

A Publication of New Hope Telephone Cooperative

The
Communicator

Vol. 5, No. 12

December 2006

Inside:

Grave marking ceremonies
honor Confederate soldiers

Sign up for cable and
receive holiday cash

Recipes, Advertisers, Photos
...and more!

2006 was a year of progress for NHTC

Today's telecommunications industry is moving at an incredible pace. That may be part of the reason why 2006 has flown by so quickly. Can you believe Christmas is almost on us?

This is the time of year to reflect on the highlights of the previous months. As we flip through our 2006 calendar, do we see milestones indicating significant accomplishments? Do we have anything substantial to show for our efforts over the past year?

At New Hope Telephone Cooperative, we can proudly look back and say 2006 has been an incredibly productive year for your company.

Internet service has greatly improved this year through a number of bandwidth upgrades. These improvements have allowed us to meet the ever-increasing demand for Internet access while providing connections that are fast, efficient and reliable.

Earlier in the year we also completed a major connection upgrade with Bell. We are better able to meet your telecommunications needs today — and better prepared to meet the future needs of this growing region — as a result of the upgrade. This project has also given us the capacity to respond to the needs of our members in more timely manner.

Every facet of our operation will be impacted by the new software we are implementing. The project began earlier this year in the billing department, and will ultimately involve all office and outside plant operations. The result will be a leaner, more efficient operation, which will benefit all NHTC members.

As a direct response to member requests, we created three tiers of cable

service to provide members with greater choice. We also added two new channels to our cable lineup.

Much of the activity this year involved our Fiber-To-The-Home project. Extensive strategic planning led your cooperative's management and board of directors to move forward in building a new high-speed optical fiber system. We applied for and were approved the RUS funding necessary to begin construction. Recently we made the final vendor selections, opening the door to initiating construction.

As we close out the year, we are moving forward with the purchase and installation of an IPTV head end. In simple terms, this equipment will allow our members to enjoy the full benefit of fiber connections and digital television programming.

Throughout all this activity, NHTC has been hard at work sifting through the deregulation of the telecommunications industry. You can read more about this issue on Page 10. You will also find information about how it impacts you inserted into your December bill.

I want to personally thank our employees and board members for their hard work throughout this year. And I would especially like to thank our members for your continued support of NHTC. May you all have a very merry Christmas and a blessed New Year.▲



*Teresa Hunkapiller is
General Manager of
New Hope Telephone
Cooperative*



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. 5, No. 12

December 2006

is a monthly magazine published by New Hope Telephone Cooperative, © 2006. It is distributed without charge to all Cooperative members/owners.

New Hope Telephone Cooperative
P.O. Box 452
New Hope, Alabama 35760
www.nehp.net

For Customer Service: Call 723-4211

For Editorial or Advertising:
Call 256-723-3748
or email communicator@nehp.net

Produced for NHTC by:

WordSouth Public Relations, Inc.
www.WordSouth.com

On the cover:
Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year
from New Hope Telephone Cooperative.

NHTC is protecting your privacy

New Hope Telephone Cooperative is the sole owner of all information collected while conducting business with individuals or businesses. We will not sell, share nor rent this information to others in ways other than those outlined in this statement.

The ways we may collect information:

NHTC may collect non-public personal information about you from the following sources:

- Application for service
- Verify employment with employer
- Credit bureaus
- Consumer reporting agencies

The ways we use customer information:

Personal information provided by subscribers will be used by NHTC to pro-

vide a more personalized experience for the customer, but information which identifies a specific individual will not be disclosed to others without the user's permission unless necessary to provide services which the subscriber has requested.

We take every precaution to protect our customers' information. All of our customers' information is restricted in our offices. Only employees who need the information to perform a specific job are granted access to non-public personal information.

The circumstances under which we will disclose customer information:

We may disclose all the nonpublic personal information we collect, as described above, to companies that perform marketing or public information services for us. Except for the customers

signing non-publish/private telephone agreements, we may disclose your name, address and phone number to companies that produce, publish, print, mail, or in any way maintain customer correspondence for our company. These would include, but not be limited to, emergency service providers (911), directory publishing companies, directory assistance providers, companies handling NHTC publications. We ensure that such outside service providers sign legal agreements stating that they will use your information only for the purpose for which they have been hired.

If we decide to change our privacy policy, we will notify all subscribers no less than 30 days in advance. Customers will always be given a choice as to whether or not we use their information in a different manner.

Bank with a friend at



First Bank *of the south*

We are proud to be a true community bank, locally owned and operated. Our friendly and professional staff is committed to bringing you the best possible customer service.

