CONNECTIONS

68th Annual Meeting Scheduled October 8
2024 Annual Meeting Announced

The 2024 Annual Meeting will be conducted at 10 a.m. Tuesday, October 8, at the Annex building, located above Little's Gym and across from SkyLine's West Jefferson Call Center on Highway 194 in West Jefferson. The Annual Meeting will comprise a brief business session only with reports from officers, election of directors, video presentation of scholarship winners and the announcement of door prizes.

To fulfill the requirements in establishing a quorum to proceed with the meeting and member participation in the election of directors, members may register for the meeting by visiting their local SkyLine Customer Center the previous week and receive information for the meeting including the agenda, official ballot for the election of directors and the Annual Meeting Report. A voting station will be set up at each Customer Center location, where members may cast their ballots and drop them in secure ballot boxes. Early registration for our Shady Valley members in Johnson County will be scheduled on Wednesday, October 2. (see details below). A video recording of the business session will be aired on SkyZhone Channels 1 and 1001 at 10 a.m. Thursday, October 10 and again at 10 a.m. Saturday, October 12. The business session also will be posted to SkyLine's website (www.skybest.com/AnnualMeeting) on October 10.

For those planning to attend in person, member registration will be scheduled from 9:00 to 9:45 a.m. at SkyLine's Annex location. All members who register in advance or on the day of the meeting will receive a $15 bill credit for the member gift, a $10 voucher toward the purchase of a meal at one of the designated restaurants

October is National Co-op Month – Customer Appreciation Day is on October 18

Celebrated by more than 40,000 cooperatives nationwide during the month of October, National Co-op Month is an annual opportunity to raise awareness of a trusted, proven way to do business and build communities. To celebrate the national Cooperative Month promotion, SkyLine will host its annual **Customer Appreciation Day** on Friday, **October 18** with special treats and giveaways while they last. We hope our members and customers will drop by any of our five Customer Center locations on Friday, October 18 to let us say 'thank you.'

Refer-A-Friend and Get $25 Credit for Each Referral

For every friend who gets installed with SkyBest High-Speed Internet, SkyBest Security or SkyBest Medical Alert Service as a result of your referral, you will get a $25 credit on your bill. The referred "friend" will also receive a $25 credit.
See www.skybest.com/friends for more information!

*The Refer-A-Friend promotion is not combinable with any other offer or promotion.

Help Us "Rise & Shine" to Fight Hunger!

Recognizing the need to support local initiatives to minimize food insecurity is greater than ever, SkyLine will continue its annual breakfast food drive for area food pantries. Now in its eleventh year, and beginning this month through October, our "Rise & Shine" food drive will accept donations of non-perishable breakfast items at each of our five Customer Center locations.

Beginning this month and while supplies last, all SkyLine/SkyBest Customer Service Centers will have shopping totes available for pick-up. We welcome all sizes of packaged breakfast food, including individually-sealed cereals, oatmeal and fruit items that can be included in area backpack initiatives for children. See related list of suggested non-perishable items. As our thank-you, please keep the tote for future use, and SkyLine will make delivery of these items to area food pantries, including the Solid Rock Food Closet, Ashe County Food Pantry, the Hunger and Health Coalition, Reaching Avery Ministry and the Shady Valley Baptist Church Food Pantry in early November.

SkyLine is grateful to join the community in support, including numerous individuals, churches and local organizations like those listed that are trying to help fill the hunger gaps that continue to exist across the region. We hope you will join us in this critical effort. As a local cooperative, we are reminded that the seventh cooperative principle is "concern for community." For more information about the food drive, please call your local SkyLine/SkyBest Customer Service Center at 118. Thank you!

Nominating Committee Meets

A nominating committee, appointed by the Board of Directors, met on Tuesday, August 6, at SkyLine Membership Corporation in West Jefferson. The committee members are: Chris Jones, Alleghany County; Jim Cox, Ashe County; Mike Davis, Avery County; James Sherman, Johnson County; and Tim Hodges, Watauga County. The committee nominated the following members of SkyLine to be voted upon for directors at the Annual Meeting on October 8, 2024: James L. Shepherd (Alleghany); Jerry L. Roten and Russell W. Barr (Ashe); and Tommy Joe Ward (Watauga).

