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www.SkyLine.org
www.SkyBest.com

FRS Youth Tour to Washington, D.C.

Again this year, SkyLine will sponsor two high school juniors to be among over 100 students to attend the Foundation for Rural Service's 2017 Youth Tour to Washington, D.C.

Now in its 23rd year, the FRS Tour brings rural students from across the United States to Washington, D.C. for a four-day visit from June 3 through 7 to some of the most historical sites in the nation. While here, students also learn about the telecommunications industry, as well as the regulatory and legislative processes. Educational sessions on these topics are 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.

The students are given ample time to explore the Nation's Capital and its many attractions. While here, 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.

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SkyLine's Human Resource Manager Angie Miller, Retail Sales Manager Jamey Jenkins and Public Relations Administrator Karen Powell accepted the awards for SkyLine/SkyBest at the *Ashe Mountain Times*' "Best of the Best" Awards event in January.

SkyLine/SkyBest Recognized at Ashe Mountain Times' "Best of the Best" Awards Event

At the annual "Best of the Best" Awards Program, presented by the *Ashe Mountain Times*, SkyLine/SkyBest was recognized as "Best of the Best" in four categories. The luncheon event at West Jefferson United Methodist Church's Hensley Hall on January 23 attracted more than 200 honorees and guests to celebrate the best businesses and individuals Ashe County has to offer.

In the categories of "Best Internet Service," "Best Telephone Service" and "Best Cable Service," SkyLine/SkyBest received top honors, and for the first time, SkyLine/SkyBest was voted "Best Place to Work."

Through October and November of 2016, readers submitted completed ballots for businesses in more than 150 categories, including best restaurant food, accountant, car dealer, furniture store and insurance agency, just to name a few.

Applications for SkyLine-Sponsored Youth Programs Available March 9 2017 Frank James-SkyLine Scholarship

Ten scholarships with a total value of \$25,000 are scheduled to be awarded this spring to children of SkyLine and SkyBest telephone service customers to assist them with the cost of a college education. Five \$1,000 scholarships, renewable up to four years, will be awarded to students who will attend a four-year college or university. Five \$500 scholarships, renewable up to two years, will be presented to students who will attend a two-year community/technical college.

The Frank James-SkyLine Scholarship was established by the Board of Directors in 1987 and is named in memory of Frank James, longtime SkyLine board member and former president, who was a strong advocate of education, having served as a teacher, principal and later superintendent of Ashe County Schools.

To qualify, applicants must be children of current SkyLine or SkyBest telephone service customers (of at least one year), and be graduating high school seniors (including home-schooled students) in the co-op's five-county service area (Alleghany, Ashe, Avery, Watauga and Johnson). The scholarships will be awarded on the basis of scholastic achievement, financial need, demonstrated leadership and community involvement. Application packages will be available at area high school guidance departments and all SkyLine Customer Service Centers beginning Thursday, March 9.

Support Area Public Schools Directory Drive Ends March 31

It's not too late to support this year's Directory Collection Drive which benefits area public schools. Now in its 25th year, the program provides 25 cents to the participating schools for each outdated SkyLine directory collected. Throughout the calendar year, SkyLine also receives directories at its Customer Service Center locations in Banner Elk, Boone, Sparta and West Jefferson, with credit given to the schools.

Please support recycling and our public schools through this special recycling initiative. For more information, please contact your local SkyLine Customer Service Center at 118.



Schools Participating in 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

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:

March 12
Move Your Clocks
Forward-Daylight
Saving Time

March 31
Directory Collection
Drive Ends

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



To be eligible to apply, the student's parents must receive telephone service from SkyLine or SkyBest, and the student must meet the following program requirements:

- be a student at a public high school in the co-op's five-county service area (16 or 17 years old at the time of the program);
- write a letter of application, including future plans beyond high school;
- submit a 500-word essay on one of three selected topics;
- have a minimum 3.25 grade-point-average (GPA);
- obtain a letter of recommendation from a teacher or school official;
- exhibit demonstrated leadership in campus organizations;
- exhibit demonstrated community involvement through volunteer activities.

