

A Publication of New Hope Telephone Cooperative

The

# Communicator

Vol. 6, No. 3

March 2007

**NHTC  
welcomes  
Tom Wing  
as new  
General  
Manager**



## DEPARTMENT PROFILES

# Customer Service Reps help members take care of business

From payments to new service, there are many reasons to visit or call your New Hope Telephone Cooperative. But whatever your service need may be, you'll likely be helped by a Customer Service Representative.

Rhonda Russell, Christy Nelson and Missy Watson bring several years of customer service experience to NHTC. Their duties include answering the

phone, completing orders for members, adding or changing features, and taking drive-thru and walk-in payments.

"We also enter the payments into the system," says Watson.

"And handle incorrect payments," adds Nelson. Payments that come to the cooperative unsigned, for the wrong amount, or even to the wrong company are handled by the CSRs. "Sometimes a customer puts their water bill in the telephone envelope," she says. "When we get a chance we'll take it over to the water company for them."

To add to their list of activities, Russell recently began helping configure DSL modems. "This job is interesting," she says. "There is something different every day."

"Our CSRs are very dedicated," says Customer Service Specialist Paula Hendrix. "As a cooperative, we are here to meet our members' needs, and their job is to stay focused on that."



CSRs Christy Nelson (seated), Missy Watson (standing, left) and Rhonda Russell are ready to serve NHTC members.

## Make plans to attend NHTC's Annual Meeting

Tuesday, May 15  
New Hope Middle School Lunchroom & Auditorium

Mark your calendar and plan to attend the Annual Meeting of the New Hope Telephone Cooperative. Registration will begin at 5 p.m. in the lunchroom, with entertainment in the auditorium. Board positions #6, #7 and #9 will be voted on and door prizes will be given away. Bring valid ID for voting registration.



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

### Board of Directors

Jeff Cooper, President  
*New Hope Exchange*

Greg Glover, Vice President  
*Owens Cross Roads Exchange*

Jim Duncan, Secretary  
*New Hope Exchange*

Jimmy Segler, Treasurer  
*Grant Exchange*

David Ayers  
*Grant Exchange*

Jeff DeArmond  
*Owens Cross Roads Exchange*

Barry Jones  
*New Hope Exchange*

Barry Mefford  
*New Hope Exchange*

Dennis Pence  
*Grant Exchange*

### The Communicator

Vol. 6, No. 4 April 2007

is a monthly magazine published by New Hope Telephone Cooperative, © 2007. It is distributed without charge to all Cooperative members/owners.

**New Hope Telephone Cooperative**  
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New Hope, Alabama 35760  
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Produced for NHTC by:

**WordSouth Public Relations, Inc.**  
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*On the cover:*

NHTC's Board of Directors has hired Tom Wing as the new General Manager. You can read more about Mr. Wing in the article on Page 7.



**JEFF COOPER, NHTC'S BOARD PRESIDENT, ACCEPTS AWARD FOR *THE COMMUNICATOR***—The National Telecommunications Cooperative Association (NTCA) held their annual meeting and expo in Orlando, Florida, in February. As part of the meeting, NTCA honored New Hope Telephone Cooperative with one of only five awards presented that night. NHTC walked away with the Best Subscriber Communications Program Award for 2006 for their member magazine, *The Communicator*. "For our small cooperative to receive this national award is very exciting," said Cooper. "This is an amazing honor."

## Think About It

"What sunshine is to flowers, smiles are to humanity. These are but trifles, to be sure; but, scattered along life's pathway, the good they do is inconceivable."

-- Joseph Addison

## Can you find it?

Thanks to everyone that participated in last quarter's *Can You Find It?* contest.

Congratulations Melissa Preston of New Hope. Melissa found the hidden calling feature in the story on page 7 in February's magazine. She received a \$5 credit on her phone bill.

Look for another chance to play and win this quarter.

*friendly*  
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employees shown:  
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# Excerpts from Bylaws on Voting Procedure to Elect Board Members

## Article IV Board Members

Section 1. General Powers. The business and affairs of the Cooperative shall be managed by a board of directors, consisting of nine (9) members. The membership of the Board of Directors shall be based as follows:

New Hope, four (4) members on the Board of Directors; Owens Cross Roads, two (2) members on the Board of Directors; and Grant, three (3) members on the Board of Directors.

Section 2. Election and Tenure of Office. The persons presently serving as directors of the cooperative shall compose the Board until the first annual meeting or until their successors shall be elected by a secret ballot at each annual meeting of the members, beginning with the year 1984 by and from the members at large to serve until the next annual meeting of the members or until their successors shall have been elected and shall have qualified. If an election of directors shall not be held on the day designated herein for the annual meeting, or at any adjournment thereof, a special meeting of the members shall be held for the purpose of electing directors within a reasonable time thereafter. Directors may be elected by a plurality vote of the members. All elected directors shall serve a term of four (4) years provided they do not resign or are not removed from office by the members. All directors terms will be staggered so that two (2) are elected each year, except in 1987 three (3) members of the Board of Directors shall be elected and every four (4) years thereafter; i.e., 1991, 1995, etc., three (3) members of the Board of Directors shall be elected.

