

AUGUST 2024

Published monthly for customers of SkyLine Membership Corporation and SkyBest Communications

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

## FRS Youth Tour Highlights



Talmage Pasley attended the FRS Youth Tour to Washington D.C. During the week of June 3 – 7, the students were exposed to the telecommunications industry, as well as the regulatory and legislative processes. Educational sessions on these topics were greatly enhanced by both site visits to the U.S. Capitol and the U.S. Department of Agriculture, in addition to meetings with industry leaders and members of

Congress. Each year, the group visits such sites as the Lincoln and Jefferson Memorials; the Korean, Vietnam and new World War II Memorials; Mount Vernon, home of George Washington; the Smithsonian Museums; and much more.



## Connections with SkyLine/SkyBest

Have you heard the new way SkyLine/SkyBest is connecting with our community, members and customers? SkyLine/SkyBest is now producing a podcast in-house, called Connections with SkyLine/SkyBest. Connections is where we dive deep into the SkyLine/SkyBest world, exploring the stories, the innovations, and the impact that matters most. We'll be shining a light on the employees bringing blazing-fast internet to rural communities, championing the students empowered by our scholarships and the positive impact high speed internet has on our local and regional economy, just to name a few!

### Listen in for:

- Exclusive interviews with familiar faces from SkyLine/SkyBest who are making a difference.
- Insider scoops on the latest tech and community initiatives.
- Engaging discussions that leave you informed, inspired, and ready to connect.

### Tune in and get connected!

- Subscribe on your favorite podcast platform. Search for "Connections with SkyLine/SkyBest" on Apple Podcast and Spotify, and catch up on the latest episodes!
- Tell your friends and neighbors! Spread the word and let's build a community around Connections.

Connections: It's more than a podcast, it's a conversation. Let's connect!

## Remember to Notify One-Call at 8-1-1 Before You Dig



Each year in North Carolina, 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, 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 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 Tennessee customers also can contact the Tennessee One-Call Center by dialing 8-1-1 from their homes or businesses located in the 739 telephone exchange.

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

## Relay for Life

This is typically the season that we share information about Relay for Life, the signature fundraising event for the American Cancer Society (ACS). While events in Ashe County and countless communities in recent years came to a halt following the Covid-19 pandemic, the work of the ACS continues because we know that cancer never sleeps.

The tremendous financial support of our community and thousands like it has helped the Society through this singular event to continue its work of research and discovery to bring life-saving and innovative ways to treat cancers of varying kinds, and to grant more birthdays with our friends, co-workers and loved ones.

As you consider your benevolent giving for this year, please remember your local ACS chapters – our donations will continue to be received and sent to the ACS.

We remain grateful to our company, employees, directors and the wonderful communities we serve for their continued dedication in the fight against cancer and for supporting the ACS in its continuing work to discover new ways to treat cancer, lessen its impact through targeted and effective therapies and improve the quality of life for those touched by cancer.

**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

### 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



[www.facebook.com/SkyLineSkyBest](http://www.facebook.com/SkyLineSkyBest)



SkyChange is happy to donate to Musicians Mission of Mercy! Pictured are SkyChange representatives, Makisha Howell and Robin Miller, along with Musicians Mission of Mercy founders, Stan and Catherine Massey, and their team.

## SkyChange Round-up

We are so grateful for the positive response from our members and customers to SkyChange, our round-up program that seeks to assist area nonprofits that help those in need throughout our 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 next whole-dollar amount. The money generated from the round-up is, in turn, distributed throughout our community. Customer bills will reflect a line item showing the monthly round-up donation.

If you participate in the SkyChange program by simply rounding up your bill to the next dollar, your total donations per year will not exceed \$11.88. In most cases, donations will be tax deductible. SkyChange is a 501(c)3 organization with established bylaws and a governing committee. Once funds are distributed, our website, social media and newsletter will give periodic updates highlighting how customers' donations helped their community.

Won't you join us in this collective effort to take our 'change' to make a positive difference across our region? Like other benevolent activities, be it through Project Teamwork or other charitable outreach initiatives, we recognize that our collective efforts have a bigger and broader impact and truly make a difference.

Sign up for SkyChange today, visit [www.skybest.com/skychange](http://www.skybest.com/skychange) or call your local SkyLine/SkyBest Customer Center at 118 or 1-800-759-2226.

## SkyLine's CallTree Service Delivers!

CallTree is an automated messaging service that can deliver phone calls, emails and even text messages. Ideal for schools, churches, small businesses, restaurants and other organizations, it allows you to turn your land-line phone into a powerful messaging service. What makes CallTree so valuable is that it allows the user to deliver a timely, consistent message to groups large and small alike, plus it can be set to make multiple call attempts to reach individuals on your calling list. Contact everyone on your entire list with a single message from your mobile app or your computer and phone! Just a few of the possible applications for this convenient automated messaging service include:

- Meeting reminders
- Weather cancellations
- Service changes and outages
- Appointment reminders
- Non-pay reminders
- Marketing & promotions



To find out more or to sign up for this valuable and affordable voice messaging service, please call your local SkyLine Customer Service Center.

