# The Communicator

VOL. 11, NO. 4 • JULY/AUGUST 2012

PUBLISHED FOR MEMBERS OF

New Hope Telephone Cooperative
Your Communications Connection

## Annual Meeting Recap

GM reports changes coming for telecom industry

## Social Engineering

Criminals use technology to scam victims

## Spirit Eyes

Local man's first book published

The Communicator
Vol. 11, No. 4 July/August 2012
is a bimonthly magazine published by New Hope Telephone Cooperative, ©2012. It is distributed without charge to all Cooperative members/owners.

**New Hope Telephone Cooperative**
P.O. Box 452
New Hope, AL 35760
www.nhtc.coop

**For Customer Service:** 256-723-4211

**For Editorial Advertising:**
Call 256-723-2008
or email communicator@nehp.net

Produced for NHTC by:

**WordSouth Public Relations, Inc.**
www.WordSouth.com

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**Greg Glover, President**
Owens Cross Roads Exchange

**David Ayers, Vice President**
Grant Exchange

**Mike Whitaker, Secretary**
New Hope Exchange

**Jimmy Segler, Treasurer**
Grant Exchange

**Jeffrey Cantrell**
Grant Exchange

**Jeff Cooper**
New Hope Exchange

**Jim Duncan**
New Hope Exchange

**Garland Elders**
Owens Cross Roads Exchange

**Barry Jones**
New Hope Exchange

New Hope Telephone Cooperative
Your Communications Connection

is a member-owned corporation dedicated to providing communications technology to the residents and businesses of New Hope, Grant and Owens Cross Roads.

**On the cover:**
*Destiny Jackson attended the annual meeting with her grandparents Pat and Bud O'Neal and collected quite a few giveaways. Read more on Page 7.*



# MANAGER'S MESSAGE

## Cooperative ready to meet changes head on

Summer is here! Even though the heat makes us want to stay close to the air conditioning unit for most of the season, there are many activities that bring us outdoors including our children playing baseball and taking family vacations. We also celebrate Independence Day and give thanks for living in this great country. One of the things that makes our country the land of opportunity is our belief that by working hard — and working together — we can achieve anything.

And that is the cooperative spirit. I want to thank all of our members for coming to our annual meeting in May. It's important that everyone is informed about what NHTC has accomplished over the past year, and the annual meeting is always a great way to show off what your cooperative has been working on. This year we were able to show our continued, steady progress on our fiber construction project.

As people continue to rely on the Internet for their work, education, healthcare and more, NHTC is working to provide a new, stronger fiber optic infrastructure for our members. Fiber is the future, and during the annual meeting we discussed changes to our cooperative as the Universal Service Fund — which helped provide telephone service to rural areas — is being phased out. It is being replaced with the Connect America Fund, which will instead focus on funding broadband Internet initiatives. NHTC is getting ready for this change, thanks to the hard work and planning of our employees.

We also discussed the problem of rising retransmission rates and what that has meant for our cooperative. Networks such as NBC, ABC, FOX and CBS have begun charging much higher fees for allowing us to retransmit their signal to you. Previously, NHTC has been able to absorb all retransmission fees and hold the cost of cable down for our members. These new rates, however, stand to cost the cooperative hundreds of thousands of dollars. After more than ten years without a rate increase on cable, we were forced to raise rates to account for these costs. We are doing everything in our power to make sure that we can continue to provide a great selection for our customers at affordable rates.

NHTC's new Computer Repair Service was also highlighted at our meeting. We have had great reviews and much success since we began offering this service to our members. It is a quality service that not only helps our members, but generates additional revenue for the cooperative as well.

**TOM WING**
*General Manager, New Hope Telephone Cooperative*

It has been a great year for NHTC, even with the rapid changes affecting our cooperative and industry. I want to thank all of our members for their support and I look forward to seeing what we accomplish by continuing to work together.▲

