CONNECTIONS

SEPTEMBER 2016



www.SkyLine.org www.SkyBest.com

Published monthly for customers of SkyLine Membership Corporation and SkyBest Communications



2016 Ashe Relay–Survivor Lap

We Relay for Life!

When Relay for Life comes around each year, our company and employees take an active role to help raise money for the American Cancer Society (ACS). As the non-profit organization's signature event, Relay brings people together in hope, celebration and remembrance, and the ACS is dedicated to eliminating cancer as a major health disease.

To support the ongoing work of this organization, we held an internal pledge campaign with donations from our directors, employees and family members designated for the five counties across our service area. The pledge campaign raised \$5,998, along with donations and sponsorships and the sale of luminaries and torches, bringing the overall total to \$8,828 to benefit the American Cancer Society.

To our members and customers who have supported us through these various fund-raising activities, including a special donation in memory of our late co-worker and friend, Iva Atwood, we thank you. Together, we're all making a difference in the fight against cancer.



2016 Ashe Relay–Team Tent

Nominating Committee Meets

A nominating committee, appointed by the Board of Directors, met on Thursday, August 25, at SkyLine Membership Corporation in West Jefferson. The committee members are: Clarence Crouse, Alleghany County; Jimmy Cox, Ashe County; Roscoe Townsend, Avery County; Tim Hodges, Watauga County; and James Sherman, Johnson County.

The committee nominated the following members of SkyLine to be voted upon for directors at the Annual Meeting on September 24, 2016: R.C. Mitchell (Alleghany); D.C. Smith (Avery); Olan Bentley (Johnson).

Claybank Will Perform During Lunch 60th Annual Meeting Scheduled for September 24

The 60th Annual Meeting of SkyLine Membership Corporation is scheduled for Saturday, September 24, at Ashe County High School in West Jefferson.

Member Registration begins in the commons area at 9:30 a.m., with music and entertainment videos in the auditorium until the business session begins at 10:30 a.m. Items of business will include the Report of Officers, Directors and Committees and the election of directors. The following youth program participants will be recognized: Frank James-SkyLine Scholarship, Foundation for Rural Service Scholarship, Cooperative Leadership Camp and the Foundation for Rural Service Youth Tour.

At the close of the business meeting, several door prizes will be awarded. SkyLine mementos will be available during registration, and information displays in the commons area will feature the latest products and services of SkyLine, SkyBest and Carolina West Wireless. Additional educational displays on fiber-optic technology will be featured outside, weather permitting. Activities for children, ages four to 11, will be scheduled from 10 a.m. until the close of the business meeting.

Following the meeting, special lunchtime entertainment will be provided by the band, Claybank, and lunch will be catered by Smoky Mountain Barbecue.

James J, Magher L Secretary

Help Us Rise & Shine to Fight Hunger!

SkyLine is coordinating its third annual breakfast food drive for area food pantries beginning this month and continuing through October. Last year, and thanks in great part to you, our members and customers, we collected and distributed more than 2,000 food items and donations of \$600 to food pantries across our five-county service area. In conjunction with our statewide cooperative association– the Cooperative Council of North Carolina, SkyLine and other cooperative organizations are organizing food drives again this year 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.

Beginning this month and while supplies last, visit any SkyLine/SkyBest customer service location to pick up a large "Rise & Shine to Fight Hunger" grocery tote, and we invite you to use this tote to fill it with non-perishable breakfast items for our breakfast food drive that runs through October. See page 2 for a list of suggested non-perishable items. After you drop off the items you collect in your new tote at a SkyLine/SkyBest customer service location any time now through October 31, you may keep the tote for future use, and SkyLine will deliver the items to area food pantries, including the Solid Rock Food Closet, Ashe Outreach Ministries, the Hunger and



NEED TO CONTACT US?

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WORTH NOTING:

Monday, September 5 SkyLine Offices Closed for Labor Day Holiday

> Saturday, September 24 Annual Meeting

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





Presenting the Alfred Adams Award to SkyLine/SkyBest, from left: Gillian Baker, Outgoing Boone Area Chamber Board Chair, SkyLine/SkyBest Executive Director of Competitive Operations Edward Hinson, SkyLine/SkyBest Public Relations Administrator Karen Powell, SkyLine/SkyBest Strategic Sales Supervisor Brent Keith and Incoming Boone Area Chamber Board Chair Chuck Eyler.