Section 3. Qualifications. No per-

son shall be eligible to become or remain a board member of the cooperative who:

a) Is not a member of the Cooperative; and

b) Is not a bona fide resident of the respective exchange from which said Board member was elected.

c) Is in any way employed by or financially interested in a competing enterprise or a business engaged in selling or reselling telephone service or supplies, or constructing or maintaining telephone facilities, other than a business operating on a cooperative non-profit basis for the purpose of furthering rural telephony.

Upon establishment of the fact that a board member is holding the office in violation of any of the foregoing provisions, the board shall remove such board member from office.

Nothing contained in this section shall affect in any manner whatsoever the validity of any action taken at any meeting of the board.

Section 4. Nominations. It shall be the duty of the board to appoint, not less than thirty (30) days nor more than seventy five (75) days before the date of a meeting of the members at which board members are to be elected, a three member (3) committee on nominations consisting of one (1) member from each exchange, so as to insure equitable representation. No member of the board may serve on such committee. The committee keeping in mind the principle of equitable representation, shall prepare and post at the principle office of the Cooperative at least twenty (20) days before the meeting a list of nominations for board members which shall include at least two candidates for each board

position to be filled by the election. The Secretary shall be responsible for mailing with the notice of the meeting or separately, but at least ten (10) days before the date of the meeting, a statement of the number of board members to be elected and the names and addresses of the candidates nominated by the committee on nominations. Any fifty (50) or more members acting together may make other nominations by petition and the Secretary shall post such nominations at the same place where the list of nominations made by the committee is posted. Nominations made by petition, if any, received at least five (5) days before the meeting shall be included on the official ballot. Later nominations by petition shall be treated as nominations from the floor. The chairman shall call for additional nominations from the floor and nominations shall not be closed until at least one minute has passed during which no additional nominations has been made. No member may nominate more than one candidate, for the same position.

Any nominee by petition or from the floor must meet the qualifications stated in the Bylaws, Article IV, Section 3.

Section 5. Failure of Action by the Nominating Committee. In the event the nominating committee fails to make a report after 3 requests by the Secretary and having been notified and appointed in accordance with the Bylaws Article IV Section 4, it shall be the duty of the Board of Directors to make said nominations or nominations based upon the guidelines set out in the Bylaws, Article IV, Sections 1 through 4.

# NHTC's Customer Appreciation Day



NHTC held their annual Customer Appreciation Day in February. Cooperative members came out in force for the event. While at the event everyone registered for the drawings for cash prizes. Congratulations to the following door prize winners:

- Billy Moore, Grant .....\$100
- Leslie Yarbrough, New Hope...\$50
- Carol Atchley, Grant .....\$25
- ML Wilhelm, New Hope.....\$25
- Melissa Cooper, New Hope.....\$25
- M Spivey, New Hope .....\$25
- Margaret Meeks, New Hope....\$25

New Hope Telephone Cooperative would like to thank everyone for attending.



## Returned checks policy

If a check or bank draft is returned to New Hope Telephone Cooperative's office as Non-Sufficient Funds, NHTC will charge your account \$20. This charge must be paid in addition to your phone bill within 10 days to maintain service. If NHTC receives two NSF notices within a six month period we will only accept payments made with cash or money orders for a time period of six months.

## Payment schedule

Please remember that payments must be in the NHTC office no later than the 20th of each month to avoid late fees or final notices. When payment is made at the bank, remember it could take a few days to reach our office. Payments must be received by the last day of the month to avoid an interruption in service.

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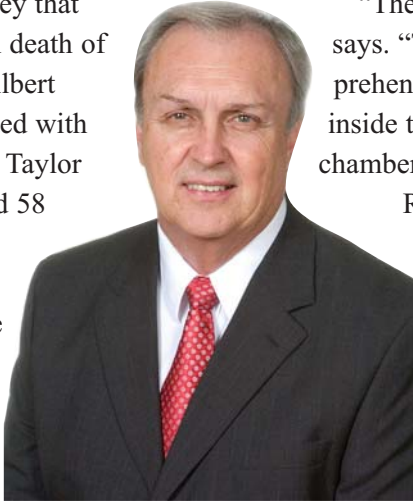
**Tues-Sat  
11 - 9**

**Fri: 11 - 10**

# Butch Taylor elected to House District 22

On Tuesday, March 6, the Alabama House of Representatives opened its 2007 regular session with an empty seat. That evening, New Hope's Butch Taylor watched the vote totals roll in to see if he had worked hard enough to fill that seat.

He had. The journey that began with the sudden death of long-time lawmaker Albert Hall in November ended with an election victory for Taylor on March 6. He earned 58 percent of the vote in the special general election to become the newest member of Alabama's House of Representatives, serving District 22.