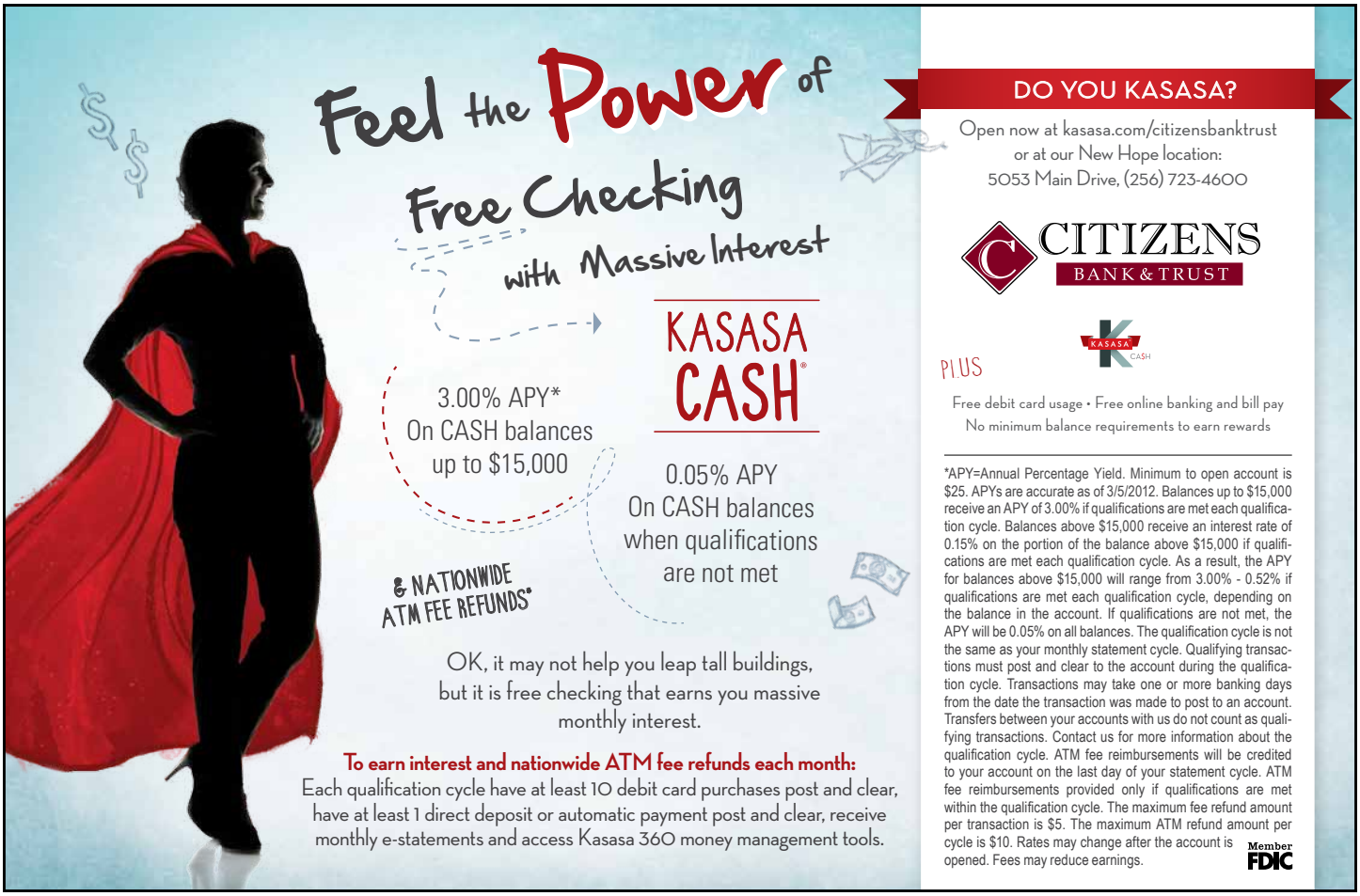
# Scholarships awarded to two high school seniors

## New Hope High School: Annie Holcomb

Annie Holcomb is a 2012 graduate of New Hope High School. She was awarded a $500 scholarship from NHTC. She is the daughter of April and David Holcomb. Annie will attend Calhoun Community College in the fall. She plans to become a Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist (CRNA). Annie's extracurricular activities at New Hope included being a member of FFA, the color guard, and Anchor Club.

## Kate Duncan Smith DAR: Cody Keller

Cody Keller is the recipient of a $500 scholarship from NHTC. He is a 2012 graduate of DAR High School. Cody is the son of Patty and Greg Keller of Grant. He plans to attend Snead State in the fall. He would like to major in sound engineering. Cody worked a part-time job throughout his senior year and still maintained his academics. He was a member of the National Honor Society and on the Academic Honor Roll.

# NHTC PARTICIPATES IN Career Day at DAR and New Hope Schools

Both New Hope and DAR schools offered elementary and middle school students an opportunity to learn about many careers they may someday be interested in pursuing. New Hope Telephone Cooperative participated in the event at both schools.

Children in kindergarten through second grade visited NHTC as part of a walking field trip where they learned about businesses in the community. While at the cooperative, students got to see employees performing various aspects of their jobs.

Third- through eighth-grade New Hope school students participated in a career day in the gymnasium. Students went around to tables set up by participating businesses. "Each student asked a question from someone at every table," explains Christy Nelson, NHTC customer service representative. The questions ranged from 'What is a day in your job like?' to 'What type of education is required to do your job?' "There were many exciting tables, including firefighters and crime scene investigators. But students seemed genuinely interested at every table they visited," she adds.

DAR hosted a two-day event for their students as well. Tables from several businesses were set up in the gymnasium and students visited each business they were interested in. NHTC parked a bucket truck in the parking lot at DAR school so students could get a close up look. "That was a big hit," says Nelson.

"As one of the largest businesses in the area and a cooperative," she adds, "NHTC is involved in the communities we serve. We definitely wanted to participate in this worthwhile event. It's never too early for children to begin thinking about what they want to be, or to be learning about what job opportunities are available in their own communities. We enjoyed both events and look forward to participating again next year." ▲

Students enjoyed the career day and field trip events at local schools.

Just a reminder

# Cash those capital credits checks

The Board of Directors for New Hope Telephone Cooperative has once again voted to return a portion of the company's equity back to its members.

Because NHTC is a cooperative, members earn capital credits based on the amount of business they do with the cooperative. A percentage of those credits are returned to all active members as the Board of Directors deems financially feasible.

This year's refund represents one-half percent of the total capital credits each member has accumulated to date, minus any refunds that have already been given. Checks were mailed to members in May and most have already been cashed.

