

A Publication of New Hope Telephone Cooperative

The  
**Communicator**

Vol. 5, No. 4

April 2006



*Drive-thru  
Safari*

Customer Appreciation  
Cook of the Month  
Community Photos  
Advertisers • More!



## Meet the NHTC Team - Part 2

### Rusty Bright, Network Administrator

In this modern world, it seems everything we do involves technology. And that technology is always changing.

This is the challenge of my department. As Network Administrator, I am responsible for NHTC's internal network, our Internet service, the company billing system, and the computer workstations throughout our operation.

One of the major projects we're working on this year involves implementation of a new billing system. This sounds simple enough, but it actually affects every area of NHTC's operation. The new system will impact everything from work orders and service orders to the final bill you receive each month.

In addition to streamlining our workflow, it will also bring great convenience to our members. Once the new system is in place, you will be able to view your NHTC bill on a secure Web site, and will eventually have the ability to even pay your bill online.

Many homes and businesses depend on the Internet every day. It is the Network Administrator's responsibility to keep our system functioning. This includes everything from setting up new dial-up and DSL accounts to maintaining

our connection to the worldwide network.

Jim Warren, a 28-year veteran of NHTC, joined this department about a year ago as an Internet Technician. Jim assists with connecting and troubleshooting DSL and dial-up service, and also helps keep internal computers and peripherals functioning.

NHTC is making important equipment upgrades this year that will not only improve existing Internet service but will prepare us for growth in the future. In technical terms, we are upgrading to a fractional DS3. Basically this means that our connection to the world will be increased, with the ability to perform future upgrades quickly.

I have enjoyed the challenge since coming to work here five years ago, and I look forward to continuing to work closely with all other departments to deliver the service you deserve.



*Rusty Bright is  
Network  
Administrator for  
New Hope Telephone  
Cooperative*

## Mark Your Calendar for Annual Meeting

**Tuesday, May 16**

New Hope Middle School Lunchroom & Auditorium

Plan now to attend the Annual Meeting of New Hope Telephone Cooperative. Registration will begin at 5 p.m. in the lunchroom, with entertainment in the auditorium. You'll vote for Board positions #1 and #8, and have a chance to win great prizes! (Remember, registration requires a valid I.D.)



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*

Jimmy Segler, Secretary  
*Grant Exchange*

David Ayers, Treasurer  
*Grant Exchange*

Jeff DeArmond  
*Owens Cross Roads Exchange*

Jim Duncan  
*New Hope Exchange*

Barry Jones  
*New Hope Exchange*

Barry Mefford  
*New Hope Exchange*

Dennis Pence  
*Grant Exchange*

#### **The Communicator**

Vol. 5, No. 4

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#### *On the cover:*

Tattoo the zebra greets guests at the Harmony Park Safari on Clouds Cove Road. This friendly fellow loves a pat on the head and a bite of corn.

# Annual Meeting News

## 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.

# Save money by understanding NHTC policies

## *Avoid paying unnecessary fees by knowing these payment policies*

### **Returned Checks Policy**

If a check or bank draft is returned to our office as Non-Sufficient Funds (NSF), NHTC will charge your account \$20. This 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 accept payment only in the form of cash or money order for a time period of six months.

### **Bill Payment Policy**

Payments must be in our business office by the 20th of each month to avoid a late fee and a final notice.

Payments must be in our business office by the last day of the month to avoid interruption of service.

Please remember that when you drop your payment in the mail or pay in person at one of the local banks, the transaction may take several days to reach our business office.