The eastern portion of Madison County and the western portion of Jackson County fall within District 22.

The morning following the election, Taylor attended an orientation meeting in Montgomery. He was sworn in that Thursday and sat in on his first session.

"There's a lot of activity," he says. "The hardest thing to comprehend is how busy everyone is, inside the chamber and outside the chamber in the offices and hall."

Rep. Seth Hammett, the Alabama Speaker of the House, assigned Taylor to the Government Operations Committee and the County & Municipal Government Committee. "I had my

first committee meeting the first day," says Taylor.

The freshman representative says he is excited about serving the people of District 22. "I made them a promise that I would work for them," Taylor says, "and I will do as much as I can for Madison and Jackson counties."

After retiring as a teacher and coach, Taylor was elected to the New Hope City Council. He then served two years on the Madison County Board of Education.

Taylor expresses his gratitude toward voters for selecting him from a field of eight candidates to fill the vacant House seat. "I appreciate everyone's support," he says. "It's an honor to serve Madison and Jackson in the Alabama House of Representatives." ■

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# NHTC Board names Tom Wing company's new General Manager

There is a new captain at the helm of NHTC, and he is ready to sail the company through the changing waters that lie ahead.

"There are great opportunities here," says Tom Wing, who assumes his duties as general manager this month. "This company has huge potential."

Wing was chosen by the Board of Directors from a broad field of appli-



Tom Wing has been named NHTC's new General Manager

cants. His telecommunications experience and extensive cooperative background made him the

right choice for NHTC's new general manager. Wing was born and raised on the cooperative experience. Growing up on a farm in Iowa, he was among several high school boys who helped the local telephone cooperative remove the aerial lines when the company switched to underground service.

That was 1968. Through the years since, Wing has found himself working for a number of cooperative and mutual telephone companies.

For five years, Wing served as plant supervisor at East Buchanan Telephone Cooperative in Iowa. At age 24, he received an opportunity that would pro-

vide a valuable learning experience.

"In 1976, I was hired as general manager of Grand Mound Telephone Cooperative in Iowa," Wing says. This small cooperative served less than 600 access lines. Wing was almost a one-man operation, responsible for everything from filling out paperwork to burying cable.

"In the 12 years I was there, we completely rebuilt the entire system from the ground up," Wing recalls. "We also installed a digital switch."

The experience at Grand Mound exposed Wing to all facets of a telephone cooperative. "When I left, they had a half-million dollars in the bank and no debt," he says.

This experience proved valuable as Wing accepted the position of general manager at Bluffton Telephone Cooperative in 1989. The South Carolina company served the area just inland of Hilton Head Island.

In the past 20 years, the region surrounding Hilton Head Island has experienced rapid growth. New developments, many of them retirement communities, have blossomed to support the number of people moving to the area known for its golf and resort atmosphere.

As the population has increased, so has the need for infrastructure. "Bluffton Telephone had 2,600 access lines when I went there in 1989, but had over 20,000 when I left last year," Wing says. "One year we grew 25 percent in number of access lines, and the following year grew 28 percent."

His last eight years in Bluffton, Wing worked with Hargray

Communications, a holding company that had purchased the local telephone company. During his tenure there, Wing represented the company on numerous national, state and local boards and committees. "I believe community involvement is an important function of business," he says.

Wing's experiences have left him well-equipped to face the opportunities at New Hope Telephone. This area is experiencing rapid growth, with even more residential expansion planned for the future. He dealt successfully with such challenges at Bluffton.

As NHTC continues its fiber project, Wing will also find himself in familiar territory. In both Iowa and South Carolina he was involved in fiber deployment projects.

NHTC is moving forward with its plans to offer services outside its traditional service area. Likewise, Wing has been involved with the formation and operation of a competitive local exchange carrier (CLEC).

Finally, Wing's experience with a cable television system operating out of a telephone company will serve him well at NHTC.

An avid outdoorsman, Wing enjoys turkey and deer hunting. "I hunt with a bow most of the time," he says.

He also enjoys the water. "You've got it all here, the mountains and the water," he says. "This is a beautiful area."

Wing's wife of 27 years, Susie, works as a computer systems analyst. She plans to join him in New Hope soon. ■

# “Myths, Legends, and Crazy Rumors...”

I was watching 20/20 the other day. John Stossel had an interesting segment on myths that just aren't true at all. Here they are – it's very eye opening.

The first myth is polluted air and chemicals are killing us, but cancer is actually on the decline. We're running out of places for our garbage, but due to recycling we really are not. The most shocking was the myth that the rich don't pay their fair share of taxes. According to the IRS the top 1% of Americans pay 1/3 of all income taxes. I'm not going to cover the boring ones, such as the myth that money buys happiness. I think deep down we all already knew that wasn't true – but it sure doesn't hurt any.