Capital credit checks are only valid for 90 days.

Replacement checks are costly and time consuming for your cooperative. Therefore, NHTC will reissue checks for those lost or uncashed in May 2013 when capital credit checks are issued next year.

Please cash your capital credit checks today if you have not already done so.


go green.

GO PAPERLESS.

When you sign up for online bill pay through NHTC, you can choose to go paperless. You will receive an email notification each month when your bill is ready. You can view it and pay it online. No paper, no hassle!

**Get more information today!**
**www.nhtc.coop • 256-723-4211**

New Hope Telephone Cooperative
Your Communications Connection



Did somebody say vacation?

Whether you need a loan to take a family vacation or build the family home, we've got you covered. We are open six days a week for your convenience. Stop by and talk with a loan officer at People's State Bank today!

Amelia Breault is the daughter of Kevin and Amanda Lemaster Breault

Peoples State Bank of Commerce
Grant, AL

EQUAL HOUSING LENDER NMLS #699708 FDIC

256-728-4213 • www.psboc.com • Main Street • Grant, AL
Open Saturdays 9 a.m. until 12 noon

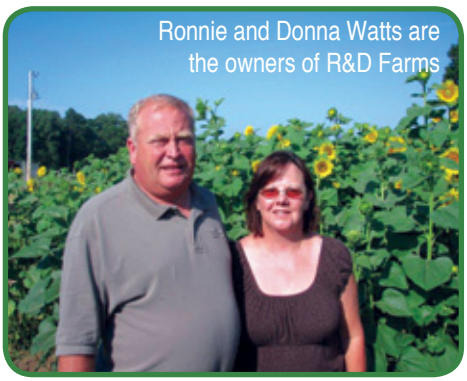

# Congratulations

*35 years and counting!*

Laura Hairrell started working at People's State Bank on March 3, 1977. She and her wonderful husband John have been married 31 years. Her family has had a big impact on her success. She serves as administrative assistant to Brenda Barnes.

*Thanks for the great job you do!*

# Enjoy local produce through a CSA


Ronnie and Donna Watts are the owners of R&D Farms

What began as a hobby for Owens Cross Roads resident Donna Watts has become more than a full-time job for her and her husband Ronnie. And the pair couldn't be happier.

In 2007, a debilitating eye condition known as ischemic optic neuropathy left Donna legally blind. "It affected one eye," says Donna, "and four months later, it started in the other eye. I was left with what is called central vision. I have no peripheral vision, and what I do see is blurry, fuzzy and not very good. It looks dark and I can't make out features. I can't see any fine details."

After 24 years as a nurse, Donna had to leave her job. Looking for something to do, she began a greenhouse garden as a hobby. But when Ronnie was laid off from his job with a propane gas company last year, the two came up with a plan to expand their garden.

The couple started R&D Farms, a CSA, or community-supported agriculture. The concept has been around for years. Pay a local farmer to help cover seed, equipment and labor costs; in exchange, you'll receive a weekly supply of fresh, healthy produce when the crops are ready for harvest.

R&D Farms is the first CSA in the local area. The next closest one is in Tennessee.

Donna says 25 families from Hampton Cove, Owens Cross Roads, New Hope and Gurley each bought a share in the harvest from R&D Farms. Throughout the spring and summer, members received a weekly delivery of fresh, local produce. Among the deliveries were romaine and butter crunch lettuce, tomatoes, corn, okra, peas, beans and more. The farm is growing watermelons, cantaloupe and pumpkins which they hope will be ready to include in packages later this summer and into the fall.

"Most people have said they are getting more than they can eat in a week," says Donna. "But they are glad to have locally-grown fresh foods that are healthy and nutritious and haven't come from across the country or the world."

Ronnie says CSAs offer many advantages over produce purchased from some grocery stores. "It's fresher, for one thing," says Ronnie. "I deliver packages once a week, soon after everything is picked. It all ripened on the plant, not in a truck on its way across the country. Foods imported from other countries don't have the same safety standards as produce from the USA either.

"And people are beginning to care more about where their food comes from, too," adds Ronnie. "There have been so many reports of people getting sick from the foods they eat and companies that didn't take all the safety precautions they should have."

Donna says they've learned a lot this year and are better prepared for the next growing season. "I've learned what people like and what they don't like," she says. "Next year we will have more Silver Queen and Peaches and Cream corn and less Golden Queen corn. And people don't like strings in their beans. Next year we're planting Blue Lake beans. They're a stringless variety."

"Whatever we plant," says Ronnie, "people can be assured that we're not using genetically modified seeds. We're planting and growing vegetables like their parents and grandparents always have." ▲

**R&D Farms is accepting members for the 2013 Spring & Summer season beginning Aug. 1**
**Call 256-725-3456**

**Buy local vegetables at R&D Farms' produce stand**
**257 Low Gap Road • Owens Cross Roads, AL**
**or see them at the Huntsville Farmer's Market**

# Annual Meeting 2012

## Wing updates members on federal changes coming to telco industry

Residents of New Hope, Grant and Owens Cross Roads attended the Annual Meeting of New Hope Telephone Cooperative on May 15. More than 200 members registered to cast their ballots in the election for board members, returning incumbents Barry Jones and Mike Whitaker, both of New Hope, to their positions on the cooperative's governing body.

