

A Publication of New Hope Telephone Cooperative

The
Communicator

Vol. 4, No. 6

July 2005

Celebrating Independence

**INSIDE: Area High School Seniors • New Hope Plans for Future
Grant Backup Program • Recipes • Advertisers • More!**

Let's not get too busy to count our blessings

Ahhh! Summertime! Warm sunny days, cookouts, family vacations and America's Birthday! Everyone needs an occasional break from their fast-paced routines. For the children, it means putting away the schoolbooks and playing outdoors. For the adults, it is an occasional break from the day-to-day stresses. We all need to take a deep breath of fresh air, clear our minds of 'busyness' and appreciate all that we are blessed with.

Happy Birthday, America! Fireworks in the July sky are just small reminders of the many battles our 'Stars & Stripes' have seen. Our country's Independence affords us luxuries far beyond life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. It is always humbling to hear our national anthem sung before a ballgame or hear the pledge to our flag recited at graduations. We must ever be grateful that our forefathers paid the price for the liberties that we enjoy today.

To me, the only thing that sings summer louder than a 4th of July barbeque, complete with homemade vanilla ice cream, is children selling ice-cold lemonade at a home-made stand in the front yard. No price can be placed on the value of the genuine smile that those little faces serve up with each cup. These subtle reminders are put there for a reason. They are speed-bumps to slow us down enough to appreciate all of the valuable things that seem to disappear with the speed of life.

For the employees of NHTC, we never want to get so 'busy' that we lose sight of what is most valuable to us — our customers. We appreciate all of your kindness and dedication to our Cooperative. You are

very important to us. Without you, we have no purpose.

Team NHTC dedicates this summer to an in-depth analysis of where our company is today and where we plan to be in the future. As we progress through the strategic planning process, I look forward to fine-tuning our focus and sharing our goals with each of you.

We encourage everyone to let summer be a time to take a break from the 'busyness' of life and appreciate the abundant blessings that we share in these United States of America. I leave you with this thought: may we, as Americans, conduct ourselves in a fashion that God will continue to bless us as a nation, that we may continue to abide in the 'Land of the Free and the Home of the Brave!' ♦



*Teresa Hunkapiller
General Manager of
New Hope Telephone
Cooperative*

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.

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The Communicator

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On the cover:

Join with friends and family to celebrate the birth of our nation on the Fourth of July.

NHTC awards two local scholarships

New Hope Telephone Cooperative is a proud partner of education in the communities we serve. In May, NHTC's Maria Goodson attended the Awards Day ceremonies at DAR and New Hope High School to present \$500 scholarship checks.



DAR's Cody Starnes receives an NHTC Scholarship.



Richard Glen Jones of New Hope High accepts an NHTC scholarship.

Think About It

"I think education is power. I think that being able to communicate with people is power. One of my main goals on the planet is to encourage people to empower themselves."

-- Oprah Winfrey

Welcome New NHTC Business Customers

Auto Liquidators
Grant

Bevel Tire & Battery
Grant

West Station Antiques
Owens Cross Roads

Can you find it?

This month, we've hidden the image of a small phone somewhere within these pages. It could be worth \$5 if you find it! Email the page number and location where you found the small image to communicator@nehp.net.

You may also mail or deliver your **handwritten or typed** answer to the NHTC office. **INCLUDE YOUR TELEPHONE NUMBER. NO PHONE CALLS, PLEASE!** We'll draw from the correct entries on July 14, and the winner will receive a \$5 credit on their next phone bill. *Congratulations to last month's winner - Ava Cambron of New Hope!*

Rediscover Cathedral Caverns

How long has it been since you've explored Cathedral Caverns?

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Receiving advanced capital credit refunds

Because New Hope Telephone is a cooperative, our members earn capital credits based on the amount of business they do with us. A percentage of these credits are returned to members as the the Board of Directors deems financially feasible (usually on an annual basis).

There are occasions when members request an advanced refund of their capital credits. Capital credits may be refunded in advance for the following reasons (please note that with all advanced refunds, 2/3 of the total amount is refunded, with the remainder being forfeited to NHTC) :

1) The member is inactive for more than one year

A refund is available one year from the date of disconnect. A form must be completed with the customer's notarized signature.

