

A Publication of New Hope Telephone Cooperative

The

Communicator

Vol. 8, No. 6

June 2009

2009
Annual
Meeting
Coverage



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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New Hope Exchange

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Mike Whitaker
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Greg Glover
Owens Cross Roads Exchange

Jimmy Segler
Grant Exchange

The Communicator

Vol. 8, No. 6 June 2009

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On the cover:

Many were in attendance at NHTC's Annual Meeting in May. Read more about it on pages 4 and 5.

Manager's Comments

It's an exciting time at NHTC



entertainment and great door prizes is a recipe for an enjoyable evening.

But it is also a great opportunity for you as a member to learn about all of the activity taking place at your cooperative.

As part of our business meeting we showed a 20-minute video we produced with our communications partners, WordSouth Public Relations and Town Creek Productions. This video highlighted the progress made in the past year and our plans to continue to improve service for the future.

Please allow me to briefly recap the topics covered in this video:

Fiber-to-the-home - Most of you are familiar with our plan to replace our traditional copper system with advanced fiber optic technology. The advantages of this upgrade are astounding. Fiber gives us the ability to send almost infinite amounts of information through a piece of buried fiber that is about the thickness of a hair. By making the upgrade to fiber, NHTC is placing itself on the forefront of communications technology. And because fiber is buried, our services will be protected from bad weather and other potential threats. In the past year we have buried 24 miles of fiber and constructed four remotes and three fiber huts. When this project is complete, NHTC services will be completely underground. While we have a long way to go, we are making excellent progress with this project.

Financial status - Despite the downturn in the economy, you can rest assured your cooperative is financially strong. We have seen good returns this year and have awarded more than \$1.4 million in Capital Credits to our members since 2004.

Cable TV - We have continued to expand our cable service to include the channels you request.

Internet - We have continued to increase our bandwidth capacity to bring members faster Internet service. We have also upgraded our email system to a more secure platform that helps block out spam mail and other dangers online.

Communicator - We have continued to bring you our nationally recognized, award-winning magazine that offers much more than cooperative news. In May, we expanded our circulation to include everyone in our service area, helping our cooperative grow by reaching those in the community who are not currently NHTC members.

Bundles - Perhaps one of the most exciting developments this year is the introduction of Bundles. By grouping our services together, we can offer telephone, television and Internet service at a lower price, a benefit for all members.

To see the details, I encourage you to log onto our Web site at www.nehp.net to view the full video. Then you can be as excited about the future as we are!

Tom Wing

*General Manager,
New Hope Telephone Cooperative*

Two deserving students receive NHTC Scholarships

DAR senior Olivia Ashton Hall is the recipient of a \$500 scholarship from New Hope Telephone Cooperative. Hall is the daughter of Brian and Vicki Hall. She was a member of the cheerleading squad, the volleyball and softball teams and was named an All-County softball player. She participated in SAA, FCCLA, FBLA, Historical Society, Ensemble, Science Club, Pep Club, Mu Alpha Theta and National Honor Society. She also volunteered with Red Cross. Hall plans to attend Wallace State Community College and major in radiologic technology.



Shelby Mann, a senior at New Hope High School, also received a \$500 scholarship from NHTC. Mann is the daughter of Greg and Barbara Mann of Owens Cross Roads. She was an All-Tournament, All-County and All-Area softball player and an All-Tournament volleyball player. She was named Pitcher of the Year in 2008. Mann was chosen as a member of Prom and Homecoming courts. She was an active member of SGA, National Honor Society, Anchor Club, FBLA and Fellowship of Christian Students. Mann plans to pursue a Pharmacy degree at Southern Union State Community College.



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BUNDLES make big news at NHTC's Annual Meeting

Bundles stole the show at New Hope Telephone Cooperative's 2009 Annual Meeting held on Tuesday, May 19 at New Hope School. Cooperative members from New Hope, Grant and Owens Cross Roads came together to cast their votes in the Board of Directors election and hear a report on the progress of the past year. But the biggest excitement surrounded NHTC's introduction of service bundles.

"We had a great turnout at our annual meeting this year," NHTC General Manager Tom Wing says. "This is an exciting time in our cooperative. At the

meeting we rolled out our new Bundles plans and our members could not have been more excited to jump on board and take advantage of this great new program.

"Also, in the past year we have made great strides in our fiber deployment project and have made improvements in every service we provide," Wing continues. "And despite the obvious downturn in our economy, I am proud to say this cooperative remains on solid financial footing."

In addition to business and voting, NHTC made plenty of time for food, fun and fellowship at the Annual Meeting.