SkyLine/SkyBest Receives Alfred Adams Award for Economic Development from Boone Area Chamber

The Boone Area Chamber of Commerce held its 67th annual meeting and award ceremony Tuesday at Tweetsie Railroad, and SkyLine/SkyBest was among the six award honorees. The annual meeting is an opportunity for the Chamber to recognize businesses and individuals making an impact in the community.

The Alfred Adams Award recognizes individuals or organizations who have worked for the orderly growth and development of Boone and Watauga County. SkyLine is the largest of eight telephone cooperatives in North Carolina, and through its 12-exchange network, serves nearly 31,000 access lines across a fivecounty, 840 square mile area in northwest North Carolina and eastern Tennessee. SkyLine has spent the past several years building a Fiber-to-the-Home network throughout its cooperative footprint and is expected to complete that major initiative by the end of 2016. Along with its investments in building a stateof-the-art infrastructure and offering such services as broadband, voice, digital TV, business systems and solutions, security, medical alert, automation and surveillance services, SkyLine/SkyBest is noted for its support of economic development, educational and charitable programs and initiatives throughout the region. Later this fall, SkyLine will be moving its Seven Devils Customer Service operations to a new location in the former Village Laundry location on Wilson Drive in Boone, and SkyBest Communications is expanding its service footprint to serve additional businesses along Highways 105 and 321 in Boone.

Other awards announced included the Wade Brown Award for Community Recognition, presented to Harry Davis, former ASU Walker College of Business professor and Finance, Banking and Insurance Department chairman; the Ben Suttle Special Services Award for Volunteerism, presented to Ted and Ginger Watson of the Hunger and Health Coalition; the Sue Wilmoth Award for the Advancement of Tourism, presented to Apple Farm of Banner Elk for its leadership in agri-tourism; the Evergreen Award for Leadership in Sustainability, presented to Appalachian Mountain Brewery; and a new award, the Dan Meyer Partnership Award, in honor of, and presented to, outgoing Chamber President Dan Meyer, who has retired after 12 years with the Chamber.

Also introduced at the Annual Meeting was new Chamber President David Jackson, former Appalachian State Associate Athletics Director for Broadcast Operations.

RISE & SHINE CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Health Coalition, Reach Avery Ministry and the Northeast Tennessee Mobile Food Pantry.

Sadly, many local families struggle to keep food on the table, and numerous individuals, churches and local organizations like those listed are trying to help fill the hunger gaps that continue to exist across the region. We hope you will join us in this special effort. As a local cooperative, we are reminded that the seventh cooperative principle is "concern for community." SkyLine takes this responsibility seriously and continues to be active in its community support and outreach efforts. For more information about the food drive, please call your local SkyLine/SkyBest Customer Service Center at 118. Thank you!

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/Dried Fruits Jam Powdered Milk Coffee Hot Chocolate

Recipe of the Month Hallie Roten's Pickled Peaches

Ingredients:

- 1 gallon peaches
- 6 cups sugar
- 3 cups vinegar
- 2 cups water
- 1 tablespoon whole cloves
- 8 (2-inch pieces) sticks cinnamon
- 2 tablespoons whole allspice
- 1 piece ginger root

Instructions:

Wash and peel peaches. Put spices in a clean white cloth and tie top tightly. Cook together spices, water, vinegar and sugar for 10 minutes or until syrup is fairly thick. Add the peaches and cook slowly until tender. Let stand overnight. Next morning, remove the spices, drain the syrup from the peaches and boil rapidly until thick. Pack peaches in clean, hot jars. Fill jars with boiling hot syrup. Seal.

Submitted by Carrie Lee Farmer of Alleghany County

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 Solutions, YP is the largest search, media and advertising company in North America. Over the next few months, Nicole Meade, regional sales representative of YP, SkyLine's authorized Real Yellow Pages sales agent, will visit and call on business members across our service area to coordinate their advertising for the 2016-17 telephone directory.

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

