



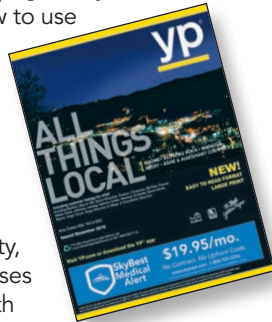
FEBRUARY 2017

Published monthly for customers of SkyLine Membership Corporation and SkyBest Communications

www.SkyLine.org
www.SkyBest.com

Check Out Highlights of New 2016-17 Telephone Directory

When you peruse your new regional telephone directory, be sure to check out the Customer Guides (front section). Here you can locate information on how to contact your local provider (SkyLine/SkyBest), Directory Assistance/Operator Services, Regional Calling, Time Zone/Area Code information by State and so much more. Under SkySource beginning on page 29, you will find detailed instructions on how to use various calling features and general information on other services we provide. Following the SkySource section is Community Connections, which provide helpful information and telephone numbers for a wide range of services, including Utility, Telephone, Water, Driver's Licenses and Tags/Registration, along with contact information on area Public Schools, City/County/State/Federal Offices, area hospitals, libraries and more.



Again this year, you will find separate sections for residential and business listings, with residential listings located immediately after Community Connections, followed by business listings and the Yellow Pages. With this year's directory, you also should notice a larger type size for the White and Yellow page listings.

In conjunction with the delivery of new phone directories, SkyLine also is conducting its 25th Directory Collection Drive. For this program, we partner with 17 area public schools to collect outdated SkyLine/YP telephone directories. For each outdated directory collected by schools, SkyLine will contribute 25 cents. Scheduled now through March 2017, this program has helped to promote recycling and resulted in more than \$116,000 in contributions to participating schools since the program began. For more information, visit www.skybest.com.



SkyLine held a ribbon-cutting ceremony to mark the official opening of the new SkyLine/SkyBest Boone Customer Center on Wilson Drive. Pictured at the ribbon cutting included board members of SkyLine and SkyBest, SkyLine executive management staff, David Patrick Moses of David Patrick Moses, Architects, Matt Vincent of VPC Builders and David Jackson of the Boone Area Chamber of Commerce.



FRS Scholarship Program Deadline Approaches

SkyLine Membership Corporation is proud to be a local sponsor of the 2017 Foundation for Rural Service (FRS) Scholarship Program. FRS was established in 1994 by the National Telecommunications Cooperative Association (NTCA), of which SkyLine is a member. 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.

This year, 30 one-time, \$2,500 scholarships will be awarded to rural high school seniors: one per geographic region of the NTCA membership and one to a student sponsored by a NTCA associate member. The remaining 19 awards will be distributed proportionate to the number of applications received per region. FRS will fund \$2,000 of each scholarship, with the sponsoring cooperative of each winning student providing a \$500 match.

Additional scholarships to be awarded through this program include the following:

- Four \$5,000 FRS Staurulakis Family Scholarships. Students who are majoring in math, science, engineering or medicine will be given preference.
- Two TMS Scholarships, worth \$1,500 each.
- One \$7,000 Everett Kneece Return to Rural America Scholarship.

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Support Area Public Schools Directory Drive Continues!

With the recent delivery of the new regional telephone directory, please give your old telephone directory to a school in your community for the 25th annual Directory Collection Drive, sponsored by SkyLine. Seventeen area public schools are participating in this year's drive, and for each old directory collected, SkyLine will donate 25 cents to the participating schools. Throughout the calendar year, SkyLine also receives directories at its Customer Service locations in West Jefferson, Boone, Banner Elk and Sparta, with credit given to the schools. The drive officially runs from January 1 through March 31.

Since the program began in 1993, SkyLine has donated more than \$116,000 to the schools for their efforts. Please support recycling and our public schools through this special initiative. For more information, please contact your local SkyLine Customer Service Center at 118.



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

ASHE

336-982-3111

AVERY

898-9250

WATAUGA

297-4811

JOHNSON

739-4500

INTERNET TECH SUPPORT, 24/7

TOLL-FREE

1-866-759-7591

WORTH NOTING:

Monday, February 13
FRS Scholarship Deadline

Monday, February 20
SkyLine & SkyBest Close for Presidents Day

Saturday, February 25
Annual Heart Breakfast, Winner's Circle Restaurant
Jefferson, NC
www.asheheart.org

STAFF:

Jimmy Blevins
Chief Executive Officer

Kim Shepherd
Chief Management Officer

Angie Poe
Customer Service Manager

Jamey Jenkins
Retail Sales Manager

Karen P. Powell
Public Relations Administrator & Editor



Application packets are available 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 at www.skybest.com. Completed applications must be submitted to SkyLine's corporate offices by Monday, February 13. All applicants must be sponsored by SkyLine, and completed applications received by this deadline will be endorsed by a SkyLine official and submitted to the FRS for consideration by the March 1 postmark deadline.