Now I want to cover some myths concerning Chiropractic. The first myth is that if you see a Chiropractor you will likely be paralyzed. My malpractice premiums are \$858 per year and recently were only about \$600. How many MDs can say that? “Popping” your knuckles or neck will cause arthritis. Actually, keeping motion in joints helps to reduce the risk, and this was proven by a study at UCLA. The last myth is MD's do not want their patients to be adjusted. A lot of MD's have started referring patients to Chiropractors, and there is a branch of the medical field called Osteopathy. These are MDs who are trained in spinal manipulation similar to Chiropractic.

Now for Emma, who is the little girl in the photo. About a year ago, she was plagued by asthma. Each day as I changed her diaper, I would give her an adjustment. The asthma started to improve immediately, and now she is virtually symptom free.

The other child, my son Nicholas, has recently been having some headaches. He'll come up to me and say, “Daddy, adjust my neck.” And even before he gets up he'll say, “man that feels a lot better, it's all gone.”

It's strange how life is, because now people come to see him with their carpal tunnel syndrome problems. Also they come to him with their headaches, migraines, chronic pain, neck pain, shoulder/arm pain, whiplash from car accidents, backaches, ear infections,

asthma, allergies, numbness in limbs, athletic injuries, just to name a few. Here's what some of my patients had to say:

*“Dr. Mike has been helping me with my low back pain, and headaches for over nine years.” (Larry Luttrell)*

*“Dr. Mike helps with my aching back.” (David Ayers)*

*“I did have a lot of leg pain due to a pinched nerve. Not any more thanks to Dr. Mike.” (Leonard McPeters)*



**Dr. Mike, Emma, and Nicholas Ellis**

Being a chiropractor can be tough, because there's a host of so-called experts out there. They tell people a lot of things that are just plain ridiculous about my profession. But the studies speak for themselves, like the Virginia study that showed that over 90% of patients who saw a chiropractor were satisfied with their results. That's just incredible!

Forty-eight million Americans no longer have health insurance, and those who do have found that their benefits are reduced. That's where chiropractic comes in. Many people find that they actually save money on their health care expenses by seeing a chiropractor. Another way to save... studies show that chiropractic may double your immune capacity, naturally and without drugs. The immune system fights colds, the flu, and other sicknesses. So you may not be running off to the doctor as much. This is especially important if you are self-employed. And an entire week of care in my office may cost what you could pay for one visit elsewhere.

You benefit from an Amazing Offer -

Look, it shouldn't cost you an arm and a leg to correct your health. You are going to write a check to someone for your health care expenses, you may as well write one for a lesser amount for chiropractic. When you bring in this article by April 30, 2007, you will receive my entire new patient exam for \$27. That's with x-rays...the whole ball of wax. And, further care is very affordable. You see, I'm not trying to seduce you to come see me with this low start up fee, then to only make it up with high fees after that. Further care is very important to consider when making your choice of doctor. High costs can add up very quickly. By law, we must state that **ADDITIONAL CHARGES MAY BE INCURRED FOR RELATED SERVICES WHICH MAY BE REQUIRED IN INDIVIDUAL CASES.**

**Great care at a great fee...** Please, I hope that there's no misunderstanding about quality of care just because I have a lower exam fee. You'll get great care at a great fee. My qualifications... I'm a 1991 graduate of Life University. I'm certified by the National Boards as well as the states of Alabama and Tennessee. I've practiced in Marshall County for 12 years after a one-year associateship in Huntsville. I just have that low exam fee to help more people who need care.

My assistant is Sandy and she is a really great person. Our office is both friendly and warm and we try our best to make you feel at home. We have a wonderful service, at an exceptional fee. Our office is called **ELLIS CHIROPRACTIC CENTER** and it is at 4664 Main Street in Grant. Our number is **256-728-2044**. Call Sandy or me today for an appointment. We can help you. Thank you.

- Michael Ellis, D.C.

P.S. When accompanied by the first, I am also offering the second family member this same examination for only \$10.

P.P.S. Can you imagine not having to wait at a doctor's office? Well, your time is as valuable as mine. That's why we have a no-wait policy. You will be seen within minutes of your appointment.

# Community rallies to help boy with Leukemia

“Ben has that dry sense of humor,” says Tanya Clement, a sixth-grade teacher at New Hope Elementary School. “The kind of humor that only the teacher gets and the other kids miss.” But humor is not the only thing this sixth grade class is going to miss.

Benjamin Schaaf was diagnosed with cancer on March 1st. Now the 13-year-old will spend his school days at St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital in Memphis for the next eight months, instead of Mrs. Clement’s class.

“I know he’ll miss science and social studies,” says Clement. “So we are putting together a care package for him every week.” A recent package includes lots of games, trading cards, and a book about ocean life. “And class work,” she says. “We want him to move on to the seventh grade.”

His symptoms started earlier this year. Uncontrollable coughing and indications of bronchitis or acute asthma plagued Ben with many trips to the school nurse, Kari Dewitz. “He kept coming in with this cough that just never went away,” she says. Ben’s appearance changed. His color was not right. He was sent to the HEALS clinic for tests and blood work.

