, contact Public Relations Administrator, Hallie Grubb, at 1-800-759-2226.

Payment Options

SkyLine/SkyBest offers multiple payment options to achieve the most convenient customer experience possible. These options include,

Customer Service Centers:

Visit a local customer center during regular business hours. All customer centers have payment drop boxes for your convenience.

Pay Online:

Quick, convenient – Pay by credit card. Make a one-time payment, or set up auto-pay recurring payments.

Pay by Phone:

Monday thru Friday, 8am-5pm.
Call 1-800-759-2226
Automated phone payments available 24/7 in addition to the M-F 8-5.

Mail Your Payment Locally:

Mail a check with a copy of your bill to:
SkyLine/SkyBest
PO Box 759
West Jefferson, NC 28694

Automatic Bank Draft:

Avoid the hassle. We will automatically draft your payment directly from your bank account. Fill out the form at the link below and mail it with a voided check to:

SkyLine/SkyBest, Attn: Accounts Receivable
PO Box 759
West Jefferson, NC 28694



Scan this QR code using your smartphone or visit www.skybest.com/payment-options to set up your bank draft.

E-Bill App:

Manage your SkyLine/SkyBest account when it's convenient for you. View and pay your bill, check your balance, see your billing history, request service support, search SkyLine/SkyBest directory listings and more!

Recipe of the Month

Sesame Noodles

Ingredients:

- 8 ounces dry linguine
- 3 tablespoons sesame oil
- 1/2 cup chopped green onions
- 1/4 cup sesame seeds, toasted and crushed
- 1/4 cup fresh cilantro, minced
- 1/4 cup red wine vinegar
- Pinch of red wine vinegar
- 1 tablespoon fresh ginger, minced
- 1 teaspoon honey
- 1/2 teaspoon hot red pepper sauce
- 1 clove garlic, minced
- Salt and pepper to taste

Instructions:

Cook linguine until al dente, drain, rinse under cold water and drain thoroughly. Place in a large shallow, non-reactive bowl. Mix with 1 tablespoon sesame oil.

In a small non-reactive bowl, whisk together remaining ingredients. Pour dressing over pasta mixture and toss until all ingredients are coated. Cover and refrigerate for several hours or overnight before serving to allow flavors to blend.

Recipe submitted by Mannon Eldreth

SkyLine  SkyBest

SO LITTLE
MEANS SO MUCH

SKYCHANGE

SIGN UP TODAY!

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Customer donations will not exceed \$11.88 per year. The monthly round-up amount will reflect on monthly SkyLine/SkyBest statements. In most cases, donations will be tax deductible.