Applications for the Youth Tour will be available at area high school guidance departments and at all Sky-Line Customer Centers beginning Thursday, March 9. The application deadline is Monday, April 3.



2016 Co-op Camp Participants

Co-op Leadership Camp Applications Available March 9

Beginning this month, SkyLine is accepting applications for the 2017 Cooperative Leadership Camp, a five-day leadership development program scheduled from June 19 through 23, at White Lake, N.C. Sponsored by the Cooperative Council of North Carolina and member cooperatives from across the state, the conference features workshops, speakers, recreation and small group sessions that center around the cooperative way of doing business. This year's conference promises to be a fun week with lots of leadership development and fellowship opportunities for young people. Participants also will be eligible to apply for a \$1,000 college scholarship during their senior year of high school.

Rising high school sophomores, juniors or seniors whose parents subscribe to telephone service through SkyLine or SkyBest can apply for the conference sponsorships. Applicants must be at least 15 years old at the time of the Conference, and up to 10 students will be selected to attend.

Applications will be available at area high school guidance departments and at all SkyLine Customer Centers beginning Thursday, March 9. The application deadline is Friday, April 7.

For more information on any of these programs, please contact Karen Powell, Public Relations Administrator, at SkyLine (1-800-759-2226).



Coming in April – Ashe County Heart Auction

SkyLine will again provide the phone bank for the Ashe County Heart Auction this year, and the event will take place on Wednesday, April 5, at Family Central. This is one of the local chapter's largest fund-raising events for the year, as businesses from across the county contribute numerous auction items for bid. WKSJ Radio (580 AM) will air the auction beginning around 9 a.m., with continuing updates through the afternoon, and SkyBest TV's SkyZhone HD, Channels 1 and 1001 will plan to complement WKSJ's radio coverage with live video updates throughout the day again this year. The 2016 Heart Auction drew a big crowd and hundreds of calls, raising more than \$15,000 to support the American Heart Association.

Commemorative Cookbook



The recipes we feature in our monthly newsletter come from SkyLine's commemorative cookbook. At just \$15 each, they make great gifts, and all proceeds will support area food banks.

Visit www.skybest.com or call SkyLine at 118 to order yours.

Recipe of the Month

Three Cheese Vegetable Lasagna

Ingredients:

- 6 lasagna noodles, cooked according to package directions
- 3 medium zucchini, halved lengthwise and sliced
- 2 cups sliced fresh mushrooms
- 1/3 cup chopped onion
- 2 teaspoons olive oil
- 1 cup ricotta cheese
- 1/2 cup grated Parmesan cheese
- 1/2 teaspoon black pepper
- 2 cups tomato and basil spaghetti sauce
- 1 cup shredded mozzarella cheese (divided)
- 1 medium tomato, seeded and chopped

Instructions:

Spray rectangular Pyrex dish with Pam. Cook zucchini, mushrooms, and onion in hot olive oil just until tender. Remove from heat and drain well on paper towels. In a small bowl, stir together ricotta, Parmesan, and black pepper. To assemble, place 3 cooked lasagna noodles in Pyrex dish. Top with ricotta mixture. Then top with half of vegetable mixture, half of spaghetti sauce, and half of mozzarella cheese. Layer with the remaining noodles, vegetable mixture, and sauce. Bake at 375° for 30 minutes. Top with remaining mozzarella cheese and the tomato. Bake 5 minutes until cheese is melted. Remove from oven and let stand 10 minutes before serving.

Submitted by Marsha Walters of Ashe Co.

ARE YOUR DEVICES MULTIPLYING LIKE RABBITS?

Every time you turn around, it may seem like another internet or TV device shows up. When devices are multiplying, you need to start adding SkyBest Internet and TV. **Sign up now for super-fast SkyBest Internet and crystal-clear SkyBest TV and save up to \$480!***

HOP TO IT AND CALL 1-800-759-2226

skybest.com

*Certain restrictions apply. Expires 4/29/17. 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. Contact us for savings details.

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