## SkyLine By-Laws Summarized for Director Elections at Annual Meeting

### Bylaws - director elections and nomination committee meeting

SkyLine's 68th Annual Meeting will be conducted on Tuesday, October 8, at SkyLine's corporate office campus. The three-year terms of the following directors will expire as of this meeting: Jim Shepherd (Allegheny), Jerry Roten (Ashe) and Tommy Joe Ward (Watauga). A summary of SkyLine Membership Corporation's By-Laws pertaining to director qualifications and nominations is provided below (Article IV, Section 4).

### Section 4.3 - Qualifications to be Nominated, to Become, or Remain a Director

Any member shall be eligible to be nominated, elected and remain a director of the Cooperative who:

1. Is a natural person and a full-time legal resident, residing in the geographical area for which the person desires to serve as a Director.
2. Is NOT an employee, present or former, of the Cooperative and is not in any way employed by or have a direct pecuniary interest in a competing enterprise or a business engaged in selling communication services or communication supplies or constructing or maintaining communication facilities,
3. Is NOT a "close relative" to an incumbent director or a present or former employee of the Cooperative. As used here "close relative" shall include a spouse, parent, child, brother, sister, including biological, adopted, foster, step or other legal relation and the spouse of the foregoing, or a domestic partner. However, no incumbent director shall lose eligibility to remain a director or to be re-elected as a director if he becomes a close relative of another incumbent director or of a Cooperative employee because of a marriage to which he was not a party; neither shall an employee lose eligibility to continue in the employment of the Cooperative if he or she becomes a close relative of a director because of marriage to which he or she was not a party.
4. Is at least 21 years of age.
5. Has not been convicted of a misdemeanor involving moral turpitude or a felony pursuant to state or federal laws.
6. Has been a member for not less than one year.

To remain a director, the incumbent must attend two-thirds or more of the regular meetings during each twelve-month period beginning with the month of his/her election. Upon establishment of the fact that a director or nominee is in violation of any of the provisions of his/her election. Upon establishment of the fact that may be deemed vacant; however, in the Board's discretion, the provision with reference to attendance may be waived in the case of illness only.

Nothing in this Section shall affect in any manner whatsoever, the validity of any action taken at any meetings of the Board.

### Section 4.4 - Nominations

- It shall be the duty of the Board to appoint, in the month of June each year beginning June 2021, a committee on nominations consisting of not less than five (5) nor more than eleven (11) members who shall be selected from different geographic areas so as to ensure equitable representation. At least one (1) member of the committee shall be selected from each geographic area where a director is to be elected. No member of the Board, close relative of a board member or employee may serve on such committee.
- The committee, on nominations, keeping in mind the principle of equitable representation, shall meet on or before August 15 of each year, deliberate, prepare and post at the principal office of the corporation a list of nominations for board members which shall include as many nominees for each board position as the committee deems desirable.
- Any one hundred (100) or more active members acting together may make a nomination for a director by petition and the secretary shall post such nominations at the same place where the list of nominations made by the committee is posted. Petitions must, at minimum, list the name and address of the individual being nominated. The seat for which the nomination is made must be specified, and the person so nominated must be in all respects eligible for service on the Board as set out in these By-Laws. Members signing said petition must include telephone number associated with his or her membership, printed name of member, signature of member, and date of signature. The name of the individual signing the petition must be listed on the membership account, or in the case of an organization, the individual signing the petition must be an officer or official of that organization. Nominations made by petition, if any, must be received at the offices of the cooperative by twelve noon on the last business day of August prior to the annual meeting. It shall be the duty of the Credentials Committee to verify the validity of any petition.
- The secretary of the cooperative shall be responsible for mailing with the Notice of the Meeting, or separately, but at least twenty (20) days before the date of the meeting, a statement of the number of board members to be elected, the names and addresses of the candidates nominated by the committee on nominations, and the names and addresses of the candidates nominated by petition.
- Ballots for the election of Directors shall arrange the names of the candidates by geographic areas, in alphabetical order by last name, and shall also designate the candidates nominated by the committee and those nominated by petition.

## Recipe of the Month

## Almost A Payday

### Ingredients:

- 4 cups honey roasted peanuts, divided
- 1 can (14oz.) sweetened condensed milk
- 1 package (10.5oz.) miniature marshmallows
- 1 package (10oz.) peanut butter chips
- 1/2 cup butter or margarine
- 1/2 cup peanut butter

### Instructions:

Line a 13 x 9 x 2 in. pan with foil and coat with nonstick cooking spray. Sprinkle 2 cups peanuts in pan. In a saucepan, combine the milk, marshmallows, peanut butter chips, butter and peanut butter. Cook and stir until smooth. Pour over peanuts; spread evenly. Sprinkle with remaining peanuts; press down. Cover and refrigerate for at least 45 minutes. Lift foil out of pan; cut into squares. Store in an airtight container. Yield: about 4 dozen.

Recipe submitted by Iva B. Atwood (In Memory)



## Home Security in your Hands

Save money by switching your security system to SkyBest Security.

Contact us for a FREE consultation today!

[skybest.com](http://skybest.com) 1-800-759-2226

\*Restrictions apply. Available in N.C. only.