After voting, those in attendance were served snacks and enjoyed the song and dance of the DAR Show Choir, and a performance from local southern rock band, Buckshot before kicking off the business meeting.

After the entertainment, NHTC Board President Greg Glover welcomed the crowd and began the official business meeting. At this time, Glover also announced to members and the board that while he would remain a board member, he would not seek re-election as NHTC Board President.



NHTC members register for new service Bundles. Bundles were a big hit at the 2009 Annual Meeting where more than 80 members signed up for service.



State Representative Butch Taylor registers at the NHTC Annual Meeting.

While representatives from each community in the service area counted votes, NHTC General Manager Tom Wing introduced a 20-minute video to highlight the past year's work to continue to improve service to the members of NHTC.

A large portion of the video updated members on the progress of the NHTC project to deploy fiber technology



NHTC members cast their votes for the 2009 Board of Directors election.

for incumbent Jim Duncan, and Place # 3, New Hope, held by incumbent Jeff Cooper. After all the votes were tallied, Glover announced that Duncan and Cooper were both re-elected by a wide margin.

NHTC also used the meeting as an opportunity to introduce members to the highly anticipated service Bundles that allow NHTC members to save money by paying one price for a group of services.

Bundle packages that were introduced at the meeting and are now available to members are the NHTC Advantage Plan and the NHTC Elite Plan. The NHTC Advantage Plan offers unlimited nationwide calling (local and long distance), five calling features and DSL*max* Internet service for \$79.95 per month. The NHTC Elite Plan offers unlimited nationwide calling (local

throughout its service area.

After the video, Glover announced the results of the elections. A quorum of 321 members voted at the meeting.

Two seats on the Board of Directors were up for consideration — Place # 2, New Hope, held by incum-

and long distance), five calling features, DSL*max* Internet service and expanded Cable television service for \$119.95 per month.

The Bundles launch was a big hit at the meeting. According to NHTC Marketing Director Misty Williams, 86 members signed up for Bundle packages.

"We are very pleased with the launch of our Bundle plans," Williams says. Bundles are a win-win for our members. By charging a lower fixed monthly amount for a combination of services, we are able to offer more for less money. Based on our opening night at the Annual Meeting, where about one out of every four members who voted also signed up



DAR Show Choir (above) warms up before their performance at the Annual Meeting. Members enjoyed entertainment from the DAR Show Choir and local southern rock band, Buckshot.

for a bundles package, we believe this will be a very popular new program."

The Annual Meeting wrapped up with door prizes including two plasma televisions, cash prizes and several other items.▲



MEET YOUR 2009 NHTC BOARD OF DIRECTORS - Members of the NHTC Board are, left to right: (seated) Sonny Cantrell; David Ayers; Barry Jones; and Jim Duncan; (standing) Tom Wing, General Manager; Jeff Cooper; Mike Whitaker; Greg Glover; Jimmy Segler; Garland Elders; and Doug Martinson, NHTC Attorney. The Board held an organizational meeting after the business meeting and elected the following officers: President, Barry Jones; Vice President, David Ayers; Secretary, Jim Duncan; and Treasurer, Sonny Cantrell.

GOT HOMEWORK?

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Thurman Hubbard remembered

Alford “Thurman” Hubbard, a retired long-time employee of New Hope Telephone Cooperative lost his battle with cancer on April 13, 2009.

Hubbard was initially hired to work on both telephone and cable lines. After four years, he was promoted to cable installer/repairman/technician. Hubbard went on to become CATV foreman before he retired in June, 2004.

Ken Wood worked with Hubbard for 18 years. “Thurman meant a lot to me,” says Wood. “He always went the extra mile for the company and was always good to everyone. He was a simple guy who never let anything bother him.”

Before his work at NHTC, Hubbard and his brother Horace ran a service station for many years.

A member of OCR Church of Christ, Hubbard leaves behind two sons, Buford and Bobby, several grandchildren and his siblings. He was preceded in death by his wife, Teal.▲



Retired NHTC employee Thurman Hubbard passed away in April following a long battle with cancer.

Legislative Update

By Rep. Butch Taylor

Alabama House of Representatives, Dist. 22



The 2009 regular session of the Alabama Legislature has ended, and I am happy to report that it was a productive one.