Tom Wing, NHTC general manager, updated members about NHTC's involvement in an ambitious project with Northeast Alabama Electric Cooperative. NAEC received a $19 million broadband development grant to deliver high-speed Internet to its members. "We will be their technical partner," said Wing of the venture.

"We've also just installed an 80KW generator in our headend," said Wing. NHTC's cable headend was not previously protected by a generator. This addition will protect cable subscribers from service interruptions in certain situations.

Members learned that the final phase of NHTC's fiber construction project in the Grant exchange would begin in late May and would finish at the end of the first quarter of 2013.

They also learned that many changes are on the horizon for the telecommunications industry. The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) has started releasing some information to businesses about what changes are coming. As expected, the Universal Service Fund, which helped rural areas recover some of the expense of connecting to the national telephone network, is being phased out over five years.

The Connect America Fund will take the place of the Universal Service Fund. This fund will focus on high-speed Internet connections rather than landline telephone service. Fortunately, NHTC has been offering broadband for some time. And with fiber-to-the-home connections being installed, your cooperative is on schedule to meet the new requirements which will be set by the Connect America Fund.

To help offset some of the revenue expected to be lost with the loss of the Universal Service Fund, your cooperative is taking measures to find new sources of revenue, Wing told the crowd. NHTC has already added computer repair to its list of services provided. "We are also currently evaluating security systems as an additional source of revenue," says Wing. A group from NHTC recently went to Ellijay, Ga. to evaluate a system in place at a cooperative there.

A seven-minute video that had been prepared to update members on the past year of operations was not played due to technical difficulties. Members can view the video online at nhtc.coop.

The main attraction of the evening was the door prizes. Some 85 prizes were given away, including totes, umbrellas, phones, digital photo frames, cash and high-definition television sets.

After the conclusion of the Annual Meeting, board members returned to the cooperative for a meeting to elect new officers. Your new officers are: Greg Glover, president; David Ayers, vice president; Mike Whitaker, secretary; and Jimmy Segler, treasurer.

Top: 2012 Board of Directors (l to r) Jeffrey Cantrell; Mike Whitaker, secretary; Jeff Cooper; David Ayers, vice president; Barry Jones; Jim Duncan; Greg Glover, president; Garland Elders; Jimmy Segler, treasurer; Tom Wing, general manager; Doug Martinson, NHTC attorney. Center: NHTC serves up refreshments at annual meeting. Right: Board member Barry Jones visits with member.

# Faith, hope & a father's love

## Christian children's author Donnie Medlen tells kids about Christ through stories

Donnie Medlen of New Hope had always dreamed of becoming a published author. He had written in journals on his computer and even scraps of paper at times since he was in high school. He had only shared his stories with a few friends and family members. "I mainly wrote for myself," he says.

Donnie found inspiration for his stories all around him, including work. "I was in my truck doing paperwork one day," says Donnie, "when I saw a father walking his young children home from school. He was carrying a small child in one arm and had the backpacks of the other children on his opposite shoulder. He stopped near an intersection and leaned down to the children. It seemed he was giving them instructions on how to cross the street safely. That's when inspiration for another short story struck."

Some time later during the course of his job as a pest control technician, Donnie shared his love of writing with a customer. "We had become friends and gotten to know each other," explains Donnie. "He knew I wrote some and had written an Easter play for my church, Mt. Zion Baptist. He asked me to tell him about some of the other stories I'd written." Donnie shared a few short stories, including one about a father walking his children home from

This is the first book written by Donnie Medlen of New Hope and published by Tate Publishing. "Spirit Eyes" tells the story of a young girl's desire to see Jesus. She takes her father's advice and tries to apply it — but without the desired results. Izzy finally learns that God will speak, you just have to pay attention.

Izzy, the main character in the book, is based after Medlen's daughter by the same name. He hopes to write a series of childrens' stories featuring Izzy that teach children about the spiritual truths of Jesus Christ and how they can apply what they learn in Bible study to their lives.

school. That story in particular really seemed to touch his friend.

"He asked me if I had ever considered having my stories published," recalls Donnie. "Since I had received a journal for Christmas a few years before, everything I've written I did with the intention of someday putting in a book. But I had never contacted a publisher." Donnie's friend told him that he would research some possibilities; the following month he had a list of publishers for Donnie's consideration.

One company — Tate Publishing — stood out from the others. "They were a Christian company," says Donnie. "I really liked what they stood for and I thought they would understand my writing and be more likely to publish than some other companies."

## Faith

Early one Saturday morning in August 2011, Donnie and his wife Kanita, an employee at NHTC, submitted his story to Tate Publishing for consideration. Only two days later Donnie received a phone call from Stacy Baker with Tate. "She asked me what my intentions for the story were," recalls Donnie. "I told her I thought it might be considered for something like 'Chicken Soup for the Soul.' Stacy asked me if I had ever considered writing a children's story. She said when she read my story it made her think of her father and brought tears to her eyes."

Donnie had never considered a children's story but told Stacy he would give it a try.

Two weeks later, Donnie had still not started the children's story when he found himself on a bus trip to Dallas, Texas, with his father and brother. They were going to Cowboys Stadium on a mini-vacation. During the ride, Donnie was struck with inspiration for the children's story. "It was like the floodgates had opened," he recalls. "The story just came to me and I started writing on the only thing I had — my iPod touch."

