

# CONNECTIONS

JANUARY 2018

Published monthly for customers of SkyLine Membership Corporation and SkyBest Communications

www.SkyBest.com



SkyLine's Banner Elk staff helped Mark Baugham load the SkyLine van with breakfast food items for Reaching Avery Ministry.



SkyLine's Boone staff and Mark Baugham helped load items to deliver to the Hunger and Health Coalition.

## "Rise & Shine" Food Drive Nets over 1,800 Breakfast Items



SkyLine staff are shown with breakfast items earmarked for the Solid Rock Food Closet in Sparta.

Thanks to our members/customers, directors and employees, our fourth annual "Rise and Shine" Breakfast Drive, held in September and October, collected more than 1,800 donated food items to share with area food

pantries. SkyLine also presented donations to each of the five area food pantries sponsored in this drive, totaling \$500. We are so grateful for the outpouring of support by our members, customers, SkyLine board/ staff and the community!

As more than one in six adults and more than one and four children are considered food insecure across our region, this important drive brings immediate relief to area families in need and helps to restock area pantry shelves and replenish backpack initiatives. Thank you for continuing to share your gifts of food and resources to address this pressing local need.



Local Shady Valley Mobile Food Pantry volunteer Johnny Grindstaff receives check donation and breakfast food items from SkyLine Johnson County director Olan Bentley.

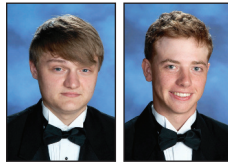


More than 300 pounds of breakfast food items were delivered to the Hunger and Health Coalition, and Mark Baugham presented a \$100 donation to Director of Operations Crystal Winebarger (center) and Market Coordinator Tony Banner (at right).

## FRS Scholarship Program Applications Available This Month



If you have a son or daughter graduating from high school this spring, he or she may be eligible for the Foundation for Rural Service (FRS) Scholarship sponsored locally by SkyLine Membership Corporation.



Corey Crouse and Hunter Maines of Alleghany County were among 47 high school seniors nationwide to receive the national FRS Scholarship, valued at \$2,500, in 2017.

In 2018, FRS will award scholarships per geographic region of the NTCA membership and one sponsored by an NTCA associate member. The awards will be distributed proportionate to the number of applications received per region. FRS will fund \$2,000 of each scholarship, with the sponsoring organization of each winning student providing a \$500 match.

- Four \$5,000 Staurulakis Family Scholarships will be awarded, with a preference to students who are majoring in math, science, engineering or medicine.
- Two \$1,500 TMS scholarships will be awarded to students.
- One \$7,000 Everett Kneece Scholarship will be awarded.
- Three \$500 Roger Alan Cox Memorial Scholarships

According to the FRS, more than two-thirds of rural Americans with postsecondary degrees never return to their rural communities, so this program gives particular emphasis to those students who plan to return to their community following college. Eligibility requirements include the following:

- Applicants must be children of SkyLine members or SkyBest customers who subscribe to either company's telephone services.

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## 2017-18 Regional Telephone Directory Features New Format

Citing industry changes which have impacted the way consumers locate, access and store residential phone numbers, SkyLine's directory publisher, DexYP, has reformatted the regional directory to feature only business white pages listings and Yellow Pages listings beginning with the 2017-18 edition.

To help customers adjust to the new format, a limited quantity of residential-only printed supplements are now available at all SkyLine Customer Center locations in conjunction with the recent delivery of the regional directory.

Going forward, residential listings will continue to be available online through SkyLine's website, [www.skybest.com/directory](http://www.skybest.com/directory) as well as [www.realtitleslive.com](http://www.realtitleslive.com) and [www.yellowpages.com](http://www.yellowpages.com).

See the box on page 2 on how to access the new online directory.