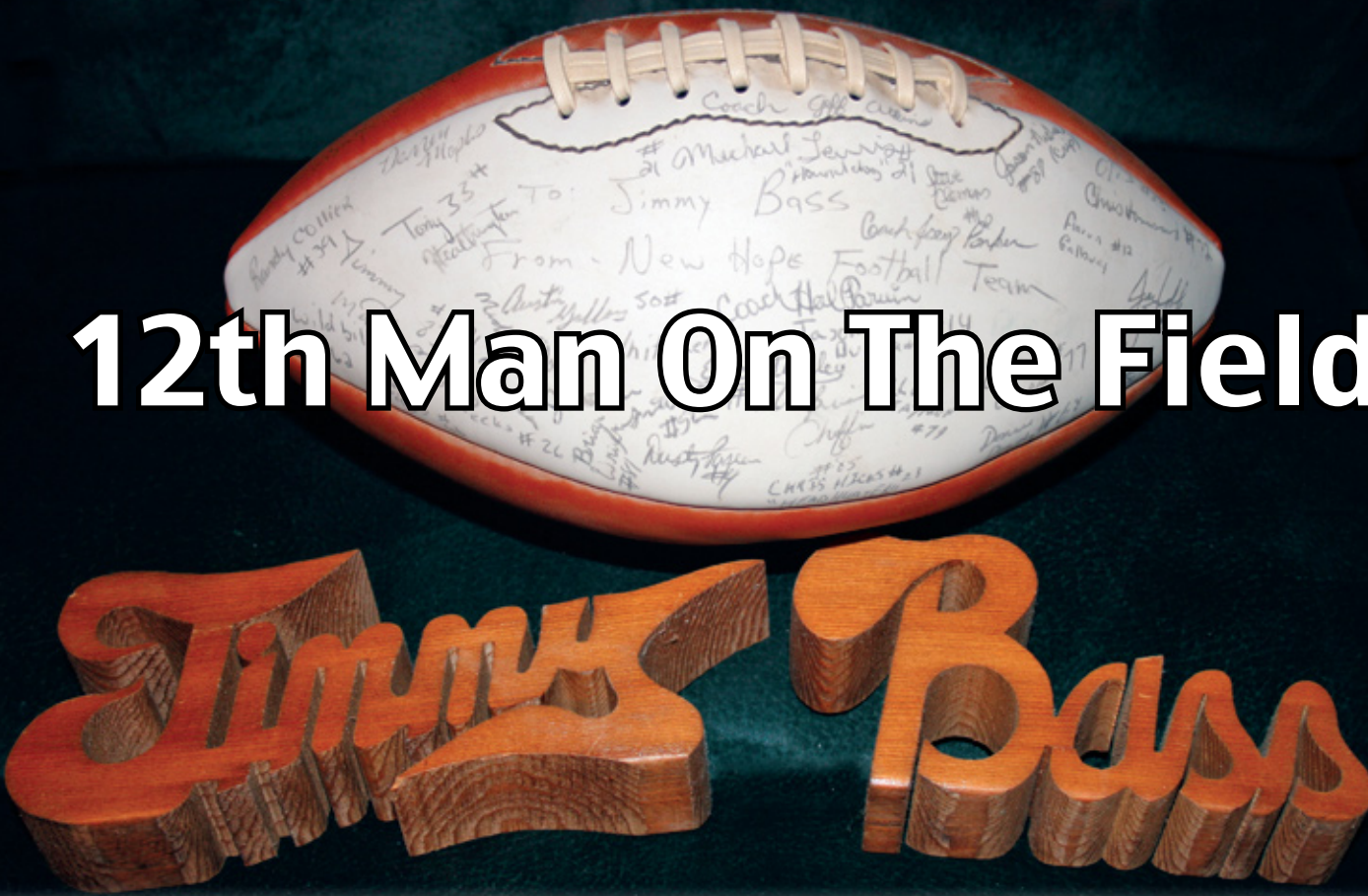
Earlier this year, I was appointed to the House Education Appropriations Committee, and I have focused a great deal of time this session on our state's **Education Budget**. We were all concerned about the impact our economy would have on education spending at the beginning of the year, but thanks to federal stimulus money and careful budgeting we were able to save all education jobs and keep employees working for our students.

I introduced a local bill that would give the Madison County License Director the authority to **void car tags** that are paid for with invalid personal checks. This bill became law. I plan to introduce a statewide version during the 2010 session, to help counties combat those who write a bad check and drive away with a valid car tag.

I am very disappointed that the legislation passed regarding **Owens Cross Roads deannexation**. The people of Owens Cross Roads were against efforts to remove 80 acres from the city limits, and I supported their stance. I was voted down five to one among the Madison County legislative delegation. I think it sets a dangerous precedent that could destroy the future of Alabama's small towns that lie on the outskirts of metropolitan areas.

I am also disappointed that we could not get the votes to **remove state sales tax from food**. This will be the first bill out of the House of Representatives in the 2010 session, and I will continue to fight to remove this repressive tax for our citizens.