His daughter Izzy was his inspiration for the children's story. "She was 4 years old at the time and very inquisitive," Donnie says. "I started thinking about how many questions she asks and how she interacts with other kids, and the story poured out of me."

Donnie submitted the children's version of his story on Sep. 18, 2011, and waited.

## Hope

"I knew I would instantly start having grand thoughts," he says. "But I also knew Kanita would keep me grounded."

"He's a dreamer," jokes his wife. "But I believed in him."

It only took a few days for Donnie to discover what the fate of his children's story would be. "Tate loved the story and decided to publish it," he says. The book, entitled "Spirit Eyes," is scheduled for release this August. It will be available at Amazon.com, Christian-Books.com, Barnes & Noble, through Tate Publishing and independent bookstores.

## A Father's love

The book tells the story of a young girl who wants to see God. She looks for Him everywhere and is finally able to see when she uses her "spirit eyes" on her walk home from school with her father.

"My hope," says Donnie, "is that parents will read this with their children or Sunday school teachers will read it to their class and that it will start a conversation. I've tried to write the ending to encourage that. I want kids to use this as a stepping stone to having faith in God. I didn't start out with intentions of writing a children's story, but if that's what draws people in I'm all for it." ▲

# HAVE YOU BEEN HACKED?

It was a warm, sunny afternoon last spring when an NHTC Internet customer received a phone call from a man who said he was a representative of Microsoft Corporation. The caller informed her that a virus had attacked thousands of computers and that her computer may have been infected. Most likely, he explained, it had been sent to her through an email or a link she had clicked while searching online.

The very knowledgeable representative explained that a patch had been created for the virus and they needed her permission to access her computer remotely to install the patch and remove the virus. She followed the instructions given to her and watched as the representative took control of her computer. It only took a few minutes for the helpful associate to install the patch, remove the virus and have the customer's computer performing like new again.

Only a few days later, this customer began having doubts about whether it was truly a representative from Microsoft that contacted her. She began to question the wisdom of allowing a stranger access to her computer. Could it have been a computer hacker? Could she have unwittingly given them access to all of her private information? Not knowing for sure what to do, she contacted her Internet service provider, New Hope Telephone Cooperative.

"I asked her to bring the computer in so we could run a diagnostic program and identify whether or not her computer had been compromised," says Rusty Bright, NHTC's network manager.

A thorough scan revealed that the computer was free from all known viruses. "However, there was spyware imbedded in the computer that provided a back door," says Bright. "Hackers were keeping other viruses from attacking her computer — but at the same time, they had created a way to gain access to this member's computer any time. They could have stolen credit card numbers, bank account information or any other private information stored or accessed on it."

This example sheds light on a growing trend known as social engineering. It is sometimes called a confidence trick or fraud, but social engineering is manipulating or tricking someone into divulging information or giving access to information that will enable the con to steal from the victim. In most cases the con never comes face-to-face with the victim.

And while most of us think it could never happen to us, that we could never be conned, it happens every day. "The people who perpetrate these sorts of things are professionals," says Bright. "This is how they make money, and they are very good at what they do. People have a tendency to want to be helpful and trusting. Social engineers believe it is easier to exploit human nature rather than exploit weaknesses in computer programs."

One common social engineering plot involves leaving thumb drives with a company's logo in cafeterias or restrooms of that business. The con is counting on an unsuspecting employee to insert the thumb drive — which has been embedded with a malicious code — into his or her USB drive in an effort to determine who the owner is and return it. This surprisingly simple ploy has been used to effectively hack many large corporations.

While the threat is very real, there are several things you can do to protect yourself from social engineers while enjoying your online activity.

## 1) BE SKEPTICAL.

If someone calls you claiming to be from Microsoft, NHTC or any other company that you have not contacted, don't trust them. Most companies will not contact you by phone unsolicited. Hang up the phone, look up the phone number for the company and call them back. If you receive an email that appears to be from a trusted company, such as your bank, don't trust it. Call the company to verify whether or not the email is legitimate. And don't call the number listed on the email either. Look up the number to your local office or branch.

## 2) INSTALL ANTIVIRUS SOFTWARE AND KEEP IT UP TO DATE.

Viruses and worms can attack your computer without your knowledge. Antivirus programs run in the background and protect your computer by searching for and removing or disarming any malicious programs found. New viruses are created every day, so it is imperative that you keep your antivirus program updated for the best protection.

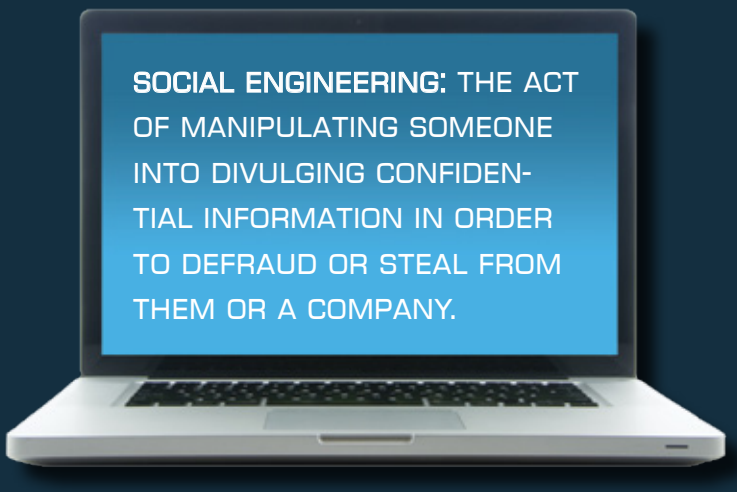
## 3) MAKE SURE YOUR FIREWALL IS ON.