**SkyLine**  
**SkyBest**

## 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:

FRS Scholarship Applications Available Beginning January 5

January – March 2017 Directory Collection Drive Benefitting Area Public Schools

### STAFF:

Jimmy Blevins  
Chief Executive Officer

Kim Shepherd  
Chief Management Officer

Brian Tester  
Executive Director of Customer Operations

Angie Poe  
Customer Service Manager

Jamey Jenkins  
Retail Sales Manager

Karen P. Powell  
Public Relations Administrator & Editor



## How to Access the New Online Directory

Visit <http://www.skybest.com/directory>.

When you open the directory link, you can access:

- Popular Yellow Pages categories,
- Directory Table of Contents,
- Customer Guide and sections of the directory.

From either the **Table of Contents or Sections** links, you can select **White Pages**, which will open additional links to **White Pages Business** and **White Pages Residential**.

For more information, call your local SkyLine/SkyBest Customer Center at 118 or 1-800-759-2226.

### FRS SCHOLARSHIP CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

- Applicants must be graduating high school seniors and reside full-time with their parent(s) in the companies' telephone service area.
- Applicants must have at least a C grade-point-average (GPA). FRS scholarships will be awarded to deserving students whose academic credentials fall within an average to above-average range.
- Applicants must be accepted to an accredited two- or four-year college, university or vocational-technical school.
- Applicants must express an interest to return to a rural community following graduation.
- Applications must be sponsored by SkyLine, an NTCA-member company.

Note: Children of SkyLine employees or directors are not eligible for this scholarship.

Application packets will be available beginning Friday, January 5, at all area high school guidance departments and at SkyLine Customer Service Centers in West Jefferson, Boone, Banner Elk and Sparta. Scholarship information and application forms also may be accessed through our website ([www.skybest.com](http://www.skybest.com)). Completed applications must be submitted to SkyLine's corporate offices by Monday, February 12. All applicants must be sponsored by SkyLine, and completed applications received by this deadline will be signed by a SkyLine official and submitted to the FRS for consideration by the March 1 postmark deadline. If any SkyLine-sponsored students are named winners, they will be announced in May, in conjunction with area high school awards day programs.

As the advocacy arm of the National Telecommunications Cooperative Association (NTCA), the FRS promotes, educates and advocates rural telecom issues in order to sustain and enhance the quality of life within communities throughout rural America. Through its various programs and initiatives, the foundation strongly supports the continuing education of rural youth. SkyLine is a member of NTCA, a national non-profit association that represents more than 580 independent telephone companies and cooperatives.

For information about the FRS Scholarship, please contact SkyLine PR Administrator Karen Powell at 1-800-759-2226.

## Directory Omission White Pages Omissions/Corrections

**Mountain Advantage Tree & Landscape**  
2 S. Jefferson Ave, West Jefferson 336-846-6286

## SkyLine Telephone Membership Corporation Statement of Nondiscrimination

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Our employees continue to support local Christmas charities that reach out to children and seniors in need, including the Ashe County Interagency Children's Christmas Project and Appalachian Senior Program's Project Star.

### Recipe of the Month

## BBQ Crock Pot Chicken

### Ingredients:

- 5-6 pounds boneless skinless chicken breasts
- 1 onion, chopped
- 1/2 cup chopped green pepper
- 1 1/2 cup ketchup
- 4 tablespoons hickory-smoked BBQ sauce
- 1 1/2 tablespoons prepared mustard
- 1 1/2 tablespoons Worcestershire sauce
- 1 tablespoon lemon juice
- 2 tablespoons vinegar
- 6 tablespoons brown sugar
- 1/2 cup water
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/8 teaspoon pepper

### Instructions:

Layer chicken in crock-pot. Layer onions and peppers over chicken. Combine remaining ingredients and pour over chicken. Cover. Cook on low 6 hours or high 3 1/2- 4 hours.

Recipe Submitted by Jessica Lyalls of Ashe Co.



## SkyBest Medical Alert

# \$24.95/mo.

## No Contract. No Upfront Costs.

[www.skybest.com](http://www.skybest.com)

1-800-759-2226

\*Some restrictions apply. SkyBest internet subscribers will pay only \$14.95 per month.