The HEALS clinic, which began in 2005, provides health care, education, immunizations, injury prevention, diagnosis and referrals for area residents and students. The clinic serves over 2,400 students from New Hope Elementary, New Hope High School, Madison County Elementary, Madison County High School and Owens Cross Roads Elementary.

Dr. Elizabeth Nord, a volunteer at

the clinic, wrote the order to draw blood. “Dr. Nord is a gift from God to New Hope, Alabama,” says Dewitz. “Dr. Nord is a pediatrician from Huntsville Hospital. She volunteers at the HEALS clinic once a week. And she’s pregnant. She shouldn’t even be here. But she is instrumental to the HEALS clinic.”



Ben Schaaf is a sixth-grader at New Hope Elementary School.

The blood work came back. The doctors and nurses discovered immediately why Ben was not getting better. He was diagnosed with acute myeloid leukemia on Thursday, March 1st. He received his first chemo treatment the very next day.

Billy and Katie Mae Schaaf, Ben’s parents are doing all they can. Katie Mae left all behind to be with her son. She is staying at the Ronald McDonald House near the hospital in Memphis. Billy Schaaf and Ben’s younger sister remain in New Hope for work and school.

Extreme medical situations cause

intense hardships. And the community is responding. New Hope Elementary PTO has elected to give all of the proceeds raised through their weekly doughnut sale to the Schaaf family. Donation jars are being placed throughout the area. Local churches are offering prayers, support and even hands-on help. These

churches are preparing Ben’s home for his return; special remodeling is taking place to accommodate his weakened immune system.

The PTO has created an easy way for the community to donate by setting up a debit card for the Schaaf family. Make checks payable to NHES PTO, Attention: Ben Schaaf.

For added convenience, New Hope Telephone Cooperative is serving as a collection point. Donors can drop off donations (checks only, no cash please) at the customer service counter or the drive-thru window. These checks should be made payable to the PTO.

“We know this is going to be a long battle for the family,” says Clement. “We hope the community will help us.” ■

## Want to know how you can help?

- 1 Checks can be mailed to:  
**NHES PTO**  
Attn: Ben Schaaf  
5300 Main Drive  
New Hope, AL 35760
- 2 Checks can be delivered to:  
**NHTC**  
5415 Main Drive  
New Hope, AL 35760  
(make checks payable to NHES PTO)

# Gourd education day

"There is more to gourds than Martin birdhouses," says Jean Mann member of the Huntsville Gourd Patch. That's why the Alabama Gourd Society is inviting the public to the Gourd Education Day on Saturday, April 28.

This free event will be held on the Madison County / Jaycee's Fair Grounds off of Johnson Rd and Airport Rd in Huntsville in the Jaycee Community Building from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

"This will be an interesting show for anyone interested in gourds," says Mann. "Growers will be on hand selling gourds, artists will be displaying their work, and vendors will be selling specialized supplies for crafting gourds."

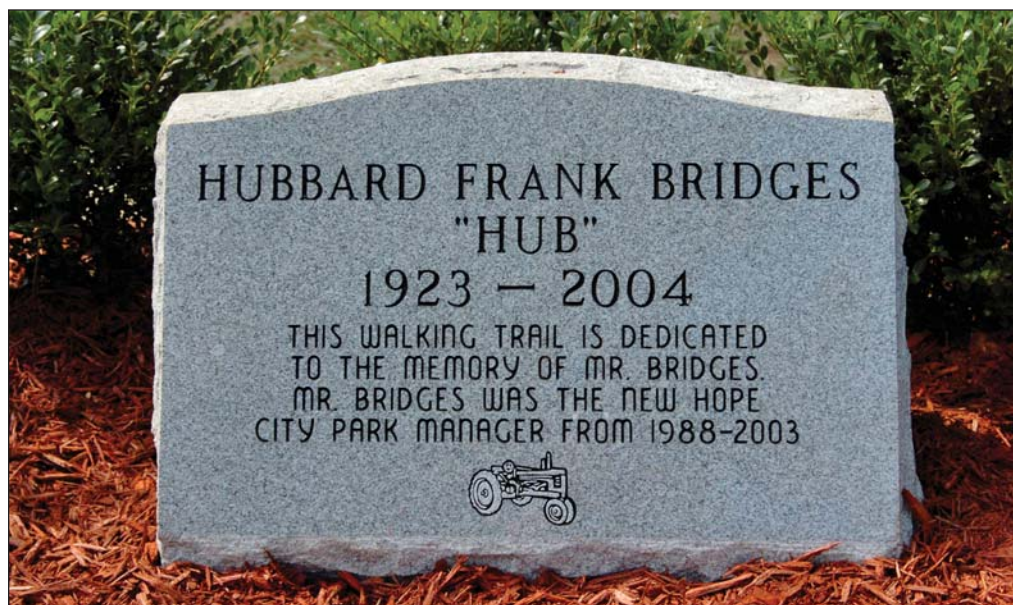
Gourd crafting can be a great family activity. There will be children's projects for them to make and decorate.