***"First in
Banking...
First in
Customer
Service"***



David Myrle Willmon
City President

- Home Owned & Operated
- Our interests are in LOCAL people, schools & projects
- We're growing

Telephone Banking 24 hours a day - 866-638-3267

728-8000 - 4770 Main St - Grant, AL

www.firstbanksouth.com





Annette's salon of beauty

You've seen it advertised on TV - now you can experience the difference of mineral make-up for yourself. Call today & schedule your free makeover. You'll also receive a free gift while supplies last.

We carry all the brands you know and trust:

- Redken • Matrix
- Joico • Therapro
- Big Sexy Hair
- and much more

4648 Main Street, Grant - next to Foodland
728-4182 / Mon-Fri 8-5 / Sat 8-12



NHTC will be closed for the holidays on the following days:

- Monday, December 25, 2006
- Tuesday, December 26, 2006
- Monday, January 1, 2007



Say goodbye to telemarketers

If you're like most people, your name is on plenty of lists. But did you know there is one list you can get on that can actually reduce the number of sales calls you receive? The Public Service Commission maintains a 'Do Not Call' registry for residential consumers who do not want to receive unsolicited sales calls. Currently, there is no charge to be included in the list. Simply visit the Web site www.donot-call.gov to enroll. You may also write to the address below to receive informational material with an enrollment form. Please note that some businesses are exempt and may still call you.

DIAL BEFORE YOU DIG

Before you take the shovel in your hand, put the phone to your ear. That perfect spot for your new excavation project may have one or more utilities buried underneath. By checking first, you'll not only save yourself - and others - possible inconvenience, you'll also be complying with state law. One simple phone call can accomplish this for you. Call us at the number below at least two (2) working days before excavation begins.

723-4219

New Hope Telephone Cooperative

Can we see your house numbers?



Please make certain your address is posted on your home. When these house numbers are visible from the road, our installers and repairmen can easily locate you. This would also benefit your other utilities, as well as emergency responders.

**GIVE SOMEONE
YOU LOVE
A GIFT FROM NHTC**

It's as easy as 1,2,3

1. Choose the feature you'd like to give - it could be a calling feature such as voice mail, or cable TV or Internet. The choices are endless.
2. Tell NHTC who you'd like to give the gift to, and
3. We'll bill your phone number.

* recipient must agree to accept service.

NHTC offers many payment options

NHTC members enjoy great flexibility in paying their telecommunications bills. Besides the option of having the amount of your bill drafted from your checking account, you can pay for telephone, cable, long distance and Internet (including modem purchases) directly with your Mastercard or Visa credit or debit card. We also accept Discover. Simply bring the card with you when paying at our office, or call and have your card and bill ready. (Sorry, credit card payments are not accepted through the mail or at local banks where NHTC payments are made.)



Coming in January, you'll be able to pay your bill online! Look for details in next month's *Communicator*.



We're giving away cold hard cash all December long!

All December we're giving
new cable TV subscribers
UP TO \$100 CASH

Plus

We're waiving the connection fee
**TO SAVE YOU EVEN
MORE!**

That's right – there's never been a
better time to sign up for NHTC
Cable and it couldn't be easier – just
call and order NHTC Cable, choose
the plan that works best for you, and
we'll take care of the rest.

**WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR?
CALL NOW! 723-4211.**

Some restrictions apply. Offer valid for new NHTC Cable subscribers only*. A new NHTC Cable subscriber is defined as any household that has not had NHTC Cable service for at least 12 months. All subscribers must sign an agreement for 12 months service for the cash reward. Service cannot be canceled before 12 months of continuous service, unless the remaining months on the agreement are paid. There are no hardship cancellations under this agreement. Other restrictions may apply.

Sign up for TV Expanded and we'll give you \$100!

TV EXPANDED - \$44/MONTH

3-Headline News	24-Community Channel	45-Court TV
4-Spike	25-FOX Sports South	46-SCI-FI
5-ESPN	26-TV Guide Channel	47-Fox Soccer Channel
6-WAMI	27-USA	48-Oxygen
7-WAFF	28-ESPN 2	49-Independent TV
8-WAAY	29-Lifetime	50-MTV
9-WHNT	30-Weather Channel	51-FOX News
10-WDHF-UPN	31-Turner South	52-VH-1
11-WZDX	32-Turner Classic	53-BRAVO
12-TBS	33-Hallmark	54-Outdoor Channel
13-WGN	34-HGTV	55-C-Span
14-AMC	35-Food Network	56-HSN
15-TNT	36-Travel Channel	57-C-span 2
16-Nickelodeon	37-Cartoon Network	58-G4
17-CMT	38-Animal Planet	59- WHIQ-PBS
18-A&E	39-FX	60-TBN (Trinity)
19-ABC Family	40-WE	61-Speed TV
20-TLC	41-E!	62-Jewelry Television
21-Discovery	42-History Channel	63-RFD TV
22-Disney	43-Comedy Central	
23-CNN	44-TV Land	

Sign up for TV Basic and we'll give you \$75!