## **Definition of Charges**

**Do you ever wonder about the various fees found on your NHTC bill? This chart provides definitions of the charges you see each month.**

<b>Local Access</b> NHTC Terminology = Basic Local Service	The connection from a subscriber to the Central Office (CO). The portion of a circuit connecting the Local Exchange Carrier's CO with the customer's premises equipment across the local network. Also called local loop. This amount is established under regulations of the Alabama Public Service Commission.
<b>Federal Subscriber Line Charge</b> NHTC Terminology = End User Charge	This federally mandated charge is billed by your local telephone company and pays part of the cost to the local telephone company of supplying access to the worldwide telecommunications network. It is designed to help local phone companies recover the cost of providing outside telephone wires, underground conduit, telephone poles, and other equipment and facilities connecting you to the telephone network. This is NOT a tax. This is a federally established charge that is part of the price you pay for phone service.
<b>Universal Service Fund Fee</b> NHTC Terminology = Federal Universal Service Charge	This charge started on January 1, 1998 as part of the FCC overhaul of telephone fees. All companies that provide telephone service between states pay a set percentage of their previous year's billings. The charge is designed to ensure affordable access to telecommunications services for telephone customers with low incomes, telephone customers who live in areas where the cost of providing telephone service is extremely high, libraries, schools, and rural health care providers. Although all companies providing interstate telephone service are charged the same percentage of their billings, the long distance providers are allowed to recharge you for this at their discretion, and each long distance provider uses a different method to charge this carrier specific fee.
<b>Enhanced 911</b> NHTC Terminology = By County Madison, Marshall and Jackson	Also known as E911 is a location technology advanced by the Federal Communication Commission that enables telephones to process 911 emergency calls and enables emergency services to locate the geographic position of the caller. When a person makes a 911 call using a traditional phone with ground wires, the call is routed to the nearest public safety answering point (PSAP) that then distributes the emergency call to the proper services. The PSAP receives the caller's telephone number and the exact location of the phone from which the call was made.



The  
Tree Stump  
Philosopher

I recently shared the story of Lot from the bible with my young grandson. When I came to the passage where the Lord warned Lot to take his wife and flee the city I explained that Lot's wife looked back and was turned to a pillar of salt. My grandson wanted to know what happened to the flea!



## Customer Appreciation Day winners

Florence Dennis of Grant was the lucky winner of our grand prize — a 19-inch TV with DVD/VCR combo — at the NHTC Customer Appreciation Day, held February 14. She was one of many that stopped by our office and entered the prize drawing.

Congratulations as well to the winners of the four \$50 savings bonds. They were Joyce Spears of New Hope, Shane Hubbard of New Hope, Robin's Fitness Center in New Hope and Cynthia Edmondson of New Hope. Kristy Finley of Owens Cross Roads won a stuffed Valentine bear.

Our thanks to everyone who attended our Customer Appreciation Day!



Above: One of many NHTC subscribers to register for door prizes. Below: NHTC's Teresa Hunkapiller spent time visiting with members that came out for the event including Florence Dennis the grand Prize winner.



### Think About It

Master chefs have become celebrity superstars. I think it's time we give master farmers the same status.

-- Michael Ableman

Don't forget to  
"Spring Forward"  
Daylight Saving  
Time begins  
April 2<sup>nd</sup>

Set clocks ahead 1 hour.



## Welcome New NHTC Business Customers

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# It's a zoo out there!

## Harmony Park Safari offers a drive-through adventure the whole family can enjoy

The arrival of spring signals an excitement throughout nature. As the plant and animal world awakens with new life, Harmony Park Safari offers visitors a front row seat to the unfolding drama.

Located on Clouds Cove Road, Harmony Park Safari is the dream of Keith and Shannon Allen. After spending years working with animals in various capacities, the couple began researching the development of a zoo.

"The original plan was to build a walk-through zoo," explains Keith. But when they came across a drive-through establishment in their travels, they knew they had found the perfect concept.

"We shopped for land for two years," says Keith. The couple searched for the right combination of terrain, topography, shade, pasture and — most importantly — water.

Keith remembers the day he stomped through the high weeds and underbrush of what is now Harmony Park Safari, following a loud gurgling sound. "When we found this artesian well, we knew we had found our property," he says. They pump some two million gallons of water per month from the well to care for the zoo's animals.

