CONNECTION

OCTOBER 2016

Published monthly for customers of SkyLine Membership Corporation and SkyBest Communications



www.SkyLine.org www.SkyBest.com



SkyBest

communications

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WORTH NOTING:

Thursday, October 13

Customer Appreciation Day All SkyLine Customer Service Centers

STAFF:

Jimmy Blevins Chief Executive Officer

Kim Shepherd Executive Director of Customer Operations

Angie Poe Customer Service Manager

> Jamey Jenkins Retail Sales Manager

Karen P. Powell Public Relations Administrator & Editor





2016 Co-op Camp Participants

Local Students Attend Co-op Camp

The Cooperative Council of North Carolina held its annual Cooperative Youth Leadership Conference in June for high school students at the NC FFA Center at White



2016 SkyLine Delegation to Co-op Camp Brandt Denniston and Caroline Current of Ashe County represented SkyLine at this year's Cooperative

Leadership Camp.

Lake, NC. Sponsored by cooperatives and agricultural organizations, around 50 students from across North Carolina attended the camp, enjoying a week by the lake.

Two Ashe County High School students were sponsored locally by SkyLine to attend this year's conference: Caroline Current, a junior at Ashe County High School and the daughter of Cameron and Judy Current of West Jefferson, and Brandt Denniston, a sophomore at Ashe County High School and the son of Jim and Lori Denniston of West Jefferson.

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Help Us Rise & Shine to Fight Hunger!

SkyLine will continue its third annual breakfast food drive for area food pantries through this month in conjunction with our statewide cooperative association, the Co-op Council of N.C.

SkyLine and other co-ops are organizing food drives

as part of celebrating National Cooperative Month in October, and we have a special incentive to encourage our members/customers to join in this effort. While supplies last, visit any of our customer service locations to pick up a "Rise & Shine to Fight Hunger" grocery tote, and we invite you to fill it with non-perishable

breakfast items for the food drive. A list of suggested non-perishable items is featured on page 2.

After you drop off the items to Sky-Line, keep the grocery tote for yourself, and SkyLine will deliver the items to area food pantries, including the Solid Rock Food Closet, Ashe Outreach

Ministries, Second Harvest Food Bank of Northeast Tennessee Mobile Food Pantry (Shady Valley Baptist Church), the Hunger and Health Coalition and Reaching Avery

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

Solutions, YP is the largest local search, America. Your local YP representative-

Nicole Meade, SkyLine's authorized Real Yellow Pages sales agent, has been visiting and calling on business members across our service area to coordinate their advertising for the 2016-17 telephone directory.

One ad-buy can push your message into a powerful ad network so that no matter what device your customers are using to search-smartphone, laptop, phone book or mailbox, YP can get the right message in front of the right people at the right time--resulting in calls, leads and sales to your business.

late December/early January.

To make sure your business is advertised in the Real Yellow Pages, contact Nicole Meade by calling toll-free 1-800-532-1060.



for schools, churches, small businesses, restaurants and other organizations, it allows you to turn your landline 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. 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 and promotions

And now, CallTree users can now take advantage of a FREE mobile app that allows you to complete the entire process from your smart phone and a web portal that eliminates the need for Silverlight and is accessible on both Windows and Mac devices. The new mobile app is called "ManageMyNotify" and is available for download through the App Store for iPhones and the Google Play store for Android phones.

Pricing for CallTree includes a one-time \$25 activation fee and starts at \$9.95 per month for up to 250 contacts. For 251 to 1,000 contacts, the cost per month is \$19.95. Long-distance calls will incur additional charges.

To find out more or to sign up for this valuable and affordable voice messaging service, please call your local SkyLine Customer Service Center at 118.

Include Your Business in the Real Yellow Pages



The advertising campaign for SkyLine's regional, consolidated directory with YP is now underway. Formerly AT&T Advertising media and advertising company in North

The new directory, which covers four North Carolina counties- Alleghany, Ashe, Avery and Watauga- will be delivered to members through the U.S. Postal Service in

SkyLine representatives with the Avery Business of the Year Award are pictured, left to right: Marketing Supervisor Crystal Spencer, Executive Director of Competitive Operations Edward Hinson, Public Relations Administrator Karen Powell, Business Sales Executive Charity Shatley and Strategic Sales Supervisor Brent Keith.