Children's projects include; masks, dippers, baskets, rattles, and the most popular...birdhouses.

The event will include educational displays and demonstrations for all levels of gourd crafters. Demonstrations will be conducted throughout the day, and will include cleaning, carving, cutting, painting, wood burning and other techniques.

"There is a growing interest for gourds in Alabama," says Mann. The Huntsville Gourd Patch is a member of the Alabama Gourd Society. They meet once a month at the Huntsville Botanical Gardens and twice a month in Owens Cross Roads.

Potential sponsors and vendors call Jean Mann (home 256-725-4411, cell 256-527-2371) for more information. ■



**NEW HOPE CITY PARK DEDICATES WALKING TRAIL** - Hubbard "Hub" Bridges, a devoted fan of Atlanta Braves Baseball and the University of Alabama Football, demonstrated his love of sports by serving as the New Hope City Park Manager for 15 years (1988 - 2003). During his tenure as manager the park experienced several new additions and upgrades. A beautiful trail was built during "Hub's" watch and is enjoyed year round by the walkers of New Hope. In addition to the walking path, Kid's Kingdom became a dream come true for the children of our area. New picnic pavilions were added and serve many civic, church and family groups. His huge smile and gentle personality will always be missed. However, his presence will forever be felt by future generations playing the game or playing with the family at beautiful New Hope City Park.

## PASTOR'S NOTES



BY LARRY BISHOP, PASTOR  
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH  
NEW HOPE

## Airways

As I sit writing in my study all is quiet except for the sounds of a barking dog and an occasional car passing by. My study is a converted bedroom inside my home and I have spent many hours sitting at my desk in the quietness of the room. Sometimes I think it is the best time of the day.

Yet in the quietness there is no quietness. The airways are filled with a variety of programs broadcasted from many different sources. There are movies, music, news that range from factual, fictional, truths and non-truths. There are religious and political broadcasts as well as someone with an opinion. All are available for me to listen to.

As part of the furnishings in my study I have a radio, computer and television. With a click of a button, I can tune in on a variety of broadcasting signals. I can be informed, insulted, educated, entertained or edified. The choice is mine.

Also within my study are books that encourage and challenge. But the book that brings the room alive is the Bible. When I open the Bible the silence of the room is filled with thoughts of God. The Bible says, "For the word of God is living and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart." Heb 4:12 (NIV)

Have you taken the time to read this living book?

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR APRIL 2007

### April 2nd

Family First Homemakers and Community Leaders Meeting  
We will be meeting the first Monday evening of each month. New members are being accepted at this time. Contact Loretta Johnson, 725-2330 for more information.

### April 7th

North Alabama Street Toys Cruise-In  
Hardee's Restaurant, 6 to 9 pm  
Custom cars, street rods, trucks and classic cars are welcome. 50/50 drawing, door prizes, awards. No entry fee - just lots of fun! Call 723-4631 for more information.

### April 8th

Easter Sunday  
Many churches through the area will have special church services on Easter Sunday. Please make plans now to attend the church of your choice with your family.

### April 12th

District Day Lunch  
161 Walnut Street, New Hope, 11 am to 1 pm  
In celebration of National County Government Week, District 3 Commissioner, Jerry Craig, invites everyone to attend a free lunch.

### April 22-25th

Revival at First Baptist Church of New Hope  
"ROC" R. O. Collins, revivalist will be the guest speaker. Sunday 11 am and 6 pm, Monday through Wednesday at 7 pm  
Everyone is invited to attend.

Tell us about your event. Please send us the event, date and time, information and a contact person with phone number. Remember that due to publishing deadlines we need the information at least 6 weeks before the date of the event. You can e-mail event information to [communicator@nehf.net](mailto:communicator@nehf.net) or call Tammy Pritchett at 723-3748.



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# New Hope School now offering day care services for Pre-K

If you haven't already registered your child for Pre-K it's not too late.

Sometimes parents will wait to register their child while gathering the needed documentation. "But parents can start the process now, even if they don't have all the necessary records. They can bring back any missing records at a later date if necessary," explains Mrs.

Burleson. This really helps school administrators determine classroom sizes and can eliminate overcrowded classrooms.

Working parents will be especially pleased to know that New Hope School will offer day care next year as well. Because the Pre-K class is only for half a day parents had to make other arrange-

ments for children for the remainder of the day. Now that parents know quality child care is available at a reasonable cost, the school is hopeful that more children will be registered.