Now in its seventh year of operation, Harmony Park Safari is listed among the top attractions in the state by the Alabama Bureau of Tourism and Travel. It is the 19th operation in the country to receive a federal license for a cage-free zoo. "Being cage-free allows us to keep bigger animals," Keith says. Park residents co-exist in harmony (hence the name) and are often found in herds.

Some two miles of roads takes visitors through this wild kingdom. As you drive through the park, you are greeted by curious and sometimes hungry animals ready for a kind word and a snack. The price of admission includes cups of corn to feed the animals.

For the safety of guests and the animals, visitors must remain in their vehicles with doors locked.

Harmony Park Safari is an entertaining and educational adventure that people of ages will enjoy. And because it is a drive-through park, the experience is handicap-accessible.

Want a closeup look at deer, big horn ram, exotic cattle, zebra, bison, emu, turkey and even alligator? Plan a trip to Harmony Park Safari today.

*Details:* Harmony Park Safari is located at 431 Clouds Cove Road near New Hope. The park is open from 10 a.m. to sunset, March through November. Admission is \$6/person; children age two and under are admitted free. Group discounts available. Phone 877-726-4625.





# TOPS offers weight loss support



**TAKING OFF POUNDS SENSIBLY**—Members of the local chapter of TOPS include, left to right: (seated) Lois Herrin, Tera Wilcox, (standing) Ralph Carter, Sarah Ferguson and Scott Adams. The group meets Tuesday evenings at 6:30 at the New Hope Elementary Library.

Losing weight is about more than changing your diet. It's also about changing your lifestyle. Several area residents have discovered that support and encouragement from like-minded neighbors makes an incredible difference in the process.

At 6:30 p.m. each Tuesday, a group meets in the New Hope Elementary Library. This local chapter of TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) begins with a weigh-in and follows with fellowship, encouragement and learning about overall health.

"TOPS doesn't advocate a specific diet," explains Lois Herrin, leader of the local group. "It doesn't sell anything. It's just an effective organization for weight loss and fitness."

Ralph Carter has lost 62 pounds since joining the group. In 2004, Scott Adams lost 47½ pounds, more than anyone in his category throughout the state.

TOPS is a non-profit international organization, founded more than 70 years ago. Local members encourage people to attend a meeting to learn more. If mornings are more convenient for you, a group also meets Tuesdays at 9:00 a.m. at the New Hope City Hall.

## Peoples State Bank of Commerce

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Rella Bevell  
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Gloria Shipman  
Jeanette Hall  
April Pendergrass  
Sharon Edmonds  
Becky Winkler  
LaVonne Castle  
(Not pictured, Judy Barnes)

## New Hope Furniture

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## Corrections to the directory

The 2006 NHTC telephone directories have been mailed to all businesses and residents.

Two telephone numbers below were inadvertently omitted from the directory.

**First Baptist Church of Grant**  
**728-2246**

*We welcome your calls!*

**Hebron Fire Department**  
Emergency Number  
**723-2355**

On Page 6 the information on DSL is printed incorrectly. It should read as follows:

**Dial-Up Internet Basic Service - \$9.95**

*(includes 10 hours, overtime \$0.95 per hour)*

**Dial-Up Internet Blue Service - \$21.95**

*(includes unlimited usage)*

**High Speed DSL Internet Service - \$49.95**

We apologize for any inconvenience these errors or may have caused.

## NHTC helps Boy Scouts

Area Boy Scouts recently presented a plaque to New Hope Telephone Cooperative to show their appreciation for the company's assistance. Last year, NHTC's Rusty Bright took old computer parts that the company



was no longer using and assembled working computers for the Boy Scouts. He set up a small network at Camp Comer in DeKalb County, where many local scouts attend camp. The purpose of the project was to help scouts earn computer-related badges. The plaque features a certificate and copies of the badges scouts can earn by using the equipment.