2) The member is deceased

If phone service is disconnected at the time of death, a refund is processed as soon as all the files related to the capital credit are updated. This is after the closing and reconciling of the last quarter in which the member had cash activity. If the surviving spouse continues service, the refund is processed through the end of the quarter in which the member passed away (this is also after the closing and reconciling of that quarter). From this point forward the capital earned belongs to the surviving spouse, even if the phone listing is never changed.

You will need the following forms to request a refund on the account of a deceased member:

- copy of the death certificate
- legal documents naming an administrator/executor
- refund release with notarized signature of administrator/executor

3) The member is placed in a nursing home

Documentation is required certifying that the member has been permanently placed in the facility.

Look what's on TV!

As your community cable TV provider, New Hope Telephone Cooperative works hard to provide value for your money. As part of that commitment, we have added a number of local events and information to Channel 24.

Channel 24 is *your* local channel, and we want to make it more useful and informative for your benefit. Maria Goodson, NHTC's Public Relations/Marketing Manager, continues to look for opportunities to bring added value to Channel 24. So flip over to *your* local channel and take a look at some of these new programs:

- New Hope Awards Day
- DAR Awards Day
- DAR Elementary and HS Graduations
- Owens Cross Roads Kindergarten Graduation
- Guntersville school activities
- NHTC Annual Meeting highlights
- Other information about your cooperative

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for your next project*

Mr. Fix It

New Hope City Council planning for future

The city of New Hope took a big step recently when the city council approved the development of a master plan for future growth. When finished, this plan will serve as a guide for decisions about the physical development of the city in the next 10 years.

Sleiman Research and Development will do the actual work on the plan using a Geographic Information System

Grant sought to help New Hope fight flooding

New Hope has experienced flooding at least once a year for the past several years. Madison County/New Hope have received presidential declaration six times. In May 2003, New Hope experienced major flooding that impacted the entire community. The flooding damaged public infrastructures, roads and essential facilities, and threatened the lives of many residents. That storm put city officials on full alert to do something about this type of destruction.

With the assistance of Sleiman Research and Development, the city of New Hope in October 2003 applied through FEMA and Alabama EMA under the Pre-disaster Mitigation Grant Program (PDMc) for a \$1.25 million grant. The proposed project is to financially assist the city to battle flooding. The project area is centrally located; it is bounded to the south by Johnson Avenue, to the north by Trudy Drive, to the west by West Street, and to the east by Paseur Street.

The drainage improvement project calls for new construction and retrofitting existing structures and facilities to eliminate 80% of flooding during a '100 year storm.' The project would alleviate all flooding during normal heavy rain.

The status of the project is pending, while awaiting environmental reviews.



NHTC crews and volunteers work to sandbag telephone equipment during the May 2003 flood.

(GIS). This sophisticated mapping system allows Sleiman Research to pinpoint specific data about the location and elevation of sewer and water lines, hydrants, drainage and other land use features.

Public input will be sought in developing the plan during the Planning Commission's monthly meeting. The goal of the plan is to manage and direct the city's growth while ensuring the highest quality of living for each resident, stimulate economic growth and attract quality industry.

The objective is to increase the number of multifamily housing units in the downtown area and provide space for the construction of new single family houses. By stipulating building requirements New Hope can help prevent future slums from being created and prevent potentially dangerous and otherwise undesirable enterprises from being too close to schools. It should help attract "clean" industry by eliminating uncertainties about the use of land surrounding potential plant sites.

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Brenda Barnes, President/CEO

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Citizens 'Backup' police through formation of non-profit group

When an individual uses addictive drugs like methamphetamine, they hurt more people than they realize. They hurt their family. They hurt their friends. And they hurt their community.

Addiction-related crimes have increased substantially over the past five years in Marshall County. With this increase has come a rise in crime and related social problems, including child abuse and neglect, spousal abuse and divorce.

In the town of Grant, citizens have decided this pattern has gone on long enough. They have formed a non-profit

organization to support their police force in a fight to flush these problems from the community they love.

Diana Turner is chairman of the newly organized Grant Backup. Patterned after similar groups in larger cities, Grant Backup hopes to provide additional funding to the Grant Police Department to better equip them in their war on crime.