A firewall is software or hardware that checks information coming from the Internet or a network, and either blocks it or allows it to pass through to your computer, depending on your firewall settings. To make sure the firewall has not been disabled on your Microsoft Windows Operating System, follow these steps:

- Open Windows Firewall by clicking the Start button, clicking Control Panel, clicking Security, and then clicking Windows Firewall.
- Click Turn Windows Firewall on or off. If prompted, provide an administrator password or confirmation.
- Click On, and then click OK.

## 4) IF YOU HAVE A WIRELESS ROUTER, PROTECT IT WITH A PASSWORD.

Someone could gain access to an unprotected router by simply driving down the road with a laptop searching for a wireless Internet connection. If someone uses your Internet connection for illegal activity, such as downloading illegal movies and music or sending spam emails, you could be held responsible.




## 5) KEEP YOUR OPERATING SYSTEM UP-TO-DATE.

Computer operating systems are periodically updated to fix security holes. Be sure to install the updates to ensure your computer has the latest protection.

## 6) BEWARE OF EMAIL FROM UNKNOWN SOURCES AND SUSPICIOUS EMAIL ATTACHMENTS.

According to Microsoft, a firewall can't determine the contents of email so it can't protect you from these types of viruses. You should use an antivirus program to scan and delete suspicious attachments from an email before you open it. Even when you have an antivirus program, you should not open an email attachment if you're not positive that it's safe.

For more information on social engineering and tips on protecting yourself, visit www.microsoft.com/security.

# OCR Homemakers named runner-up club of year

The Owens Cross Roads Homemakers Club was recognized as the runner-up Club of the Year by the Madison County Homemakers and Community Leaders at their annual Celebration Day Luncheon in February. They are part of a volunteer state organization of homemakers and community leaders whose mission is to strengthen families and communities through educational programs, leadership development and community service.

The OCR chapter began in 1969 and has received numerous awards over the years. This year's honor was based on the group's contributions to their community including donations of money or supplies to the New Hope Public Library, OCR Fire Department, OCR School, South Hampton Nursing Home and New Hope Children's Clinic.

To learn more about the organization and their planned events, visit www.oxrhomemakers.blogspot.com.▲

L to R: Debbie O'Neal; Patsy Brazelton; Glenda Patterson; Debbie Maples, Donna Lanier, 2012 club president; Glenda Moody; LaNelle Patrick, 2011 club president; and Barbara Cooper.

## INSPIRATION CORNER

Can you sense that summer is here? There is nothing like the smell of backyard barbecues, the crack of the bat against the ball, the sun shimmering off rippled waters and the taste of fresh garden vegetables on a warm summer night. The one thing that gives it all meaning is the celebration of our Nation's Independence. I pray you will take a moment, in fact take several, and Give Thanks for Blessed Freedom that, for Many, came at no personal cost.

The media sarcastically reports disgruntledness against our nation. Hearing this stuff brings Founding Father John Adams' words to mind; "Our Constitution was made only for a religious and moral people. It is wholly inadequate for the government of any other." Reading God's Word makes me realize the Bible too was written for a religious and moral people and is therefore inadequate for the spiritual government of any other. Just as thousands of our, and our allies' sons and daughters died and are dying for worldly freedom, Jesus died for Spiritual freedom. This, sadly, means little to many because, again, it came at no personal cost. If your life and the freedom therein means anything to you at all, please let the sacrifices made for that Freedom be meaningful to you as well. Celebrate your freedom from tyranny with passion, but if a desire for Eternal Freedom rings in your heart, look for that, even more passionately, in a church near you. Once you obtain Eternal Freedom, you will then have Reason to Celebrate. May God Bless You and our nation!

*Michael Carpenter, Pastor of New Hope United Methodist Church & Oak Bowery United Methodist Church*

# Don't text and drive

## *Police begin ticketing on Aug. 1*

Gov. Robert Bentley signed a law into effect on May 8 that makes text messaging while driving illegal on any Alabama road effective Aug. 1. Alabama joins 37 other states that have already banned texting while driving.

The bill prohibits sending text messages, instant messages and emails while behind the wheel, but does not ban dialing the phone. Drivers will face a $25 fine for their first violation and a $50 fine thereafter.

According to statistics from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, texting while driving your vehicle makes you 23 times more likely to have an accident and has been compared to driving while intoxicated. In a Harris Interactive Poll conducted for State Farm Insurance in February, 57 percent of teen drivers in the U.S. admit to having texted while driving.

"It doesn't take a lot of common sense to know that you can't text and drive at the same time," said Gov. Bentley before signing the bill into law outside the Alabama Capitol.

To find out more about this issue, visit www.fcc.gov/guides/texting-while-driving.▲

# Community CALENDAR

## July 15

***Galilee Homecoming***

Everyone is invited to attend Galilee Baptist Church's homecoming with music by The Unity Quartet. Services begin at 10 a.m.