TV BASIC - \$25/MONTH

3-Headline News	10-WDHF-UPN	17-CMT
4-Spike	11-WZDX	18-A&E
5-ESPN	12-TBS	19-ABC Family
6-WAMI	13-WGN	20-TLC
7-WAFF	14-AMC	21-Discovery
8-WAAY	15-TNT	22-Disney
9-WHNT	16-Nickelodeon	23-CNN

Sign up for TV Limited and we'll give you \$50!

TV LIMITED - \$15/MONTH

3-Headline News	7-WAFF	11-WZDX
4-Spike	8-WAAY	12-TBS
5-ESPN	9-WHNT	13-WGN
6-WAMI	10-WDHF-UPN	

NHTC to install new high-tech, cost-saving satellite antenna

In the weeks ahead, those driving by NHTC's headquarters on Main Drive in New Hope will notice a great deal of construction activity taking place behind the building. As part of the company's commitment to build a state-of-the-art telecommunications system, a high-tech satellite antenna is set to be installed.

This unique structure is known as Simulsat, a technology developed by the Arizona-based company ATCi. The world's only 'true-arc' multiple satellite antenna, Simulsat is capable of receiving signals from 35 or more satellites at the same time.

This may sound complicated, but the end result is quite

simple. New Hope Telephone Cooperative will soon be able to deliver quality television programming that is more reliable, more cost-effective, and ready for the system of the future.

The most obvious benefit will be the ease of adding new channels. "With our current system, we have to add a new dish when we add a new channel to our lineup," explains NHTC's Rusty Bright. "That's why you see so many of those big satellite antennas in front of our office."

With the new system, that collection

of dishes (referred to in the business as an 'antenna farm') will be a thing of the past. The Simulsat takes up the space of approximately two large dishes, yet can do the job of dozens of the bulky devices.

have to move it as programming changes from satellite to satellite."

Work is already underway to prepare for the Simulsat's installation. A large hole and many yards of reinforced concrete are required to anchor the massive dish and help it withstand high winds.

The new antenna is part of NHTC's overall plan to upgrade its entire system. The Simulsat will work in tandem with the new IPTV head end. The new cable equipment will be put to use next year to serve existing cable customers; however, its full potential will be realized as NHTC deploys optical fiber connections throughout its service area.



The Simulsat satellite antenna coming soon to NHTC will provide a broad range of benefits to cable television customers. Here, crews install a similar antenna at Home Telephone Company, an independent telecommunications company in South Carolina. (Photo courtesy of ATCi)

And because the Simulsat is a space-saver, it is much more visually appealing than a yard full of antennas.

The amazing thing about the new antenna is its ability to receive signals from multiple satellites without those signals being degraded. The Simulsat can receive almost 1,000 channels at the same time, giving NHTC plenty of capacity to grow its system.

The Simulsat lowers the overall cost involved in providing programming. It also saves on maintenance. "It's a fixed antenna," Bright explains. "We won't

"This is another example of our board of directors making decisions to preserve the future of this cooperative," says Teresa Hunkapiller, NHTC General Manager. "By adopting technology like the Simulsat, and like Fiber-To-The-Home, we are ensuring that NHTC will be around to serve the people of New Hope, Grant and Owens Cross Roads for decades to come."

Weather permitting, and barring any unforeseen delays, the Simulsat antenna should be installed at NHTC by the end of January. ▲



CHARLES BUTLER HONORED FOR LIFE OF SERVICE—The New Hope Lions Club recently honored one of their own for more than five decades of distinguished service to the community. At its September 28 meeting, the Club recognized Charles S. Butler for 56 years of service to the New Hope community through his membership in the Lions Club. The Club presented Butler with a plaque that read: "In Sincere Appreciation and Recognition of Distinguished Service, Loyalty and Devotion to the Objects and Furtherance of Lionism." Shown presenting the plaque are (left to right) Bob Brazil, Charlie McPeters, George Jones, John Scott, Jim Richard, Sam Butler, and John Ed Butler. Known through the community as a kind and giving man, Butler served as a pharmacist for some 50 years. He is also a Master Gardener and an active member of the United Methodist Church.



