

Ashe Students Selected for National Youth Tour



Grace Miller



Quentin Wellington

Two area high school juniors—Grace Miller and Quentin Wellington of Ashe County—have been selected to represent SkyLine Membership Corporation at the 2016 Foundation for Rural Service (FRS) Youth Tour in Washington, D.C.

The tour, scheduled from June 4 through 8, 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.

Grace is the daughter of Chris and Beth Miller of Jefferson and is currently attending the N.C. School of Science and Math (NCSSM). While at Ashe County High School, she was a member of the varsity women's tennis team, earned all-conference honors, was a state team qualifier for Science Olympiad, attended Co-operative Leadership Camp and UNC-Chapel Hill's Catalyst Conference. At NCSSM, she is on the strategic planning team and women's varsity tennis team. In the

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Greg Greene demonstrates fiber splicing while Ashe County Middle School Career and Technical Education teacher Mandy Lovell and students observe at the ACMS Career/STEM Fair.

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 5. 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.

The SkyLine/SkyBest station included demonstrations of the company's security services, equipment used for fiber-optic splicing and the Beam+ Telepresence Robot, which gives the ability to be somewhere else at the same time. SkyLine's David Holman led the Telepresence Robot demonstration and controlled its movement via a Smart phone and the school's WiFi service. Students also were provided information on youth leadership and scholarship program opportunities that will be available to them at the high school level.



It's Scholarship Season

Nominees for the 2016 Frank James-SkyLine Scholarship visited the cooperative on April 29 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 2016 winners will be announced in next month's newsletter.



SkyLine's Kathy Pollard and Suzanna Torres assist students needing phone, Internet, TV or wireless services at the Alleghany Real World Event.

Real World Event at Alleghany High

Alleghany High School juniors participated in a Real World event on April 12 in the high school gymnasium to get a first-hand experience of living in the real world. Led by Youth Career Coach Jenny Webb through NCWorks Career Center/Wilkes Community College, Real World is a one-day simulation of what the real world is like as it directly relates to fiscal management, lifestyle choices, decision making and practicing face-to-face social skills. Students were equipped with a chosen career based on

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SkyLine's Jamey Jenkins explains to a student how bundling phone, Internet or TV services can provide additional cost savings on her monthly bill.

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SkyLine's David Holman (with fellow employees Greg Greene and Zach Davis) demonstrates the Beam+ Telepresence Robot for ACMS School Counselor Lynnette Stallings.



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.

Below are Relay for Life events across our service area. We appreciate your support!

Alleghany County	June 17
Alleghany High School, Sparta, NC	
Watauga County	June 17
Watauga High School, Boone, NC	
Johnson County	June 25
Ralph Stout Park, Mountain City, TN	
Ashe County	July 15
Ashe County High School, West Jefferson, NC	
Avery County	July 29
Avery County High School, Newland, NC	



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 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 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.

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

community, Grace is a member of the West Jefferson First Baptist Church Youth Group and has served as a summer intern at the Ashe County Sharing Center.

Quentin is the son of Jeff and Chasity Wellington of West Jefferson. He has earned several academic awards including excellence in World History, highest average in Advanced English 2 and received the Voice of Democracy Scholarship. He is active with the school HOSA club and has volunteered for Habitat for Humanity. He also is involved with the Train Up a Child (TUAC) ministry program at Mt. Paddy Church.

"We are delighted to sponsor Grace and Quentin for this year's youth tour," said Karen Powell, SkyLine Public Relations Administrator. "They have exhibited leadership through their academic performance and school activities, and they also have been active in their community. This national conference will further broaden 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.

Recipe of the Month

Curried Rice Salad

Ingredients:

- 1 package Chicken Rice-A-Roni
- 1 (6 oz.) jar marinated artichoke hearts
- 2/3 cup mayonnaise
- 1 teaspoon curry powder
- 3 green onions, sliced
- 10 pimiento-stuffed olives
- 1/3 cup green pepper, chopped

Instructions:

Prepare Rice-A-Roni according to package directions. Cool. Drain artichokes, reserving liquid. Slice artichokes and set aside. Combine artichoke liquid, mayonnaise, and curry powder; stir well.

Combine rice, artichokes, onions, olives and green pepper. Pour mayonnaise mixture over rice and stir well. Chill thoroughly.

Submitted by Molly Gambill of Ashe County

REAL WORLD EVENT CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

their interests and salary to match, and the event took them to various local and area businesses and organizations that were stationed inside the gym to pay for essentials such as telephone/cell service, utilities, housing and transportation as well as non-essentials/luxuries. Students had to work within a budget based on their chosen career, and SkyLine's Sparta Customer Service group assisted the students with their telecommunications needs, including telephone, Internet, TV and wireless services.

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