## School Calendar

***Madison County Schools 2012-2013***

Aug. 20 ..... First Day of School
Sep. 3 ..... Labor Day
Nov. 12 ..... Veterans' Day
Nov. 21-23 ..... Thanksgiving Break
Dec. 24 - Jan. 2 ..... Winter Break
Jan. 21 ..... Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
Mar. 25 - 29 ..... Spring Break
May 23 ..... Last Day of School

## School Calendar

***Marshall County Schools 2012-2013***

Aug. 20 ..... First Day of School
Oct. 16 ..... Half Day
Oct. 17 - 19 ..... Fall Break
Nov. 12 ..... Veterans' Day
Nov. 21 ..... Half Day
Nov. 22-23 ..... Thanksgiving Break
Dec. 20 ..... Half Day
Dec. 21 - Jan. 2 ..... Christmas Break
Jan. 21 ..... Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
Mar. 25 - 29 ..... Spring Break
May 24 ..... Last Day of School

## Library Calendar

***New Hope Library***

July 2 ..... Reading Fun (K-5) 2:30 p.m.
July 7 ..... Movie: Mirror, Mirror 4 p.m.
July 9 ..... Reading Fun (K-5) 2:30 p.m.
July 14 ..... Movie: Wrath of the Titans 4 p.m.
July 16 ..... Reading Fun (K-5) 2:30 p.m.
July 16 ..... Wrap Party-Rec Pool 6-8 p.m.
Tuesdays ..... Story Hour 10:30 a.m.
Mondays ..... Knitting 9 a.m.
July 10 ..... Genealogy 6 p.m.
Aug. 11 ..... Movie: The Lorax 4 p.m.
Aug. 14 ..... Genealogy 6 p.m.
Aug. 24 ..... Movie: The Hunger Games 6 p.m.

# Volunteers make New Hope
# A CLEANER PLACE FOR ALL

Organizers of "Litter Removal Day," including the Lions Club and City of New Hope, would like to thank everyone who participated and helped make the event a success. More than 18 miles of roadways were cleared of trash and litter on April 21.

"We appreciate all the volunteers who work tirelessly to keep their community beautiful," says Ava Cambron, event organizer. "We hope everyone will help keep the roadways clear of litter throughout the year. Don't litter. And if you see someone who is, please report them. We know New Hope is great community. We want visitors to see the beauty of our town, too."

Cambron is already organizing volunteers for the next street clean up event. Call 256-723-4695 to volunteer yourself or your group to help.▲

(left to right) Tom Wing, NHTC general manager and Lions Club member, Carlos Barrentine and Sam Butler helped remove roadside trash at the April "Litter Removal Day" event sponsored by the Lions Club and City of New Hope.

## *Thanks* to the following businesses for their contributions

A-1 Sanitation Service
Barbara's Beauty Shop
Betty's Boutique
Cadence Bank
Citizens Bank
Classic Pizza
Cooper's Small Engine
Dennis Martin Realty
Dot's Dairy Den
El Paso
Furlough Wrecker
G & G Pizza
Grandmother's House
Hardee's
Hornbuckle Barbershop
Hubbard Tire
Jif-E-Mart
Jim Kennemer
Julia's Hair Care
LBC, Inc.
Liberty Kim's Food
Main Street Salon
Mason's Beverage
Masters Car Wash/Cleaners
New Hope BBQ
New Hope Discount Drug
New Hope Florist
New Hope Funeral Home
New Hope Furniture Mart
NHTC
Pit Stop Beverage
R & L Auto
Rock Café
Shell Food Mart
Stapler Construction
Stapler Furniture
Stone's Floral
Styles by Beverly
Tara Graphics
Wavaho

# COMMUNITY PHOTOS
# HOT RODS

9-year-old Savana Furlough of Owens Cross Roads sits in the driver's seat of her father Larry Furlough's 1932 Ford Roadster.

Steve Bounds of Owens Cross Roads shows off his 1966 Ford Mustang. Photo by Cathy Bounds.

Ricky Beck is the owner of these two beauties. On the left is a 2010 Dodge Challenger and on the right is a 1994 Chevrolet Silverado.

"Tailgating" is the photo theme for September/October. Send to: NHTC • Attn.: Communicator Photos • P.O. Box 452 • New Hope, AL 35760, or email your photo to communicator@nehp.net. Follow these guidelines for publication: (1) Photos must match theme. (2) Photos must be high resolution. The resolution offered by some printers is not high enough for publication. (3) Do not write on the back of photo. Include names of persons in photo, as well as, photographer, address and phone number on paper taped to back. (4) Include a self-addressed stamped envelope if you would like your photo returned. (5) The deadline for submission is July 30. By submitting your photos: (1) you attest that you are the creator and owner of the photos, (2) you give New Hope Telephone permission to publish your material in *The Communicator*, (3) you agree to offer said photos without the expectation of payment from New Hope Telephone, and (4) you understand that photos are selected for publication in *The Communicator* at the sole discretion of New Hope Telephone, and that submission of your photo does not guarantee your photo will appear in the magazine.