SkyLine Receives 2016 Business of the Year Award from Avery Chamber of Commerce

The Avery County Chamber of Commerce honored two individuals and two organizations, including SkyLine/SkyBest, during its annual Celebration and Awards Presentation on August 30 at the Hugh Chapman Center in Linville. The program featured remarks by Avery Chamber Director Melynda Pepple, followed by the presentation of four awards which recognized the Chamber of Commerce's Volunteer, Nonprofit, Business and Businessperson of the Year. Delee Scott, of the Williams YMCA, served as master of ceremonies for the event.

In addition to its long history of serving the region, SkyLine was recognized for the advanced telecommunications services it provides and for its support of the area through a number of community initiatives each year. SkyLine has awarded more than \$500,000 in scholarships to students throughout the High Country, including Avery High graduates.

The cooperative also has provided significant funding toward technology in the public schools including support for Avery County Schools' one-to-one initiative, which connects each student with a laptop or tablet device. Other beneficiaries of SkyLine's outreach include the Greater Banner Elk Heritage Foundation, the Historic Banner Elk School and Reaching Avery Ministry.

CO-OP CAMP CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Open to rising high school sophomores, juniors and seniors, this camp features energetic and interactive workshops and presentations, outdoor recreation, leadership development, team building activities and small group sessions with an emphasis on how cooperatives operate. The camp program includes the organization of a T-shirt cooperative, including an election of a board of directors, and selection of a manager. Participants are also involved in small group sessions focusing on the area of leadership development and competitive team building activities. Speakers include prominent elected leaders and officials, college professors, and representatives of marketing, purchasing and service cooperatives. Other special features include a Talent Show, luau and fun team competitions by the lake. All students who attend Co-op Leadership Camp are eligible to apply for the Jim Graham \$1,000 college scholarship in their senior year of high school.

SkyLine is proud to be a local sponsor of this program that provides leadership development opportunities for area youth and gives them a first-hand look at the unique role of member-owned cooperatives.

RISE & SHINE CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Ministry. These organizations report that breakfast items are among the most needed but in shortest supply on pantry shelves. Please join us in this special effort.

As a local cooperative, we are reminded of the seventh cooperative principle, which is "concern for community."

SkyLine and its employees strive to honor this principle by continuing to be active in their community support and outreach efforts. For more information, please call SkyLine at 118. Thank you!

Simplify Your Life with Paperless Billing

Ever wish you had one moment to relax?

Now is the chance to make your life a little bit easier with SkyLine/SkyBest free paperless billing. Imagine no more trips to the mailbox, just your inbox. You'll never have to worry about missing a payment with our automatic email notification. Rest easy because your online payment is secure and your

kitchen table is clutter-free. And feel good about yourself – you're being environmentally friendly.

Call 1-800-759-2226 today to sign up for free paperless billing.

Visit us at any of our five SkyLine/SkyBest Customer Service locations for Customer Appreciation Day.

CUSTOMER APPRECIATION DAY

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2016

 ${\bf SkyLine/SkyBest\ mementos\ while\ they\ last!}$

Recipe of the Month

Hash Brown Casserole

Ingredients:

1 bag slightly thawed hash browns
1 can of cream of chicken soup
1 can of cream of cheddar soup
1 bag of shredded cheddar, divided
1/2 cup sour cream
Salt and pepper to taste

Instructions:

Mix all together and pour into a 9x13 greased baking dish; place the other 1/2 bag of cheese over the top before baking. Cover with foil for first 30 minutes of baking.

Bake at 350° for 30 minutes, remove the foil and finish baking until golden brown on top.

Submitted by Jennifer Phipps of Ashe County



SkyLine/SkyBest Rise & Shine Breakfast Food Drive September 1 - October 31, 2016

Suggested Non-Perishable Items:

Oatmeal
Whole-grain
Cereals
Hot Cereals
Cream of Wheat
Grits
Gravy Mixes
Pancake Mixes

Muffin Mixes

Granola Bars Syrup Fruit Juice Packs Canned Fruits Dried Fruits Jam

Powdered Milk Coffee Hot Chocolate

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