Order a delicious homemade pie for Christmas!



723-4181
Hwy 431 So.
New Hope
Tues-Sat
11 - 9
Fri: 11 - 10

*Call now - orders must be placed by December 21st!
We have lots of flavors to choose from!*



We will be closed 12/24 - 1/1 for the holidays - Merry Christmas!

Welcome New NHTC Business Customers

BILLY'S USED CARS

728-4319, GRANT

SERVICE MASTER RESTORATION

728-8898, GRANT

QUALITY CUSTOM HOMES

725-7359, WOODVILLE

HAIR BUZZAR

723-2899, NEW HOPE

Think About It

To be yourself in a world that is constantly trying to make you something else is the greatest accomplishment.

-- Ralph Waldo Emerson

**Are you ready
for a *STIHL*®?**



COOPER
SMALL ENGINES

5427 Main Drive • New Hope, AL 35760

Give Jeff Cooper a call at 723-2515

Grave marking ceremony was held honoring Confederate Soldiers

The Alabama Division and the Virginia Clay Clopton Chapter #1107 United Daughters of the Confederacy held a grave marking to honor the graves of 40 Confederate soldiers at nine cemeteries on Sunday, October 15, 2006. Pat Lewis of Athens is Chapter President of the Virginia Clay Clopton Chapter.

Alabama Division President, Lorraine Ennis, welcomed guests. Jim Richard, Vice President of the New Hope Historical Association, gave the invocation. The colors were presented by the Egbert J. Jones Camp, SCV, and Steve Campbell played *Dixie* on the banjo. The assembly gave the salute to the Confederate Flag and Steve sang *Dixie*.



Gathered for the grave marking ceremony are (left to right): Steve Whitaker, Martin Whitaker, Cindy Layne, Jimmy Smith, Dian Lovelady, Nancy Hicks, Lou Ann Poole, Denise Tate, James Whitaker, Ronald Whitaker.

Connie Ansley dedicated each of the markers. After each soldier was named, the following ladies read the information

found in the soldier's military record - Dianne Mann, Lou Ann Poole, Melanie Barksdale, and Lorraine Ennis. Mark Poole placed a small Confederate Flag at the base of each of the 40 markers.

Steadman McPeters played *Amazing Grace* on the trumpet, the Egbert J. Jones Camp, SCV, gave the gun salute, and Steadman McPeters played *Taps*. The colors were retired and Steve Campbell played and sang *Harlan*.

After the last ceremony, the New Hope Historical Association furnished refreshments for those assembled. ▲



Members of the Egbert J. Jones Camp, Sons of Confederate Veterans are shown presenting the colors during the ceremony.



Lou Ann Poole, Lorraine Ennis and Melanie Barksdale of the Virginia Clay Clopton Chapter #1107 dressed in period attire for the ceremony.

Markers were placed at the following graves:

Cedar Grove Cemetery

- Private Calvin H. Hunter
- Private John F. Grayson

Drake Cemetery

- Private James W. Drake

Hayden Cemetery

- Private Callaway R. Whited

Kennamer Cemetery

- Private Marion M. Maples
- Private John H. Atchley

New Hope Cemetery

- Private James H. Salmon
- 1st Lieutenant John C. Hunkapiller
- Corporal Byrum W. Hinds
- Private Alvis R. Whited
- Private William T. Hamer
- Private Macklin Morris Vann

- Corporal Chesley C. Colburn
- Private John C. Dickey
- 2nd Lieutenant William C. Grayson
- 1st Lieutenant Solomon S. Ledbetter
- Sergeant R. F. Cochran
- M. C. Hamer, Hospital Steward
- Private James R. Johnson
- Private James N. Vaughn
- Private W. B. Harrison
- Sergeant Thomas H. Owen
- Private Hezekiah B. Tabor
- Private Samuel M. Grooms
- Private James H. Jones
- Private James T. Hunt

Already marked:

- Corporal Wesley W. McMillan
- Captain Isaac D. Wann

Pike-Sanderson Cemetery

- Private William Sanderson

• Private Francis M. Wall
Rigney or Cherry Tree Cemetery

- Private Fleming J. Rigney

Vann Cemetery

- Private Columbus R. Blackburn
- Private William Vann

Whitaker Cemetery

- Private Moses M. Keel
- Private Seabourn Keel
- Private Elijah Whitaker
- Private Simon Whitaker
- Private Joseph Whitaker
- Corporal James D. Whitaker
- Private Andrew J. Fletcher
- Lieutenant Andrew J. Ikard
- Private Nathan H. Whitaker

Already marked:

- Private Benjamin F. Whitaker

Give a gift that keeps on giving...