Other officers of the group are: Michael Stevens, vice chairman; Paige Evett, secretary; and Barbara Grider, treasurer. Board members include reserve officer Joe Collazo, police chief

Alan Edmonds, police officer Chuck Van Etten, and Bill Morrison.

The group plans to raise funds through events like the recent 'Backup BBQ,' held at Collazo Farms. Sponsorship is also available at the following levels: Diamond, \$1000; Platinum, \$500; Gold, \$300; Silver, \$100; Bronze, \$50.

In addition to financial support of law enforcement, Grant Backup plans to offer drug awareness education and early intervention to aid in the prevention of crime. For more information, visit www.grantbackup.com.

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Local seniors on motorcycles



Ben and Mary Harris of New Hope are serious Harley-Davidson owners. They've been riding for more than 20 years, riding from their home to locations such as Colorado, Florida and even Canada. One year, Ben Harris made three trips to California on his trusted Harley.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY BERNICE DILWORTH! On July 10, lifetime New Hope resident Mrs. Dilworth celebrates her 93rd birthday. In this favorite photo, Mrs. Dilworth sits outside her home on the Gold Wing motorcycle owned by friends Charles and Robin Womack.

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Congratulations to area Seniors

Kate Duncan Smith DAR High School



Jordan Aaron Scott Allen Amy Atchley Chrissey Atchley Jacob Babb Cliff Bailey Mary Barnes Franziska Bigl Fallon Black Heather Bowden



Corey Brown Kristen Campbell Samantha Campbell Tonya Clark Amanda Davis Tyler Dennis Stephanie Durkac Grant Eller Cain Foster Ashley Gonzalez



Daniel Grimes Doug Hartman Ashley Helton Trey Holland Anthony Hubbard Cassie Jones Chasity Jones Rebecca Kirkland Nona Lambert Jordan LeMaster



Suzanne Lindenberg Seth Maddox Destiny Mayhall Tara McBride Derrick McClain Rachel McCowan Tiffany McGaha Patrick O'Barr Chris Parker Bo Patterson



Jamie Patterson Robert Patterson Joanna Pritchett Benjamin Saint Jeremy Segler Robert Smith Jessica Smock Leslie Snoddy Greg Spurgeon Cody Starnes



David Webb Megan Whitaker Rachell White Marco Whitton Michelle Wilson

New Hope High School



Shannon
Ammann

Christy
Andrews

Vanessa
Armstrong

Trisha
Baker

Andrew
Buck

Corey
Burks

William
Butler

Samuel Lee
Butler

Amy
Canterberry

photo
not
available

Ashley
Carden



Amy
Clark

Nikki
Cook

Reginald
Cross

Janet
Cuchetti

Tamara
Cuzzort

Johnathan
Duke

Jennifer
Davenport

Anthony
Dodd

Tess
Doran

Kristie
Douglas



Kristin
Esslinger

Michael
Ferris

John
Geiger

Nikki
Gibbs

Erin
Gierhart

David
Glover

Jennifer
Grider

Christina
Hastings

Jessica
Hawkins

Amanda
Heatherly



Janie
Hindman

Karri
Hollis

James
Humphrey

Kimberly
Hutchens

Rusty
Hyatt

Wesley
Ikard

Richard
Jones

Eric
Lee

Marlee
Mann

Cory
Maples



Lisa
Mason

Cliff
Mason

Jessica
McCutcheon

Daniel
Motes

Nicole
Nash

Stacey
Nelson

Tasha
Nicholas

Heather
Nichelson

Ashley
Nurney

Allen
Painter



Jason
Partain

Benjamin
Parvin

Elizabeth
Pelzer

Jerran
Pence

Josh
Pence

Jonathan
Pierce

Courtney
Pinkston

John
Rogers

Mallory
Smith

Brittany
Stewart



Eddie
Thomas

Lynssa
Towne

Crystal
Walker

Bradley
Warden

Mallari
Warren

Sheena
Weeks

Alesha
Warren

Nathan
Wellman

Brittney
White

Cassie
White

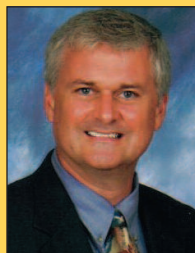


Inspiration Corner

July 4 is my favorite secular holiday. I love the sights and sounds of the fireworks, the smell of cookouts, and the festivities of the TV special, Pop Goes the Fourth. I live humbly by the fact that our founding fathers and every soldier since then, chose to risk their wealth, their lives, and even the welfare of their family for you and I to have the freedoms we have today.