Any interested parents can contact new Hope School for more information, including the cost for the service. ■



## Inspiration Corner

Mark Lowery, who sings with the Gaither gospel group, says his "favorite scripture verse is, '...and it came to pass'". He relates, "If you are having troubles at work, problems at home, problems with money, or can't make the kids behave, don't worry, it will come to pass. You jocks who have muscles bulging out of muscles using them to impress the girls, don't worry, those muscles will come to pass." He is being funny of course but his story is relevant to a song written by Carman which says, "It may seem like Friday night, but Sunday's on the way".

Can you see where this is going? We are celebrating EASTER this month and now is a great time to give your heart and your struggles to God. If it seems like Friday night (Jesus in the grave) for you in things like work, kids, neighbors, finances, or bad decisions, with God they will come to pass. Easter is the celebration of God's ultimate love for YOU. Now, this does not mean you don't have to experience consequences for bad decisions. This does mean that if you are struggling, don't worry it will come to pass for Sunday is on the way. Don't loose your life struggling to gain the world, but "seek first the kingdom of God and all these things will be given to you". There is much to experience in the love of Christ. I pray you will look for it in church, especially during Holy Week services.



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

***New Hope UMC Angel Food Ministry Deadlines for May:  
Orders must be placed by Sat. 4/28  
Pick up orders on Sat. 5/12, 8:30 to 10:00 a.m.***

## Community effort will keep the streets of New Hope clean

Have you driven through New Hope lately? If you have, you've no doubt seen how clean the sides of the roads are.

The New Hope Lions Club coordinated efforts with the city council, area businesses and other civic and church groups to clean up the trash littering the sides of the roads all over New Hope. On March 31st groups gathered to begin work on the "Pre Easter Clean Street Walk".

The city council provided equipment such as vests, bags, gloves, cones, flags and a truck with flashing lights. Almost every business in town made a donation of some kind to help with the efforts as well.

"Now that the town is looking good, we need to keep it that way," explained Ava Cambron of the New Hope Lions Club. Plans are underway now for a second cleaning. The tentative date has been set for June 30, which will have the town clean in time for Independence Day celebrations.

Many families throughout the community have also expressed a desire to help in some way. That desire started the Adopt-a-Block Program. Several families have already contacted Cambron about this. "They are adopting the streets on the block they live on and cleaning them on a regular basis," says Cambron.

Anyone interested in the Adopt-a-Block program can contact Ava Cambron at 723-4695. You can also contact Ava Cambron or Charley McPeters at the same phone number to find out how to get your church group, civic group, family, boy or girl scout troop or just yourself involved in the next "Street Walk".

# High-tech doll shows students the realities of teen parenting

New Hope High School Family Dynamics class is giving students a taste of what it is like to be a young single parent. The lesson is a take home assignment. It weighs 6 pounds 5 ounces, is 21 inches long and comes with a diaper and a tiny little t-shirt. It comes complete with the ability to cry at random, just like an infant. These life-sized, realistic, computerized dolls are programmed to show teens the needs of a real baby.

Students become the proud parent of a little boy or girl from one of three nationalities for three days and two

nights, and care for the doll as they would an infant child.

"You have to have it with you at all times," says Ashley Hendrix, a senior at NHHS. "I had to take it to every class, the mall, to church... I had to buckle it in a car seat. I even had to baby-sit for one of my friends."

The baby doll, Baby Think It Over, records the students' care. Every time the baby cries students have to place a plastic key into the doll's monitor to make it stop. "It could take anywhere from five minutes to 30 minutes," says Hendrix. "How ever long it would take to feed, diaper, or quite a baby."

Safe handling, response time to crying, and neglect are watched closely, then downloaded by the instructor at the end of the lesson. If the doll is abused, neglected or even if the batteries are taken out, it will report an abuse code.

Students are given the option of caring for the doll or writing an essay. Instructors have the option to set the doll on three levels of crying. The

highest level is "colicky".

The lesson was learned.

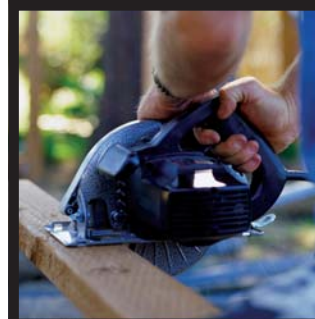
"At first I was excited," Ashley says, "but after the first night I was ready to give it up. And the second night, it cried every two hours." She adds, "I thought I wanted to have a lot of kids one day, but not any more."

"This is a very good program," says Ashley's mom, Paula Hendrix of New Hope Telephone Cooperative. "This day and time, babies are having babies."

Through this program many teens learn they are not ready for the pressures and responsibilities of parenting. ■



Ashley Hendrix is shown holding Baby Think It Over®, an infant simulator. The doll is being used by New Hope High School's Family Dynamics class to give teenagers a realistic idea of what is involved in caring for an infant. Students take care of the doll— just like they would a real baby — over a period of time and the quality of care is monitored by computer. Students are graded on how well the doll was treated while in their care.



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## From the kitchen of **Samuel Hartline**

Samuel Hartline is one busy 18 year old. He is a senior at DAR in Grant, he hunts, fishes, coaches youth soccer, and works part time at Nikko Japanese Restaurant in Huntsville.