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:

Offices will be closed for Labor Day on Monday, September 2

STC-148256

Phishing:
Don't Take the Bait

Phishing is when you get emails, texts, or calls that seem to be from companies or people you know. But they're actually from scammers. They want you to click on a link or give personal information (like a password) so that they can steal your money or identity, and maybe get access to your computer.

The Bait

Scammers use familiar company names or pretend to be someone you know.

They ask you to click on a link or give passwords or bank account numbers. If you click on the link, they can install programs that lock you out of your computer and can steal your personal information.

They pressure you to act now — or something bad will happen.

Avoid the Hook

Check it out.
» Look up the website or phone number for the company or person who's contacting you.
» Call that company or person directly. Use a number you know to be correct, not the number in the email or text.
» Tell them about the message you got.

Look for scam tip-offs.
» You don't have an account with the company.
» The message is missing your name or uses bad grammar and spelling.
» The person asks for personal information, including passwords.
» **But note: some phishing schemes are sophisticated and look very real,** so check it out and protect yourself.

Hi Ms. Fish,,

Protect yourself.
» Keep your computer security up to date and back up your data often.
» Consider multi-factor authentication — a second step to verify who you are, like a text with a code — for accounts that support it.
» Change any compromised passwords right away and don't use them for any other accounts.

Report Phishing

» Forward phishing emails to **spam@uce.gov** and **reportphishing@apwg.org**.
» Report it to the FTC at **ftc.gov/complaint**.

For more information, visit **ftc.gov/phishing aba.com/phishing**

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in the co-op's service area and will be entered into a drawing for one of six door prizes. Prizes will be announced at the close of the business session on October 8, and members do not have to be present to win. Annual Meeting early registration will be conducted during the week prior to the meeting at SkyLine's Sparta, Boone, Banner Elk and West Jefferson Customer Service Center locations, beginning Monday, September 30, through Friday, October 4 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Additionally, early registration will be scheduled for our Shady Valley members in Johnson County from 2 to 6 p.m. Wednesday, October 2, at the Shady Rock School in Shady Valley. For more information, please contact your local SkyLine office at 118 or 1-800-759-2226.

Secretary

SkyLine Customer Center Locations

Alleghany County
199 Grayson Street
Sparta, 28675

Ashe County West Jefferson Smart Home
1060 Mount Jefferson Road
West Jefferson, 28694

Ashe County West Jefferson Call Center
1079 NC Hwy. 194 North
West Jefferson, 28694

Avery County
20 High Country Square, Hwy. 184
Banner Elk, 28604

Watauga County
217 Wilson Drive
Boone, 28607

Recipe of the Month
Fried Rice Casserole

Ingredients:
1 stick margarine
1 cup raw rice (not 1 minute rice)
1 4oz. jar sliced mushrooms, drained
1 can Campbell's Beef Consomme
1 can Campbell's French Onion Soup

Instructions:
Melt margarine and then add rice. Fry until brown. Pour into 1 1/2 quart casserole dish. Add soups and mushrooms. Cover and bake at 325 degrees. Uncover, stir and bake for an additional 15 minutes.

Recipe submitted by Jeana Furches

SkyLine/SkyBest Rise & Shine Breakfast Food Drive
Deliver non-perishable items to SkyLine between September 1 - October 31

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 • Jam
Canned/Dried Fruits • Powdered Milk
Coffee Hot Chocolate

ITEMS WILL BENEFIT:
Solid Rock Food Closet
Ashe County Food Pantry
Hunger and Health Coalition
Reaching Avery Ministry
Shady Valley Baptist Church Food Pantry

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• Enjoy the best streaming
• Appreciate online gaming to the fullest

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1-800-759-2226 skybest.com

*Restrictions may apply. Service not available in all areas. High speeds available in fiber-served communities only.