The Bible is full of patriotic notions. In Psalm 33:12 we find, "Blessed is the nation whose God is Jehovah". This means we will always be blessed as long as, "In God We Trust". Remember our national motto? Abraham Lincoln once said, "The philosophy of the classroom in one generation will be the philosophy of government in the next". The classroom prayer was outlawed in 1962, though

many teachers didn't abide back then. However, as the battle of God in the classroom rages on today we certainly see where President Lincoln had insight to the future. My patriotism is such that, "As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord" and love our nation so long as it does the same. If you have any interest in learning more about faith and patriotism I challenge you to



find a church home that truly teaches the word of God. In so doing you just might learn there really is no separation between church and state.

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

Always faithful

Just a Thought

by Roland Roberts



On the Saturday before Memorial Day weekend Simper Fidelis was introduced on WLRH, Huntsville's public radio station, as the keynote march of the United States Marine Corp. Simper Fidelis or Always Faithful is an appropriate title for a Sousa march that is associated with the Marine Corp. Its members have distinguished themselves through faithful performance of their assignments in war and peace for 200 years.

But faithfulness is not confined to the military. It applies to every aspect

of our lives including employers, families, and God. While the very lives of those in the military and, yes, law enforcement, depend on the faithfulness of their comrades, much is staked on the faithfulness in these other relationships as well.

Revelation 2:13 tells that Antipas was slain for his faithfulness to God, Christ, and the Bible. In like manner untold numbers of United States marines, soldiers, and sailors, as well as certain civilians, because of their faithfulness, have paid, and continue to pay, the ultimate sacrifice for our liberty. Thus the United States of America is able to celebrate its 229th Independence Day this month.

In Memory of PawPaw

Walking the dog
Picking up cans
Standing on the porch
Propped on the rail
A lop sided grin
And a funny laugh
Someone who
Would laugh at
Anything but
Always knew your
Voice and name
Your chair at the head of
The table is now physically
Empty but full of
Your memory that will
Forever be there

Written by Crystal Posey,
upon the death of her grandfather

Simple Things

The simplest thing can make my day

A small hug, or a kiss blown my way
When you smile so big, or speak my name

I feel as though I've acquired great fame

When you say "I love you" from the heart

It inspires my soul, at least by part
When you look at me with those beautiful eyes

Tears from mine should come as no surprise

I'm only expressing the joy I feel

Every time you pull me near
The simple things are certainly best
When they come from you, without request

Written by Jessica Gulley



Isn't it time to give your heating & cooling system a little tender loving care?

Your heating & cooling system takes care of you day after day, keeping your home comfortable for you and your family. Now you can take care of your system with a low cost **Maintenance Plan** from South Madison County HVAC. We'll check all the little things in your system that, when not working properly, can cause you big problems. Your *first year is FREE* with any new installation or replacement. After that, you pay only \$150/year for two visits and up to four hours of labor! You save money, and we keep your system in top running condition! Call today and find out more!

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR JULY 2005

July 2

Blood Drive
New Hope Methodist Church
Contact: Church office, 723-4812

July 4

Independence Day
National Holiday - Many offices and business closed

July 11

New Hope Planning Commission
New Hope City Hall
7:00 p.m.

July 18

New Hope Historical Association Meeting
New Hope City Hall, First Floor - Museum
7:00 p.m. Contact: Lou Ann Poole, 723-2525

July 18

City Council Meeting
New Hope City Hall
7:00 p.m.

First Saturdays (thru Oct.)

North Ala. Street Toys Cruise-In
Hardee's Restaurant, Hwy 431 in New Hope
6 p.m. to 9 p.m.
Custom cars, street rods, trucks and classic cars welcome
Contact: Billy Vann, 723-4631

Third Saturdays

Card-Making Classes
New Hope United Methodist Church
9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.
Each class will feature several cards with a different theme each month. \$10 per class, with proceeds going to the Mark Partain Playground.
Contact: Cynthia Partain, 723-2917 or Teresa Ballard, 723-2161

Keep your community informed. If you have an event your group or organization would like to publicize, submit it to the Community Calendar. Contact Maria Goodson at NHTC with the event name, date, time, details and contact person with phone number.