Hartline has been in Mrs. Cagle's Home Economics class for four years. "He has so many good qualities," explains Cagle. "He is very helpful with new students to the class. He has a lot of patience. He has helped with over 20 DAR functions over the last four years. He's done everything from table settings

to menu planning to food preparation."

Both the Culinary Art Institutes and the Johnson Wells Institute have already accepted Hartline. "I'll probably attend the Culinary Art Institute," Hartline says. "I don't like baking as much. I don't like that you have to be exact every time. I prefer to try different combinations and see what works."

Hartline lives in Grant with his mother and step-father Rhonda and Dennis Garner. His father James Hartline lives in Scottsboro.

### **Strawberry Paradise**

1 New York Style Cheesecake  
(store bought or homemade)  
30 fresh BIG strawberries  
12 oz. semi-sweet chocolate  
White chocolate for drizzle

Rinse strawberries. Dry on a paper towel. Core each with a melon-baller making sure to leave enough of a wall inside each berry to keep it from breaking when stuffed. Stuff each with cheesecake keeping the top of the berry leveled off. Prepare a baking sheet with wax paper. In a double boiler melt the semi-sweet chocolate. Dip the cheesecake end of each strawberry in the chocolate, then place on baking sheet and refrigerate just until chocolate sets. Melt white chocolate the same way and drizzle over the strawberries. Allow to set in refrigerator and enjoy.

### **Bacon Wrapped Cheddar Dogs**

8 hot dogs  
3/4 cup grated Cheddar  
8 strips smoked bacon

Preheat a griddle to medium heat. Make a slit in each hot dog almost completely through the middle lengthwise, leaving the ends still attached but forming a long lengthwise pocket. Place 1-1/2 tablespoons of the cheese in each of the hot dogs. Wrap each hot dog with 1 slice of the bacon, overlapping the bacon in a spiral fashion. Place the hot dogs on the griddle, cheese side up, and cook for 3 minutes. Turn the hot dogs on one of its sides and cook for another 3 minutes. Turn the hot dog on the second side and cook another 3 minutes. Finally, turn the hot dogs cheese side down and cook for a final 3 minutes. Serve on a bun with normal hot dog condiments.

### **Grilled Injected Chicken**

10 chicken pieces (legs, thighs, and bone-in breasts)  
3/4 cup olive oil  
1 Tbsp. Rotisserie Chicken Seasoning  
1/2 tsp. garlic powder  
1 tsp. lemon juice  
Salt and pepper your chicken.

Sprinkle with Rotisserie chicken seasoning. Stir together olive oil, seasonings and lemon juice. Use a marinade injector to inject the chicken with mixture. Pour remaining olive oil over chicken. Allow to sit in refrigerator for at least 1 hour. Preheat grill to medium-high heat. Sear chicken, then turn heat down to medium-low. Grill chicken until cooked through.

### **Paprika Chicken**

1 lb. chicken tenders  
salt, pepper, paprika  
1 cup flour  
1/3 cup cornstarch  
2 Tbsp. yellow cornmeal  
1 jumbo egg  
1-1/2 Tbsp. milk

Rub chicken with salt, pepper, and liberally with paprika. Place in a bowl, cover and place in refrigerator. Preheat oil in fry daddy to 350°. Mix flour, cornstarch and cornmeal on plate. In another bowl, mix egg and milk. When oil is heated, dredge chicken in egg, then flour mixture. Fry until golden brown. Serve with honey mustard.

# Easter Greetings



*Photo submitted by Lou Ann Poole.  
April 1963*



*Annie Ogle & Jacob Stapler. Photo  
taken by Nana, Janice Franks.*



*Cassie Nunley at MawMaw  
Patsy Burrow's on Easter Sunday 2005.*



*Butch & Carol Atchley's  
grandchild, Tori Angell.  
Easter in Yigo, Guam.*



*Sabryna Baker on Easter  
at MawMaw Patsy  
Burrow's house.*



*Emma Nunley at  
MawMaw Patsy Burrow's  
Easter 2005.*



*Haley Shaneyfelt  
April 2006*



*Ashley & Haley Stephens and Nikolas  
& Kaytlin Pennington. Photo by  
Shannon Pennington.*



*Breanna & Jacob Maples. Children of  
Darren & Stephanie Maples.*



*Sarah Baker hiding Easter eggs with pet  
lambs. Photo by Aunt Sharon Ashley.*

**The June photo theme is *Gone Fishin'*.** Please send your favorite photos, matching the theme, to: NHTC • Attn: Tammy Pritchett • P.O. Box 452 • New Hope, Alabama 35760. You may prefer to e-mail your photo to [communicator@nehf.net](mailto:communicator@nehf.net). Remember these guidelines for publication: (1) Photos must match theme. (2) **Photos should 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) **Deadline for June is April 20th.**

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.

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