



It's Scholarship Season

Nominees for the 2018 Frank James-SkyLine Scholarship visited the cooperative on April 16 to learn more about SkyLine, including its long history of providing advanced telecommunications services to the region and its role as a cooperative to support member communities in the areas of economic development, education and charitable outreach. Students also learned more about the scholarship program and interview process and other youth leadership opportunities. The 2018 winners will be announced in next month's newsletter.



Pictured left to right: Drew Piscopo, Peggy Winebarger and Steve Hart.

STEM Fair at ACMS

SkyLine was one of several local businesses to participate in the annual Career/STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) Fair at Ashe County Middle School on May 8. Students in sixth, seventh and eighth grades attended the one-day event in the school gymnasium, moving from station to station to observe various STEM-based presentations and demonstrations as well as to receive information on other local careers. SkyLine staff included Corporate Recruiter Peggy Winebarger, who shared information on careers, Cable Splicer Steve Hart, who demonstrated fiber splicing, and Media Supervisor Drew Piscopo, who demonstrated video equipment including a drone and camera stabilizer used for local programming on SkyBest's local content channel, SkyZhone HD.

In the Community

Forty Fest: 40th Anniversary of the Ashe County Arts Council

Congratulations to the Ashe County Arts Council on its 40th anniversary of fostering the arts in Ashe County. In honor of this milestone, the Arts Council will celebrate with "Forty Fest," a downtown arts festival on Saturday, June 2 that is a free event and open to the public. The fun will include music, food trucks, hands-on art activities, artist demonstrations, displays and the dedication of a new public art piece titled "Brush Up." The event will be on the grounds of the Ashe Arts Center from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Ashe Students Selected for National Youth Tour



Salem Brown



Wendy Escobedo

Two area high school juniors – Salem Brown and Wendy Escobedo of Ashe County – have been selected to represent SkyLine Membership Corporation at the 2018 Foundation for Rural Service (FRS) Youth Tour in Washington, D.C. The tour, scheduled from June 2 through 6, 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.

Salem is the daughter of Jody and Wendy Brown of Todd. At Ashe County High, she has been involved the Beta Club, National Art Honors Society, Interact, HOSA, Rho Kappa and Mu

Alpha Theta. In the community, Salem has volunteered with the Buddy Walk, Ashe Really Cares and the Liberty Grove Baptist Church Youth Group. Salem also has participated in the Blue Ridge Energy Leadership Track and the Dick Miller Youth Leadership Program.

Wendy is the daughter of Hugo and Ginger Escobedo of Jefferson. At Ashe County High, she is involved in the Beta Club and Future Farmers of America (FFA), and she has received awards in art and FFA. In the community, she volunteers with the local animal shelter, Ashe County Public Library and at school events.

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Please Support Relay for Life in Your Community

SkyLine has been a supporter of the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life for several years. In some counties, we field teams; in other counties, our employees may be part of other community, family or church teams. Collectively, we are all making a difference in the fight against cancer. Area Relay events began as early as May, and below are additional Relay for Life events across our service area. We appreciate your support!

Watauga County	June 15
Watauga High School, Boone, NC	
Avery County/Mitchell	June 22
Mitchell High School, Bakersville, NC	
Ashe County	July 20
Ashe County High School, West Jefferson, NC	

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SkyLine/SkyBest employees who represented the company at the Boone Business Expo included (left to right): Drew Piscopo, Cindy Powers, Brett Yates, Brent Keith and Myla Farmer.

Boone Business Expo

SkyLine/SkyBest was among numerous area businesses to participate in the annual Boone Business Expo, sponsored by the Boone Area Chamber of Commerce, on Wednesday, May 2, at Boone Mall. SkyLine was represented by several staff members from Business Sales, Customer Service, Marketing and Public Relations who fielded questions on the company's wide range of services, and PR Administrator Karen Powell participated as a presenter at a series of short seminars that highlighted SkyLine/SkyBest's efforts to bring fiber connectivity to the High Country.



NATIONAL YOUTH TOUR CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"We are so pleased to sponsor Salem and Wendy for this year's youth tour," said Karen Powell, SkyLine Public Relations Administrator. "They are excelling at academics, active in several student organizations, and they exhibit a broad commitment to service in their community. This national conference will further expand their horizons and provide an experience of a lifetime."

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 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. Since 1996, SkyLine has sponsored high school juniors from its service area to attend.

Outdoor Projects on Your List? 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 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 Shady Valley and Mountain City customers also can contact the Tennessee One-Call Center by dialing 8-1-1 from their homes or businesses.

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

Recipe of the Month

Pineapple Cream Pie

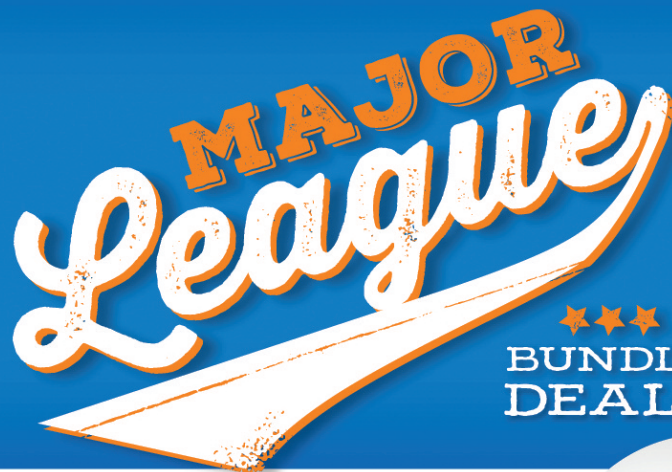
Ingredients:

- 1 large pkg. vanilla instant pudding
- 20 oz. can crushed pineapple
- 8 oz. container sour cream
- Graham cracker crust
- 1 8 oz. container whipped topping

Instructions:

Refrigerate pineapple so it will be cold to mix with other ingredients. Mix dry pudding with pineapple (with juice) until blended thoroughly. Add sour cream and mix again. Pour into graham cracker crust and cover with whipped topping. Refrigerate and it will be ready in 5 minutes. Keeps well. Serves 6.

Submitted by Lisa Houser of Ashe County



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