OXR After School Program

There will be an after school program available for students of Owens Cross Roads next year. The hours are from 2:35 to 5:45 daily. Activities include snack time (included in cost), homework time, and structured playtime. The cost is \$6.00 per day per child. There is a discount for additional children in the same family. Those interested should contact the school at 725-4233. ☎

Preregister for Kindergarten & Pre-K at New Hope Elementary

Parents of four- and five-year-olds should register their children as soon as possible for the 2005-06 school year.

If your child is age five on or before September 2, you should register him or her for Kindergarten. If your child is age four on or before September 2, you should register him or her for the Pre-K program.

Your child will also be screened at time of registration.

When you come to register your child, please bring your child's Social Security Card, Birth Certificate, current Blue Immunization Card, Chickenpox Documentation, and proof of residency. Please do not wait to register your child. Even if you are missing one of these items, please begin the registration process. If you have any questions, please call 723-8879.

On the Web

To download the 2005/06 Madison County School calendar, visit www.madison.k12.al.us/calendars.htm

It's Bar-B-Que Time!

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Shelby introduces flat tax legislation

In May, U.S. Senator Richard Shelby (R-AL) introduced S. 1099, the "Tax



Simplification Act of 2005." This bill would repeal the current Internal Revenue Code and replace it with a flat tax rate that would apply to all taxpayers.

Shelby has been calling for fundamental tax reform for more than two decades, and has introduced flat tax legislation every Congress since 1984.

Shelby said, "Now more than ever, we have an opportunity to fundamentally reform our tax code. President Bush has acknowledged that tax reform is one of his top priorities. Earlier this year, he created an Advisory Panel on Federal Tax Reform, whose charge is to advise

the Secretary of the Treasury on options to reform the tax code to make it simpler, fairer, and more pro-growth. I believe S. 1099 achieves these goals."

S.1099 would repeal the current Internal Revenue Code and replace it with a single tax rate for all taxpayers – seventeen percent when the tax is fully implemented. The legislation would also eliminate the many marginal rates, all itemized deductions and credits, the alternative minimum tax, and the taxation of Social Security benefits. In place of itemized deductions, each taxpayer would be given a generous standard deduction of \$12,790, or \$25,580 in the case of a couple filing jointly. Taxpayers would receive an additional \$5,510 standard deduction for each dependant.

"Therefore, a family of four

would need to make over \$36,600 before they would pay a single penny of taxes" Shelby said. "I believe my flat tax legislation provides for a fairer system, while still protecting those who are most in need."

Shelby says the current tax code and its regulations total more than 60,000 pages which are complex, confusing and costly to comply with. "Were a flat tax in place now, taxpayers would file a return the size of a postcard," he said, "and every American would be taxed equally and at the same rate. Everyone will fill out the same simple return, everyone will be taxed at the same rate, and everyone will pay their fare share," he concluded. ♦

VOID

Have you cashed your Capital Credit check yet? In May, New Hope Telephone Cooperative mailed Capital Credit checks to all eligible members. **These checks become void at the end of July.** If you have not yet cashed your Capital Credit check, please do so as promptly as possible. This will help avoid the extra cost of reissuing checks. Thank you.

Stretching is good exercise

Exercise can be beneficial to everyone, no matter what their age. As we grow older, if we don't remain physically active, our muscles tend to shorten and tighten, and our joints become stiff. Stretching a few times a week can help increase flexibility and range of motion. To learn more, visit the American Cancer Society online at www.cancer.org.

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From the kitchen of Era Belle Pritchett

There are many ways to show love to your family members. One of Era Belle Pritchett's favorite ways is through their stomachs.

The sampling of her recipes below prove the point. "Maw Belle is as sweet as her cakes," says granddaughter Melissa Cooper, who submitted Pritchett for the Cook of the Month. "During the holi-

days she gets so many calls from people wanting her to bake cakes for them. My co-workers at Huntsville Hospital say she makes the best Carrot Cake in the world."

Her vegetable soup is made fresh from the garden that she and her husband, Jobbie, raise each year.