PEACE OF MIND

***With the touch of a button,
help is only seconds away.***



***Providing peace of mind,
security and confidence
to our senior citizens,
helping them maintain
independence and continue
with daily activities.
It's like having a trusted
friend with you 24/7.***

CAREconnect

Personal Response Service & Medication Management

DID YOU KNOW:

- ***More than one-third of adults ages 65 and older fall each year.¹***
- ***50% of those who fall require assistance to get up.²***
- ***90% of those who receive help within 1 hour after a fall or accident continue living independantly.³***
- ***As much as 30% of those who fall suffer moderate to severe injuries.⁴***
- ***A study of the Effect of Personal Emergency Response Systems (P.E.R.S.) found hospital admissions dropped by 25% for those who utilized a P.E.R.S.⁵***

**HOLIDAY OFFER
FREE
DELIVERY,
SET-UP &
ENROLLMENT**

**Give someone you love PEACE OF MIND this Christmas.
Call NHTC for details about how CAREconnect
can help your loved one – 723-4211.**

1-Hornbrook 1994; Hausdorff 2001. 2-Advance for Providers of Post-Acute Care. 3-New England Medical Journal. 4-Sterling 2001, quoted in CDC Report, 2005. 5- Southern Medical Journal.

Deregulation changing NHTC's relationship with members

Members of New Hope Telephone Cooperative will receive a special insert in their December bills. This notice outlines important changes in members relationship with their telecommunications provider.

Traditionally, services provided by NHTC have been regulated by the Alabama Public Service Commission (PSC) through a tariff system. Whenever NHTC wanted to roll out a new service or even change pricing on an existing service, a tariff had to be filled with the PSC and permission granted from the government agency.

That system will soon change, thanks to changes in Alabama law. Beginning February 7, 2007, only Basic Telephone Service and certain stand-alone Optional Calling Features will be

provided under tariffs. Everything else will be deregulated.

There are two important results of this change. First, NHTC will be able to roll out new services and new rate plans much faster than before. "Being deregulated means we can be more responsive to our members needs," explains NHTC General Manager Teresa Hunkapiller. "We can be more proactive without the delays associated with regulatory approval."

A second result of the regulatory change is that the relationship between NHTC and its members will now be governed by agreement (as opposed to PSC tariffs). "Our relationship with most of our members will be governed by the *New Hope Terms and Conditions*, which incorporates our New Hope Price List,"

Hunkapiller says.

A complete copy of this agreement can be found online at www.nehp.net. A copy will also be mailed to all affected members.

Will this change mean an increase in rates? Absolutely not. There will be no change in current service and rates when the change takes effect on February 7. In fact, NHTC will provide members with a notice of at least 30 days prior to any change in terms, conditions or pricing (except as related to increased costs attributable to collection of government-imposed taxes and fees).

"We appreciate our members and look forward to serving them better through this change," says Hunkapiller. Anyone with questions should visit the Web site or call 723-4211.



5053 Main Drive
New Hope, Alabama
256/723-4600



A Different Kind of Bank.

Forget everything you thought you knew about banking. Forget the impersonal staff and long waits. Forget the hassle and runaround when trying to take out a loan. Forget fees on every single aspect of doing business.

Now imagine a bank where you come in, pour yourself a cup of coffee, and sit down and chat. Where you're known by your first and last name. Where loan decisions are made locally, and they're made fast.

That's the way we like to do business here at Citizens Bank & Trust. Stop by and see for yourself. We really are a different kind of bank.

Claiming your Federal Excise Tax refund on your 2006 tax returns

If you have used long distance telephone service during the past three years, you may be due a refund on your 2006 tax returns.

Earlier this year the Internal Revenue Service and the U.S. Treasury Department ended the Federal Excise Tax on long distance telephone service. This tax has been around a long time; it was originally implemented to help fund the Spanish-American War of 1898, repealed four years later, then reinstated in 1914 to help fund the first World War.

Long distance companies were required to stop collecting the three-percent tax as of August 1, 2006. The federal government also agreed to allow consumers to request a refund on these taxes paid after February 28, 2003.

To figure the exact refund due would require individuals and businesses to go through copies of every phone bill for the past three years. To simplify the

process, the IRS developed a set of standard amounts — based on the number of exemptions claimed — that individuals may use to request the refund.