Remember to please visit me online at www.repbutchtaylor.org. ▲

A photograph of a football with a white laces and a white body. The body is covered in handwritten signatures in black ink. Below the football is a wooden sculpture of the name "Jimmy Bass" in a stylized, blocky font. The background is dark and textured.

12th Man On The Field

Editors note:

Many of our readers are aware that for the past few months in the *Communicator*, we have spotlighted an "Alumni of the Month." We have recognized some very impressive NHHS graduates — an NFL football player, successful doctors and professionals, even a member of the Alabama House of Representatives.

Each alumni has been recognized because they took the education provided them and went on to do great things in their lives and the lives of others. This month is no different.

A few weeks ago, we were contacted by Sara Burleson, a member of the New Hope community. She had a suggestion for an "Alumni of the Month." Burleson's life was so touched by this young man that, not only did she suggest that we honor him in June, but she submitted a story about him herself.

After reading this touching story, we decided to do something that we have never done in this series before — have one of you tell the story for us.

We would like to thank Sara Burleson for sharing this story in her own words. The story of Jimmy "Big Jim" Bass rivals that of any alumnus we have spotlighted in our series thus far, and is sure to move you as it has us.

by Sara Richard Burleson

When you look back at your time spent in high school, what do you consider to be the most important experiences? What or who made an impact on the person you are today—friends, teachers, classes, good/bad decisions, involvement in clubs, sports, the band or cheerleading? Do you remember homecoming, freshman fears, prom, riding around, exams, bus rides, school spirit and graduation?

Some of these experiences probably factored into the choices you have made as an adult and the direction your life has taken. If you attended New Hope High School during the mid to late 1980's, you had the privilege of getting to know

Jimmy Bass.

Jimmy "Big Jim" Bass was a member of the Class of 1989, he was a member of the High School football team for several years, and he was a special friend to many students. Jimmy was an inspiration to classmates and faculty members.

Even today, the mere mention of his name stirs emotions and memories about the impact that Jimmy had on New Hope School.

All of the typical high school experiences were important, but just as important was being around Jimmy. We all knew that if Jimmy was coming towards us, to reach down with our hand so that he could give us "five" with his foot.

We expected to see him with the football team. We were in awe of his ability to write with his toes, we were amazed by his school spirit, and, we were inspired by his involvement with the football team.

Even though Jimmy never caught a pass, never scored a touchdown and never blocked an opponent, he was an

integral part of the team.

Jimmy was born with cerebral palsy—a condition that limited the use of his arms, his hands and his speech, but not his heart.

Jimmy's role as manager for the New Hope football team gave him the opportunity to touch the lives of so many young men. To see the joy on his face after a victorious game and to see the sadness in his eyes after a defeat, reflected those players and coaches own emotions.

Obie Childers, who was the head coach during these years, remembers Jimmy this way:

“When Jimmy wanted to be a manager for New Hope, I was real worried about him getting hurt. His mom talked me into it and I allowed him to come out. He was a true inspiration to me personally. Jimmy was the same person every single day. Regardless if he had fallen down in the hall, if he was sick, or if he had a bad school day, Jimmy would block it out and come to practice with a perfect attitude. He loved all the players, coaches and fellow managers. You would always hear players and coaches wishing that they were as positive as Jimmy. When New Hope enjoyed success, he was our biggest fan. When we cried, Jimmy would cry with us. I am 100% positive that I can say without a doubt, we as a football team loved and still love Jimmy Bass.”

Jimmy's heart is also filled with love and fond memories of his time spent with the football team.

He states, “I always wanted a brother, and when I started New Hope High School, I found that I had a whole football team of brothers.”

In the fall of 1988, the Indian football team was county champs, area champs and ended their season in the 2nd round of the State playoffs. As amazing as this season was for all of the players, it did not completely define who they were or the type of person they became. Several former football players had the following

to say about Jimmy “Hounddog” Bass:

David Whitaker: “Jimmy Bass has more heart and more courage than any person I’ve ever known. He’s an inspiration to all of us. I am proud to call Big Jim my friend and I’m a better person for knowing him.”

Michael Lewis: “I met Jimmy during my sophomore year and we hit it off instantly. Jimmy was always an inspiration. On days when I did not have any drive or motivation, Jimmy would always come to my mind and give me the will to keep going. To me, Jimmy represented the essence of New Hope Football. I could not have asked for a better friend than Jimmy.”