### Lawn & garden season is here.

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**100 Peter Lane • New Hope • Phone: 723-3600**

**Open Wednesday - Saturday • 11 a.m. – 7 p.m.**

## DSL BANDWIDTH SPEED

NHTC's DSL subscribers have a *maximum* connection speed of 512 kbps uploading and 1.5 mbps downloading. These are not guaranteed connection speeds. Most DSL customers are averaging speeds of 500 kbps up/ 1.3 mbps down.



# Members benefit from the cooperative form of business

Cooperatives are unique businesses that have a rich history of service. The first cooperative in America was established by Ben Franklin in 1752 to bring affordable goods and services to those who did not have access to them.

That's exactly what local citizens, especially the New Hope Lions Club, had in mind when they worked to form the New Hope Telephone Cooperative in the 1950s.

The basic principles of the Cooperative form of business are:

1) Anyone who can use the services of a cooperative and is willing to accept the responsibilities of membership is eligible to join.

2) Power is shared equally among all members, via electing a board of directors and, when necessary, voting on specific issues.

3) The purpose of a cooperative is to provide a service to its member, not to make a profit.

4) Margins above and beyond the costs required to cover the operating expenses are often returned to members.

## NHTC's Mission Statement

New Hope Telephone Cooperative is a progressive communications company committed to providing its members maximum value by providing excellent customer service, state-of-the-art telecommunications services, voice, data and entertainment in a global environment.

## NHTC's Vision Statement

New Hope Telephone Cooperative, a community-based telecommunications provider since 1953, will become the premier single-source provider of advanced telecom services (voice, data and video) in Madison, Jackson and Marshall counties for the good of its members and the communities it serves, growing in size and scope over the next 5 years at the same rate of growth as experienced in the local area, or better.



## Inspiration Corner

While preaching at Chestnut Grove UMC I bought a couple of redwood posts and constructed a cross. After placing the cross in the sanctuary people talked of its beauty and I was so proud. Then one evening while my wife, Teresa, and pianist, June Brawley, were standing under the cross talking I suddenly had taken all I could about the "beautiful" cross. It was as though "the things of this world became strangely dim". I took the cross to the back porch, gathered railroad spikes, red paint, and a drill. Well, the rest is evident to anyone who comes in the sanctuary. Few people talk about the beauty of the cross and I no longer feel guilty for making the cross a thing of beauty in the first place.

I have a lot of fun contributing to *The Communicator* and I praise God for this opportunity to share with you. However, when it comes to Easter there is nothing fun or beautiful about the blood stained cross. Yes, there is a celebration of Easter, but without the ugliness of the cross Easter becomes little more than another over commercialized sugar-coated holiday. The REAL blessing of Easter is eternal life which, sadly, comes by the suffering of Jesus. So as the world takes time to observe Easter, I pray we all take time and remember the cross. A church is waiting to remember with you and show you how to receive the greatest of blessings. I pray you will attend one.



Michael Carpenter,  
Pastor  
New Hope United  
Methodist Church &  
Oak Bowery United  
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The Masonic Lodge in New Hope is a grand structure that continues to serve the community through active Masonry (pictured at the Lodge are Masons Mark Poole and Tim Wright). The two-story structure was built in 1947 on land the Masons purchased for \$1 from Roy N. and Dora Hereford. The building was erected in 1947, but the local Masonic Lodge was actually chartered in 1862. According to local history, Union troops ravaged New Hope (then called Vienna) in December of 1864. They burned the entire town, except for two buildings. It seems brotherhood went beyond the issues of the War Between the States, as Masons with the North prevented their comrades from burning the local Lodge. The other building they spared was the post office, which also housed the tavern.

## Ben Harris part of five generations

Longtime resident of New Hope, Ben Harris is part of five generations on two sides of his family. In the photo on the left Ben Harris is shown with his daughter Ann Moore, grandson Steve White, great-granddaughter Christina Hood and great-great-grandson Caden Hood. In the photo on the right Ben Harris is shown with daughter Ann Moore, grandson Steve White, great-grandson Christopher White and twin great-great-grandsons Alex and Chris White.



