



Scholarship Season is Here!

Awards Day events at area high schools were held in April and May. Alleghany High School was the first to hold an event for students, families and organizations presenting scholarship awards. Pictured above left to right is, SkyLine Public Relations Administrator, Hallie Grubb; Alleghany County Recipient, Madalyn Mahan; and Alleghany County Recipient, Olivia Blevins, celebrating at the school's Scholarship Meet and Greet. We are excited to recognize all of our scholarship recipients in next month's newsletter!

SkyChange Round-up



Pictured L to R: Wig Bank Administrative Assistant Angie Rash, SkyChange rep Sam Gates, Wig Bank Board Member Becky Gibbons and SkyChange rep Zara Worley.



Pictured L to R: SkyChange rep, Makisha Howell, Hope Thru a Vision reps Shannon Barr, President Michael Barr, Samantha Bauguess, Misty Hohman, Jim Parsons and SkyChange rep Myla Farmer.



Pictured L to R: SkyChange reps Makisha Howell and Kendra Reavis, Blue Ridge Safehouse Greg Peterman and SkyChange rep Myla Farmer.

We are so grateful to members and customers who have signed up for SkyChange, our round-up program that seeks to assist area nonprofits helping those in need throughout the community. If you've been thinking of signing up to support this charitable program, we welcome your participation! SkyChange allows customers of SkyLine/SkyBest to round up their monthly bill to the nearest whole-dollar amount. The money generated from the round-up is, in-turn, distributed to programs assisting those in need throughout our community. Customer bills will reflect a line item showing the monthly round-up donation. To sign up for SkyChange today, call your local SkyLine/SkyBest Customer Center at 118 or 1-800-759-2226 or visit www.skybest.com/sky-change.



Alleghany Student Selected for FRS Youth Tour



Area high school student, Talmage Pasley, has been selected to represent SkyLine Membership Corporation at the 2024 Foundation for Rural Service (FRS) Youth Tour in Washington, D.C. The tour, scheduled from June 3 through June 7, provides students from rural areas with a first-hand look at the telecommunications industry, including careers in telecom as well as the critical role that telecommunications plays in rural America.

Talmage Pasley is the son of Lucas and Iboya Pasley, and they reside in Sparta. In addition to being a student at Alleghany County High School, Pasley is involved in sports and the Chess Club at his school. He is an honors student, and in his free time he enjoys drumming, snowboarding, skateboarding and videography.

Included in the four-day program are visits to the U.S. Capitol and U.S. Supreme Court, along with informational sessions with representatives from the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) and the U.S. Department of Agriculture. A key focus of the trip is the critical role

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FRS Scholarship Winners!



Lane Miller



Carrigan Kearley

Congratulations to our two FRS Scholarship Winners, Lane Miller and Carrigan Kearley! Lane Miller will receive the Sarah Tyree Good Neighbor Scholarship of \$5,000.

Carrigan Kearley will receive the Roger Cox Scholarship

of \$1,000. Since 2006, 22 national scholarships have been awarded to children of customers served by SkyLine and its subsidiary companies. We are so proud of these two students and wish them the best as they further their education!



Voted Best of the Best in Watauga!

The Watauga Democrat announced its 2023 "Best of the Best" winners, and SkyLine/SkyBest was among the numerous categories of local businesses that received recognition.

Pictured above is Kristen Potter and Cadee Tester accepting these awards. We are so proud to serve our communities!

NEED TO CONTACT US?

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118

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611

TOLL-FREE
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(10-DIGIT DIALING)

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336-982-3111
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898-9250

WATAUGA
297-4811

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739-4500

LENOIR
929-2872

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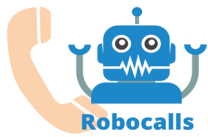
Hallie Grubb
Public Relations Administrator



telecommunications plays in rural America and the impact policy development in the nation's capital has on this industry. The Youth Tour is filled with tours of some of the nation's most historic sites, including the Lincoln, Washington and Roosevelt memorials, Arlington National Cemetery, Mount Vernon and the Smithsonian Museums. The Foundation is the advocacy arm of the National Telecommunications Cooperative Association, of which SkyLine is a member.

About the FRS: The FRS, in cooperation with NTCA – The Rural Broadband Association and its members, seeks to sustain and enhance the quality of life in America by advancing an understanding of rural issues. Similarly, FRS is committed to educational achievement in rural communities, recognizing that tomorrow's economic and civic development depends on the involvement and success of today's students.

About NTCA: NTCA – The Rural Broadband Association is the premier association representing more than 800 independent, community-based telecommunications companies that are leading innovation in rural and small-town America. NTCA advocates on behalf of its members in the legislative and regulatory arenas, and it provides training and development; publications and industry events; and an array of employee benefit programs. In an era of exploding technology, deregulation and marketplace competition, NTCA's members are leading the IP evolution for rural consumers, delivering technologies that make rural communities vibrant places in which to live and do business. Because of their efforts, rural America is fertile ground for innovation in economic development and commerce, education, health care, government services, security and smart energy use.



Caller ID Spoofing

Caller ID Spoofing occurs when a caller intentionally disguises their identity by altering their name and/or phone number that is displayed on your telephone. Spoofing is used most frequently for scams and conning personal information and/or money from its victims.

One tactic commonly used by scammers, called Robocallers, is neighbor spoofing. Robocallers will alter their number to appear as a local number that could be similar to your own, to increase the likelihood that you will answer the call. Unfortunately, these scam artists have the ability to frequently change the number transmitted to your caller ID to any number of their choosing at any time. Any telephone number is at risk.

To minimize your risk of falling victim to spoofing scams, pay attention to the incoming calls you accept. Do not answer any calls from unfamiliar numbers. Do not provide any information or follow any instructions if prompted by an unknown caller. SkyLine/SkyBest provides multiple features that may help reduce the threat of Robocallers connecting to your home telephone line including Anonymous Call Rejection, Selective Call Rejection and Smart Call Manager.

To learn more about these calling features call 1-800-759-2226

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 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:



Know what's below.
Call before you dig.

- 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.

Recipe of the Month

Cherry Buttermilk Pound Cake

Ingredients:

- 1 cup shortening
- 2 1/2 cups sugar
- 3 eggs
- 2 1/2 cups plain flour
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 1/4 teaspoon soda
- 1 cup buttermilk
- 1 teaspoon lemon extract
- 1 small jar maraschino cherries, drained

Instructions:

Cream shortening and sugar until fluffy. Add eggs one at a time, beating well after each. Sift dry ingredients together and add alternately with buttermilk. Stir in cherries and lemon extract. Pour into greased and floured tube pan. Bake at 350 degrees for one hour or until cake is done.

Recipe submitted by Donna Harless Jones



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Speed matters in baseball — the speed from home plate to first base, the speed of a fastball pitched, and the speed with which a ball leaves the bat. If you're streaming games from home, or gaming online, the speed of your internet connection is also key. Too-slow internet results in buffering, which freezes the action and disrupts the fun.

To score a home run with your family and friends, sign up for super-fast internet from SkyLine/SkyBest. It's a game-changer.

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