According to the IRS Web site, “Individual taxpayers can request a \$30 refund with one exemption, \$40 for two exemptions, \$50 for three exemptions and \$60 for four or more exemptions.”

In mid-November, the IRS announced a formula that businesses and tax-exempt organizations may use to estimate their return. It involves comparing the telephone bills from April and September of 2006 to determine the percentage of their telephone expenses attributable to the long-distance excise tax. For more information, businesses should consult a tax professional.

Additional details on the Federal Excise Tax refund may be found at www.irs.gov.



PASTOR'S NOTES

BY LARRY BISHOP, PASTOR
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
NEW HOPE

Recently while preparing sermon notes I remembered an Economics class I took in college. My overall grades were okay but Economics was not my favorite class. My grade was not that good! It was test day and upon arrival to class I discovered that we had a substitute teacher. Oh boy, no test today!

The class was an hour-long lecture with very little discussion, but this day things were different. The teacher lectured as usual but during his lecture he wrote the material on the chalkboard. Thirty minutes into the class he turned and opened his briefcase and pulled out a test. My heart sank, I was thinking, “no test today!”

With the test in hand we were given our instructions and time limit. As I reviewed the test questions I smiled because I realized that the answers to the questions were written on the chalkboard. Yes, the teacher had written during his lecture all the answers on the board. I made an “A”. The lesson I learned was to lift my head and look. Many times the answers are right in front of us.

This Christmas season is filled with the answers to our needs. God has given us the most wonderful gift known to man. The Christmas lights, manger scenes, gifts under a tree, and the joy in peoples hearts is enough to let us know that there is something special about this season. “For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.” (Luke 2:11)

See you in church Sunday.



LOCAL HEROES

We salute Lance Corporal Luke Scott, a 1995 graduate of New Hope High School. He attended Calhoun Community College, Tusculum College and the University of Alabama before joining the United States Marine Corp in February 2005. Lcpl. Scott is a squad leader, radio operator, and grenadier in T.R.A.P. (Tactical Recovery of Aircraft and Personnel) for a Special Operations Capable Helicopter Borne Company. He is the son of John and Priscilla Scott. Lcpl. Scott is stationed in Camp Pendleton, California.

Help us honor our local soldiers. Send us the name, and a photo, of your family member from the community who is currently serving our country overseas. Please include the names of family members, their branch of service and the unit they are assigned to. Send to: NHTC, Attn: The Communicator, P.O. Box 452, New Hope, AL 35760.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR DECEMBER 2006

☞ *Dec. 1 - Christmas on the Mountain* - Friday from 5 to 9 p.m. the city of Grant will host their annual celebration at Grant Park. There will be music, food and plenty for all to enjoy. Sponsored by Friends of the Library. We look forward to seeing you there.

☞ *Dec. 2 - Grant Christmas Parade* - Saturday beginning at 4:00 p.m.

☞ *Dec. 2 - New Hope Christmas Parade* - Saturday at 1:00 p.m. on Main Street.

☞ *Dec. 6 - Christmas in New Hope* - This event begins with a live Nativity from 5 to 7 p.m. At 5:30 p.m.

the Community Choir will sing Christmas carols. The Christmas tree lighting will be at 6:30 p.m., then the festivities will move indoors for the Christmas Story. Santa will be available to talk to children and provide photo opportunities for parents. Refreshments will be provided by City Hall.

☞ *Dec. 17 - Christmas Program*

Galilee Baptist Church choir presents "God's Great Love" at 6:00 p.m.

☞ *Dec. 17 - Christmas Musical* Sunday at 6 p.m. First Baptist Church of New Hope presents "Jesus There's Something About That Name" a Christmas musical created by Tony Wood and Russell Mauldin.

Support local charities

Once again, NHTC is helping support these local charities and we need your help. Please drop off donations during regular office hours now through December 15th.

Angel Tree Program

Choose an 'Angel' from our Angel Tree, buy a gift, and return it to the tree for a needy child in our area.

Marines' Toys for Tots

Bring a new toy for a child of any age!

North Alabama Charities

Always willing to take clothing and blankets!

WAFF's Can-A-Thon

Drop off canned goods (especially fruits, baby formula and complete meals)

"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.

SH
SOUTH HAMPTON
NURSING & REHABILITATION
CENTER

213 WILSON MANN ROAD
OWENS CROSS ROADS, AL 35763
TELEPHONE: 256/725-3400
FAX: 256/725-3423
WWW.SHNRC.COM



Merry Christmas
from your Hometown Bank

Peoples State Bank
of Commerce

Modern Banking ... Old Fashioned Values

Come by during the month of December and have coffee & cookies, while you chat with our friendly staff.