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## It's time to get cleaning

Spring is in the air and that means it's time for spring cleaning. Here are some tips to help you get started and make it more fun:

- Listen to your favorite music
- Open the windows
- Wear comfortable clothes
- Make a list and stick to it
- Clean one room at a time
- Give unused items to charity

Reward yourself by kicking back in your favorite chair with an ice cold beverage when your finished.

The Grant Chamber of Commerce encourages everyone to

# SHOP LOCAL

*"Promoting Unity and Preserving Traditions"*



## Teacher Talk

By Carolyn Creighton  
NHES Assistant Principal

### The Value of Letters, Part 2

Last month this column dealt with the importance of letter writing as a friendly way to get children to write because it can be nonthreatening, offer opportunities for imagination growth, and connect friends and families across the miles.

This month, let's look at specialized letter writing to promote curiosity, knowledge of other people and places, and a chance to grow as a student writer.

Remember pen pals? We used to find addresses in the back of comic books, or the Gazette, or other children's publications. We would sit down and write letters to unknown folks, and wait breathlessly for a response.

"Operation Dear Abby" is an online

website for addresses to encourage American servicemen. The directions are simple and any branch of the military can be selected with an eye for pen pals.

Another child-friendly website where students can meet e-mail penpals is this one: [child.net/kidsmail.htm](http://child.net/kidsmail.htm). I looked this one over carefully, but urge parents to do the same if your child chooses this.

Schools have participated in the Great American Mail Race for several years now and the logic behind this pen pal writing is simple: Choose a city as a class, write a letter, and wait for a response from a class. The envelope reads "Any Third Grade Class, Whatever City, Whatever State, USA. Individual students could do the same as in individual easily.

E-mail me and tell me how your writing is progressing!

[carolyn\\_creighton@hotmail.com](mailto:carolyn_creighton@hotmail.com).

## "Caring for those who cared for us"



South Hampton Nursing & Rehabilitation Center is a state licensed skilled facility offering short and long term nursing care and rehabilitation services. Our focus is to promote healing and recovery for a return to independent or assisted living whenever possible, and to provide long term nursing care and supervision when independence is not a viable option. Please call or come by South Hampton to meet the staff and tour our facility.

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(see details below)

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# How did a lady from New Hope change her life?

Dear Friend,

About a year ago something happened to me that changed my life.

*I'm Katie McWhorter. I'm a housewife from New Hope. I had lived in severe pain for about two years until I did something that changed my life. I'll tell you what I did, but first let me start at the beginning.*

I was suffering from neck and lower back pain as well as pain shooting down my right leg. An MRI had revealed a bulging disc in my neck and my lower back. I had considered seeing a new doctor that had moved to Grant who specialized in these types of problems, but I was skeptical since I had already seen several other doctors and nothing seemed to help.

Over the next couple of months my pain seemed to become worse. In fact, I was starting to become very concerned about it. So I decided to give this new doctor in Grant a try. He did an exam, took some x-rays, and then adjusted my spine. After just one adjustment I felt a big difference. *Oh, did I mention that this doctor is a chiropractor?*

*After a few more adjustments I was starting to feel like my old self again.* In fact, when I came in for only my fifth adjustment I said to Dr. Mike, "I told my mother-in-law last night, I just can't believe I'm going to a chiropractor and he is helping me like you have."

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 28th, 2006, you will receive my entire new patient exam for \$17. 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 4432 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.





## PASTOR'S NOTES

BY LARRY BISHOP, PASTOR  
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, NEW HOPE

Red Lake Mine is Canada's largest gold mine and one of the world's richest and lowest cost gold producing operations. The Northern Ontario mine produces in excess of 550,000 ounces of gold annually under \$100/oz.

(Red Lake Mine web-site "world's richest-gold-operation".)

Mark Twain said: "A gold mine is nothing more than a hole in the ground owned by a liar."