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

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

A Note about the Frank James-SkyLine Scholarship

Application packets for the 2017 Frank James-SkyLine Scholarship and other SkyLine-sponsored youth programs will be available in March at area high school guidance departments and at all SkyLine Customer Service Centers. See next month's newsletter for more details.

Molly Gambill Retires from SkyLine Board



At the December Board of Directors' meeting, SkyLine President R.C. Mitchell presented Molly Gambill a retirement plaque of appreciation for her 22 years of service to SkyLine's Board of Directors.

Molly Gambill, a member of SkyLine's Board of Directors since 1995, has retired from the Board, effective January 1, 2017. Mrs. Gambill's board tenure began when she was appointed to fill the seat formerly held by the cooperative's second president and visionary leader in public education and rural telephony, Mr. Frank James. Since 2010, Mrs. Gambill also served as board assistant secretary and treasurer.

While on the board, Mrs. Gambill served on the Member Services committee of NTCA – the Broadband Association, the national trade association that represents more than 800 independent telecommunications cooperatives and companies throughout the rural U.S. In 2000, she was appointed by Governor Jim Hunt to serve a four-year term on the N.C. Rural Electrification Authority (REA) Board, which represents electric and telephone cooperatives.

"On behalf of the board, we want to extend our sincere appreciation to Molly for her many years of leadership and service to SkyLine, and for being an advocate for the advancement of rural telecommunications through her involvement with the N.C. REA and NTCA," said SkyLine President R.C. Mitchell.

Prior to serving on the board, Mrs. Gambill enjoyed a 28-year career as a social worker with Ashe County, working closely with adoption and foster parent programs. A longtime community and civic leader, she has served on the Ashe County Board of Education, is a former president and board member of the Blue Ridge Art Clan, a regional artist group, and has served on the advisory board of the Florence Thomas Art School. She continues to serve on the Ashe County Public Library Advisory Board.

She and her husband Jerry reside in Crumpler, and they have two children and four grandchildren.

Sharon Kasel Appointed to Board of Directors



With the retirement of Molly Gambill from the SkyLine Board of Directors, Sharon Kasel has been appointed to fill the open board seat for Ashe County. At the time of Mrs. Gambill's retirement, she was serving the third year of a three-year term.

Mrs. Kasel has served on the SkyBest Board of Directors since 2011, and was previously a member of the cooperative's Nominating Committee and former chairperson of the Credentials Committee. Locally, she serves on the Board of Directors of the Ashe County Arts Council and is a past president. She is a member of the Ashe County Choral Society, and has served on the Ashe County Little Theatre and Blue Ridge Art Clan boards.

An Ashe County native, Mrs. Kasel graduated from Ashe Central High School and Wake Forest University. Before her return to Ashe County 30 years ago, she had lived and worked in such locations as Washington, D.C., south and central Florida and Charlotte. She previously served as Vice-President of KST Developers, Inc., Vice-President of Blue Ridge Golf Cars, Program Director for the Ashe County Arts Council and Corporate Secretary at Jefferson Landing.

Mrs. Kasel and her husband Tom reside in Crumpler, and they have one daughter and one granddaughter.

Schools Participating in 2017 Directory Collection Drive

- Alleghany High • Glade Creek Elementary • Piney Creek Elementary • Sparta Elementary
- Ashe County High • Ashe County Middle • Blue Ridge Elementary • Mountain View Elementary • Westwood Elementary • Avery County High • Banner Elk Elementary
- Freedom Trail Elementary • Bethel Elementary • Cove Creek Elementary • Mabel Elementary
- Valle Crucis Elementary • Shady Valley Elementary

Recipe of the Month

BBQ Crock Pot Chicken

Ingredients:

- 5-6 lbs. boneless skinless breasts
- 1 onion, chopped
- 1/2 cup chopped green pepper
- 1 1/2 cup ketchup
- 4 Tbsp. Hickory-smoked BBQ sauce
- 1 1/2 Tbsp. prepared mustard
- 1 1/2 Tbsp. Worcestershire sauce
- 1 Tbsp. lemon juice
- 2 Tbsp. vinegar
- 6 Tbsp. brown sugar
- 1/2 cup water
- 1/2 tsp. salt
- 1/8 tsp. 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.

Submitted by Jessica Lyalls of Ashe County

Include a Corded Phone in Your Winter Back-up Plan

Winter storm season is in full swing – is your family prepared? One item to have on hand is a corded phone, since it doesn't require electricity and could be your back-up method of communication.

It's important for you to know that cordless phones require electricity and will not work during a power outage.

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SkyLine  SkyBest

*Certain restrictions apply. Expires 2.28.17. 24-month service agreement and an early termination fee applies for each service ordered. New TV and/or Internet customers only. Offers valid for 12 Mbps or higher internet and/or Plus or Premier TV. Service not available in all areas. Higher speeds and TV available in fiber-served communities only.