MEMBER FDIC

EQUAL HOUSING LENDER

Phone: 256-728-4213 — www.psdoc.com



Inspiration Corner

"Christmas is for the children"! Sound familiar? I can't help but shudder at the estimated dollar amounts being spent on Christmas this year. I understand the need to spend money on children. I also understand the burden some families face just meeting their needs, much less hearing what the average household is spending for things most children will play with for a while, and then replace with old standbys, like pots and pans or Tupperware. Say "Amen" if you've been there.

So where is the PEACE in Christmas? Peace comes in knowing that Christmas is for the child in all of us. It's all about the One child delivering the greatest gift of all – LOVE! First Corinthians tells us of three Great things: Faith, Hope, and Love. What gifts! Faith: that you are going to help someone grow to be the best they can be.

Hope: that in the end everything will be just as God promised. And Love: being undivided attention, quality time, and a relationship that will stand the test of time. Love does not come from the vanity of this world; it comes from the Creator of this world. Yes, salvation is a Great gift, but God's Love IS the salvation. Love is why Jesus came here and it's by His love that salvation is offered to us. If you would like to know more about exchanging gifts that will last Forever, please look in a Christmas church near you. May you have a Very *Merry Christmas!*



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

Happy 100th Birthday



On October 8, 2006 Minister Clyde Whatley was honored with a party at South Hampton Nursing and Rehabilitation Center. Friends, family and nursing home staff gathered around to help celebrate his 100th birthday. Minister Whatley was born before either World War and the Great Depression. He was also around to witness great inventions like the Model-T, television and the computer.



Quality ♦ Dependability ♦ Value

Whether it's a big remodel, – like this bath or a small job – like replacing a faucet, call

Mr. Fix It
 **723-2835**

Owners, Harlan & Kim Worley

Scott Glover Contracting
990-4552

Specializing in:

- *Dirt, Sand, Gravel*
- *Land Clearing*
- *Building Ponds*
- *Underground Utilities*

Call Scott today for your next project!

"Scott Glover did an outstanding job on our pond. He built it fast, and he built it right."

-- Kim Worley, New Hope



From Mom's kitchen to ours

Linda McDaniel

January 8, 1948 - August 14, 2006

Sisters Christie Barclay and Nikki Dudley remember their mother, Linda McDaniel, as a wonderful mother and terrific grandmother. She was also a great cook who loved to teach her daughters how to cook. She also loved sharing recipes with friends and family.

Linda was scheduled to be last December's cook of the month, but was unable to because she was caring for a sick relative. Linda passed away this past August so her daughters wanted to make

this happen for her.

Christie and Nikki gathered the recipes she had planned to share with everyone and submitted their family favorites as well. "We hope everyone enjoys these dishes as much as we enjoyed them when mom used to make them for us. Our mother was a true example of a perfect mother and grandmother. She devoted her life to us and our kids and she will forever be in our hearts," say the sisters.

Spice Bars

1 cup sugar
3/4 cup oil
1/4 cup honey
1 egg
1/2 tsp. vanilla
2 cups flour
1 tsp. cinnamon
1 cup pecans, chopped

In a large mixing bowl, combine all ingredients thoroughly. Spread into an ungreased 9 x 13 inch pan. Bake at 350° for 25 minutes. Glaze while hot, then cut into bars.

Glaze:

1 cup confectioners sugar
1 Tbsp. mayonnaise
1 Tbsp. water
1/2 tsp. vanilla

Mix all ingredients until smooth.

Maple Syrup

1 tsp. maple flavoring
2 cups sugar
1 cup water
1/2 cup light corn syrup

Heat sugar, water and corn syrup in heavy saucepan. Stir occasionally

until mixture begins to boil. Cover and gently boil for 10 minutes. Remove from heat. Let cool then add flavoring. This can be poured and sealed in jars for a great Christmas gift. Excellent with hot buttered biscuits or pancakes.

Apple Pie

apples, peeled & sliced to fill a pie shell
3/4 cup sugar
1/4 cup brown sugar
2 Tbsp. flour
2 Tbsp. butter
1/2 tsp. cinnamon
1/4 tsp. nutmeg
2 pie shells

Mix dry ingredients and pour over apples in shell. Cut butter into pats and place on top. Place second pie shell on top and seal edges with fork. Bake at 350° for about 1 hour.