Sounds like Mark Twain might have been sold a bill of goods once or twice in his day. Mark Twain and I have something in common. Perhaps he and I could use a little encouragement in our pursuit of a treasure. Maybe we gave up before we reached the real core where the treasures are really located. Or maybe we're digging

in the wrong place.

I don't know much about digging for gold but I do know that it takes a great deal of hard work, determination, commitment and you must be digging in the right place. In the Bible King Solomon of Israel found the "authentic treasure" and describes it in Proverbs.

Proverbs 3:13-14

13 Happy is the man that findeth wisdom, and the man that getteth understanding. 14 For the merchandise of it is better than the merchandise of silver, and the gain thereof than fine gold.

The wisdom tucked away in God's Word----now there's treasure. And it's right under our noses. It always delivers what it promises, always increases in value, and it never runs out.

See you in church next Sunday!

## Is *The Communicator* an effective advertising tool? Ask Larry Meeks New Hope Bar-B-Que



Larry and his wife Shirley hadn't been in business long when a fire shut them down for several weeks. They used advertising in *The Communicator* to let the public know when they would reopen. "I felt like when we started back, that really benefited us," says Larry. To celebrate, they ran an ad with a coupon. "We've had over 100 of these brought in, and they're still coming!" Larry says with a smile. "It's brought in people that had never tried us before... folks that didn't even know about us." Larry says he and Shirley are well-pleased. "We highly recommend *The Communicator*," he says. "It's helped our business."

Contact Maria Goodson today to put *The Communicator*, NHTC's member magazine, to work for your business! Call 723-3748, or email [mgoodson@nehp.net](mailto:mgoodson@nehp.net).

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A quaint setting in the Heart of New Hope community





## From the kitchen of Jennie Cagle

April's Cook of the Month is Jennie Cagle of New Hope. Her niece, Donna Cooper Finley, submitted her aunt in a letter.

According to Finley, Cagle has been cooking for over 50 years. Her family counts on her to make her famous desserts at every family event. Among their favorites are Cagle's chocolate pies, coconut pies and coconut cakes.

Her desserts are so good that family

members ask for a cake or pie instead of a gift at Christmas and on birthdays. Cagle is always willing to oblige.

"She is a special lady in our family," says Finley. Cagle and her husband Melvin helped raise their nieces and nephews.

Finley says that her aunt always goes way above and beyond her duties to help her family. "That is why she is a special aunt to me," Finley says.

### Chocolate Pie

2 pie crusts  
1-3/4 cups sugar  
5 Tbsp. cocoa  
8 Tbsp. flour  
2 cups milk  
5 egg yolks, beaten (reserve whites)  
3/4 stick butter  
1 or 2 tsp. vanilla

Mix the sugar, cocoa and flour together. Add beaten egg yolks and milk. Cook in saucepan over medium heat until mixture thickens. Add butter and vanilla. Pour into baked pie crusts and top with meringue. Bake at 400° until meringue is browned.

#### Meringue

5 egg whites  
9 Tbsp. sugar  
1/4 tsp. cream of tartar

Beat egg whites until foamy; add cream of tartar and beat until stiff. Add sugar beating until dissolved and meringue forms stiff peaks.

### Coconut Pie

1-1/2 cups sugar  
8 Tbsp. flour  
6 egg yolks, beaten (reserve whites)  
2 cups milk  
3/4 stick butter

2 tsp. vanilla  
1 or 1-1/2 cups coconut  
2 pie crusts

Combine and cook first four ingredients in a double boiler until thick. Add butter, vanilla and coconut. Mix until desired thickness. Pour into baked pie shells and top with meringue. Sprinkle with coconut and bake at 400° until meringue is lightly browned.

#### Meringue

6 egg whites  
9 Tbsp. sugar  
1/4 tsp. cream of tartar

Beat egg whites until foamy. Add cream of tartar and beat until stiff. Add sugar beating meringue until dissolved and stiff peaks form. Use to top pies.