Red Velvet Cake

2-1/2 c. self-rising flour
1-1/2 c. sugar
1 Tbsp. cocoa
1 c. buttermilk
1-1/2 c. Crisco oil
1 Tbsp. vinegar
2 eggs
1 bottle red food coloring (1 oz.)
1 Tbsp. vanilla

Sift all dry ingredients together and add other ingredients in order. Mix well. Grease and flour 2 round cake pans. Bake at 350 degrees for 30 minutes.

Frosting:

1 stick margarine
1 box powdered sugar
1 c. chopped nuts
1 (8 oz.) cream cheese
1/2 tsp. sugar

Margarine and cream cheese should be room temperature. Cream margarine and cream cheese well. Add sugar and beat until creamy. Add vanilla and nuts. Spread on cooled cake.

Sour Cream Coconut Cake

1 box Duncan Hines butter cake mix
1 small box instant vanilla pudding
1 c. water
1/3 c. Crisco oil
4 eggs

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Grease and flour pans. Blend all ingredients in a large bowl. Beat at medium speed for 2 minutes. Bake for 38 to 43 minutes. When cake cools, split layers to make 4. Spread icing between layers.

Filling and Icing:

2 c. sugar
1 c. sour cream
1 large bag frozen coconut
1 medium Cool Whip

Mix the first 3 ingredients together and add a little Cool Whip to spread well. Keep 1 cup of mixture out to add to Cool Whip. The first mixture goes between the layers and the Cool Whip and cup of filling goes on top and on sides of cake. Refrigerate when completed.

Chocolate Cream Torte

1 box devil's food cake mix. Mix and cook by directions on box. Cool and divide layers, making 4 instead of 2.

Filling and Icing:

1 (8 oz.) cream cheese
1/2 c. sugar
1 tsp. vanilla flavoring
1 c. finely chopped pecans
1 c. whipping cream, chilled
Some pecan halves may be used to garnish

Beat cream cheese and sugar on low speed. Add vanilla and pecans. Beat whipping cream in a small bowl until still peaks form. Fold whipped cream into cream cheese mixture. Frost between layers and on top. Frost sides of cake with any brand chocolate frosting.

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. We have begun featuring a Cook of the Month in each issue of *The Communicator*. And we're not just looking for southern fare — gourmet chefs are welcome, too.

To be considered for this new 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.

"Good Ole Summertime"



Macy Wallace & Alyson Graham
Photo by Amanda Graham



Warren Paseur
Photo by Danielle Paseur



Patriotic Kitten
Photo by Sergei Edwards



Jordan Aaron & Trey Holland



Jordan, Trystan, & Nathan Helton
Photo by Connie King



Trey Benjamin Gulley
Photo by Jessica Gulley

The September photo theme is **"That's My Kid!"** 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. If your entry is selected, you'll see your photo in print.

The deadline for the September entry is July 22.

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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Member Testimonial

Occasionally we receive notes from members thanking us for help with a problem or commending us on a job well done. We received this exceptional letter via email recently, and Mr. Caryl gave us permission to share it with our readers. Thank your, Mr. Caryl.

Thanks so much for your call this afternoon concerning my telephone service. After we finished talking, I began to think back on my experience with New Hope Telephone Cooperative. I have been a subscriber for over twenty years now. In that time, I have seen many innovations in service from NEHP.

When the internet was in its infancy, NEHP was one of the first internet service providers in the area to offer ISDN service. I know, because I was the very first NEHP subscriber to enjoy that service. Since then, I've seen the introduction of high quality DSL service, culminating in delivery of all voice and data via fiber optics to my home.

What many subscribers to NEHP do not realize is how remarkable it is to receive this level of service and technology from a non-profit telephone cooperative. The popular misconception is that the level of technology and service that we as NEHP subscribers enjoy is available only from a large corporate provider like BellSouth, Knology or Comcast. When I tell others about my DSL service with NEHP they ask me, "Who is your ISP?" I never fail to get the response, "Who?" Upon their learning about NEHP it boggles their minds when they learn that I also receive a patronage refund every year!

All you folks down at NEHP have a right to be proud of what NEHP has become, and of the job you do to maintain that level of quality.

Once again, thanks for your call this afternoon. I very much appreciate the follow up.

Sincerely,
Robert L. Caryl Jr.

New Hope Telephone Cooperative
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