Sweet Potato Casserole

3 cups fresh sweet potatoes, boiled well and mashed
1 cup sugar
1 tsp. vanilla

1 tsp. nutmeg
1 tsp. cinnamon
1 egg beaten

Mix all ingredients well. If mixture is too thick, add a little milk. Spread in casserole dish, sprinkle with topping. Bake at 350° for 30 minutes.

Topping:

1 cup brown sugar
1 stick butter, softened
1/2 cup flour
1 cup pecans

Mix together well, Will be crumbly.

Maw Maw's Chocolate Syrup

2 Tbsp. cocoa
1-1/2 cups sugar
1/2 cup milk
1/2 tsp. vanilla

Mix cocoa and sugar in a saucepan. Add milk. Bring to a boil, stirring constantly. Serve over hot buttered biscuits or plain cake. Make a hot fudge cake by pouring over a warm brownie with a scoop of vanilla ice cream.



Happy Holidays



Cousins **Chad Pence & Ryan Furlough**. Photo by Janice Franks.



'Wilson' and Baby 'Minnie'. Photo sent by Spencer & Lesa Warden.



Elijah Garrett Lawler. Photo sent by grandmother, Evelyn Butler.



Bryson Graham. Submitted by mother, Amanda Graham.



Tina, Nikki, Sharon, Joy, Stephanie, Evie and Salee at annual Christmas party.



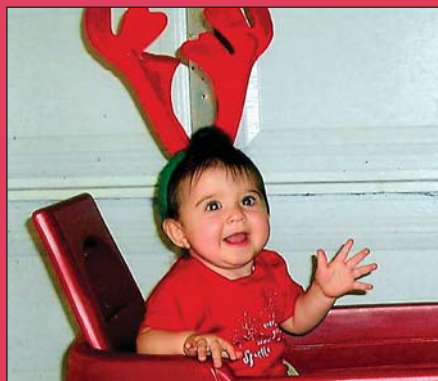
Lilly Brown & Anna Rainey at Santa's Village. Photo sent by Thom & Melissa Brown.



Tyler & Ashlyn Graves. Picture submitted by mother, Michelle Graves.



Shawn Lyle on his first Christmas. Mom, Angie Lyle submitted this picture.



Ada Reed. She is the granddaughter of Lilah Williams.



'Hansel' & 'Gretel'. Picture sent by Joyce & Gary Paseur.

The February photo theme is "Endless Love". Please send your favorite photos, matching the theme, to: NHTC • Attn: Communicator Photo • P.O. Box 452 • New Hope, Alabama 35760. You may prefer to e-mail your photo to communicator@nehp.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 February is December 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.



**Never worry about missing
an important call again!**

**Get Voice Mail ...
and get on with your life!**

**Sign up now.
There's no connection fee
through December 31st.**



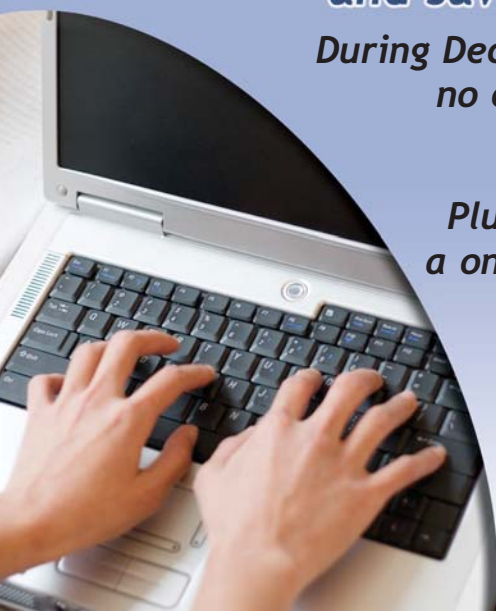
Call NHTC today! 723-4211 or toll-free 1-877-474-4211

**Sign up for High Speed Internet
and save up to \$75**

**During December there's
no connection fee
(A \$25 SAVINGS)**

**Plus, you can get
a one-port modem
for only \$50
(REG. PRICE \$99)**

**Get
online
fast!**



**Stay
connected
with NHTC
Long Distance**



You'll enjoy these benefits:

- EARN CAPITAL CREDITS
- LOCAL, FRIENDLY CUSTOMER SERVICE
- ONE BILL FOR LOCAL & LONG DISTANCE SERVICE

**Make the change to NHTC long distance & sign
a PIC freeze and you'll get a \$5 credit for 3 months*.**

*Credit will be reversed if long distance carrier is changed within 12 months.

Pre-sort
Standard
US POSTAGE PAID
Metro Mail
36201