### Coconut Cake

1 box yellow cake mix  
1 cup Cool Whip®  
1-1/2 cups sugar  
2-8oz. packages coconut  
8 oz. sour cream

Bake cake according to box directions. Make a 3 layer cake. Dissolve the sugar into sour cream and Cool Whip. Add 1 package of coconut. Spread mixture on each layer and sides. Use the second

package of coconut to sprinkle on sides and top of cake.

### Sand Tarts

1 cup butter  
5 Tbsp. powdered sugar  
2 cups self-rising flour  
2 tsp. vanilla  
1-1/2 cups chopped nuts  
Cream butter and sugar. Work in flour, vanilla and nuts. Form into small balls. Cook on ungreased cookie sheet at 350° for 30 minutes. Roll in powdered sugar while hot.

## Cook of the Month

Do you know a great local cook? Maybe it's you! We're looking for a few good cooks to be considered for our Cook of the Month feature.

Please send us four to six recipes, along with the name and contact information for the cook. Feel free to tie recipes to a specific holiday, event or theme. We will feature a Cook of the Month in each issue, so start sending in those recipes! Mail to Maria Goodson at NHTC today!

Note: Submission does not guarantee publication. Please send copies, not originals. Submit only "tried and true" recipes that have been kitchen-tested.

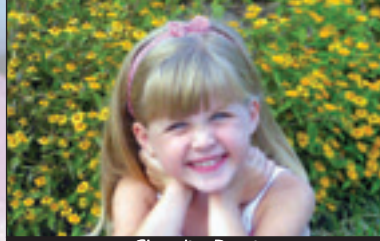


# Spring is in the Air



**Savannah Ogle**

Picture taken by mother,  
Tammy Ogle.



**Claudia Davis**

Picture taken by MawMaw,  
Sherrie Davis.



**Ma-Haley Belle Mann**

at Biltmore Estate Easter Egg Hunt.  
Submitted by father, Joe Mann, Jr.



**Hailey Morgan Chaffin**

Picture sent by  
Kristi Chaffin.



**Emily Ramey**

Daughter of Rob & Teri  
Gaffin and Dee Ramey.



**Jackson Stapler**

Picture sent by mom,  
Mandy Stapler.



**Jacob Maples**

Photo submitted by  
Mrs. Burleson.



**Jacob Stapler & Annie Ogle**

Picture sent by Nana, Janice Franks.



**Lily Whitaker**

at her grandmother's house.  
Photo sent in by mother.



**Alexa Craft**

Daughter of Jay & Dixie Craft.  
Photo submitted by Nana Kathy.



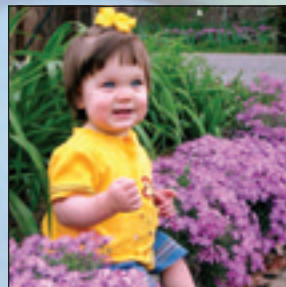
**Alex & Taylor**

Picture sent by  
Nannie Wilbourn.



**Cassie & Emma Nunley**

Picture taken by MawMaw,  
Patsy Burrow.



**Lilly Paige Brown**

Pictured in Kenneth &  
Marie Cooper's garden.



**Khloe & Katie Randles**

Picture sent by Nana.  
Shirley Martin.

The June photo theme is **"Summer Fun"**. To participate in our Community Photos section, please send your favorite photos, matching the theme, to: NHTC • Attn: Maria Goodson • P.O. Box 452 • New Hope, Alabama 35760. You may prefer to e-mail your photo to [mgoodson@nehp.net](mailto:mgoodson@nehp.net). If your entry is selected, you'll see your photo in print. **The deadline for the June entry is April 21st.** Be sure to include the photographer's name, address and phone number, as well as the name of any people featured in your photos. Do not write on the back of your photos, but rather write your information on a small piece of paper and tape it to the back.

If you would like your photos returned, please include a self-addressed stamped envelope. 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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**We've just added a new channel to our TV Expanded package – JEWELRY TELEVISION ON CHANNEL 62**

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