**New Hope Telephone Cooperative**
P.O. Box 452
New Hope, Alabama 35760

PRESORT
Standard
US Postage
PAID
bpimedia
group

# Make the Switch this Summer

## Switch to NHTC Cable!

Mention this ad and we'll waive the connection fee! Hurry, offer ends Aug. 31!

*Call 256-723-4211 for details!*

PLUS MUSIC CHANNELS

## CHANNEL LINEUP

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 3 | Community Channel* | 19 | ABC Family | 39 | FX | 59 | USA | 203 | PPV Adult/Events*IPTV | 420 | The Movie Channel** |
| 4 | Weather Channel | 20 | TLC | 40 | WE | 60 | TBN (Trinity) | 204 | PPV Movies*IPTV | 425 | The Movie Channel Extra** |
| 5 | WZDX-Fox 54 | 21 | Discovery | 41 | E! | 61 | Speed | 205 | PPV All Day Movie Ticket*IPTV | 430 | Showtime Extreme** |
| 6 | WAAY-ABC 31 | 22 | Disney | 42 | History Channel | 62 | Jewelry Television | 206 | PPV All Day Movie Ticket*IPTV | 500 | Encore** |
| 7 | WAFF-NBC 48 | 23 | CNN | 43 | Comedy Central | 63 | RFD TV | 207 | PPV All Day Movie Ticket*IPTV | 501 | Encore Drama** |
| 8 | My 8-WAMY | 24 | TBS | 44 | TV Land | 64 | SoapNet | 208 | Movies/Hot Choice | 502 | Encore Action** |
| 9 | WHNT-CBS 19 | 25 | FOX Sports | 45 | Tru TV | 65 | QVC | 209 | PPV All Day Movie Ticket | 503 | Encore Westerns** |
| 10 | WHIQ-PBS/APT | 26 | ESPN Classic | 46 | SyFy | 66 | Sportsman Channel | 300 | HBO** | 504 | Encore Love** |
| 11 | WHDF-CW | 27 | ESPN | 47 | Lifetime | 67 | Blue Highways | 310 | HBO Comedy** | 505 | Encore Mystery** |
| 12 | WGN | 28 | ESPN 2 | 48 | Oxygen | 68 | GBN | 320 | HBO Signature** | 506 | Encore Family** |
| 13 | TV Guide | 29 | ESPN U | 49 | Spike TV | 69 | GAC | 330 | HBO 2** | 530 | Starz Edge** |
| 14 | AMC | 30 | CSS Sports | 50 | MTV | 70 | CMT | 340 | HBO Zone** | 540 | Starz** |
| 15 | TNT | 31 | Sports South | 51 | FOX News | 71 | Fox Business | 350 | HBO Family** | 901 | The Hub*** |
| 16 | Nickelodeon | 32 | Turner Classic Movies | 52 | VH1 | 72 | Hallmark Movie | 360 | CineMAX** | 902 | Science Channel*** |
| 17 | Headline News | 33 | Hallmark | 53 | BRAVO | 73 | OWN*** | 370 | MoreMAX** | 903 | Destination America*** |
| 18 | A&E | 34 | HGTV | 54 | Outdoor Channel | 74 | ION | 380 | ActionMAX** | 904 | ID*** |
| | | 35 | Food Network | 55 | C-Span | 75 | Disney Junior | 390 | ThrillerMAX** | 905 | OWN*** |
| | | 36 | Travel Channel | 56 | HSN | 200 | Barker on Demand*IPTV | 400 | Showtime** | 906 | Military Channel*** |
| | | 37 | Cartoon Network | 57 | C-Span 2 | 201 | PPV Adult/Events | 405 | Showtime Showcase** | 909 | Bloomberg Business*** |
| | | 38 | Animal Planet | 58 | G4 | 202 | PPV Adult/Events | 410 | Showtime 2** | 910 | Halogen*** |

## CABLE HI-DEF LINE UP CHANNELS

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 79.1 | ESPN HD | 80.5 | APT Create D | 82.11 | WHNT-CBS 19 HD |
| 79.2 | ESPN2 HD | 81.11 | WAAY-ABC 31 HD | 82.12 | Antenna TV D |
| 80.13 | WHDF-CW HD | 81.3 | WZDX-FOX 54 HD | 82.3 | WAFF-NBC 48 HD |
| 80.3 | WHIQ-PBS/APT HD | 81.4 | My 8-WAMY D | 82.4 | WAFF Bounce D |
| 80.4 | APT IQ D | 81.5 | ME TV | 83.1 | ESPNU HD |

## IPTV HI-DEF LINE UP CHANNELS

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 105 | WZDX HD | 128 | ESPN2 HD |
| 106 | WAAY HD | 129 | ESPNU HD |
| 107 | WAFF HD | 805 | Create |
| 109 | WHNT HD | 806 | WHIQ DT2 |
| 110 | WHIQ HD | 815 | ME TV |
| 111 | WHDF HD | 822 | Antenna TV |
| 127 | ESPN HD | 824 | WAFF Bounce |

Not all channels are available in all cable packages. * Channel 3 not available on IPTV. *IPTV - These channels are only available on IPTV.** This channel is part of a Premium Package. Contact NHTC at 256-723-4211 for information and pricing for premium packages. ***These channels are available either on a digital cable box or a fiber IPTV box. Customers using either box can view OWN on channel 905. Channel 73 is not programmed on the boxes.