Jimmy Meadows: “When I think of Jimmy Bass, the first thing that comes to my mind is his heart—this man has a big, strong heart. The adversity Jimmy has gone through makes anyone's problems pretty small. No matter what the issue was Jimmy always had a smile on his face. He was upbeat and consistent everyday on the football field, no matter what kind of day the team was experiencing.

Michael Kennemer: “Jimmy has always been an inspiration. I remember him falling to the unkind ground many times, and sometimes he would get up bleeding from his encounter with it. He would get up and be ready to continue on his way to class, a ball game, or even just to goof off with us guys. A man is not judged by how he falls, but by how he gets up after he falls. Jimmy always knew this and he taught it to a lot of us guys. Jimmy leads people to never let a fall or stumble stop them on their path. His courage and personal determination



A CLASS ACT - Former schoolmates met with Jimmy Bass at his home in Woodville. They are seated (L to R): Michael Lewis, Mitch Robbins, Jimmy Bass, David Whitaker. Standing (L to R): Mikey Walls, Tim Phillips, Sara Burleson, Michael Kennamer, Christine Brown, Jimmy Meadows and Darren Maples.

was an example to us all.”

These players and many more can look back and say that it was a profound experience to be around Jimmy. To have “Big Jim” standing on the sidelines at every game, and to have his encouraging spirit on the field with them had to have helped shape their character. Jimmy's presence around those players surely gave them a greater appreciation for their own physical abilities and hopefully helped them to look past differences in other people they have encountered over the years.

Jimmy was bestowed the title of “Most School Spirit” by his senior classmates. The 1988-89 annual was dedicated to Jimmy because of his “courage and strength”. New Hope High School has now honored him as an “Alumnus of the Month.” So how can you honor Jimmy Bass if you do not personally know him? I challenge current high school students, long ago graduates, and community members to look around and find a “Big Jim” in your life—someone that can teach you more than you could ever give to them. Find a person who will inspire you to be a better person and to live your life to the fullest. Make every effort to define the greatest moments in your life not only by your accomplishments, but also by the time you take to pay attention to the 12th Man On the Field. ▲

New Hope Children's Clinic to open on NHHS campus

The children of New Hope and surrounding areas will soon have better access to affordable health care. New Hope Children's Clinic will be opening Monday, Aug. 3, 2009 on the campus of New Hope School at the site of the former HEALS clinic, and will provide pediatric medical care at little or no cost to children in the area.

Because of high costs and lack of medical insurance, many children do not have access to quality health care. The New Hope Children's Clinic was created with these children in mind.

The clinic will serve more than 1,500 children of southeastern Madison County in New Hope, Owens Cross Roads and Gurley.

Medical care will be offered to children age 3 to age 21 at little or no cost, with hopes of expanding to provide care for infants through age 21 within the next six months.

"This will not just be a free medical clinic offering minimal care," says Amy Thomas, Executive Director of New Hope Children's Clinic. "This will be a full-blown pediatric medical facility complete with labs

and medicine, staffed with some of the best medical professionals in the area.

care as well.

"It is wonderful that God has allowed us to provide this service," Thomas adds. "There are no pediatricians in the immediate area, so this clinic will be an asset not only to children who do not have insurance or may need a little help with costs, but a viable option for quality medical care for all children in the area."

In areas of Madison County where some children come from financially disadvantaged homes, education is key to helping boys and girls overcome adversity and break free from the chains of poverty.

If a child is often sick or has an ongoing medical condition and cannot receive medical attention, they are at risk of missing school and falling behind their classmates.

In southeastern Madison County 35 percent of families have a yearly income of less than \$24,999. Forty-seven percent of children in county schools receive Free/Reduced Breakfast-Lunch assistance and 41 percent of children under the age of five in single mother families are below the federal

poverty level.

Many uninsured children in the



STANDING TALL - New Hope Children's Clinic Executive Director Amy Thomas measures daughter Maleah's height at the new clinic located on the campus of New Hope High School. New Hope Children's Clinic opens Aug. 3.

Eventually we will have x-ray capabilities and will offer full vision and dental

county would be eligible for free or reduced health insurance if they were aware of their options or had assistance applying for it.

Thomas, a Registered E.R. Nurse with more than 10 years experience, is hoping to help these children obtain health insurance through Alabama's KidCheck program. Through KidCheck, New Hope Children's Clinic and New Hope School will partner with area college nursing programs and organizations from across the state to administer health screenings.

The screenings will provide physical assessments including height and weight, body mass index, blood pressure, heart rate, respiratory rate, vision, hearing, oral health and scoliosis.

Any student with a signed parental permission form qualifies for the screening. After the screenings, parents receive a report and assistance for children needing additional care.

There will be representatives at the KidCheck screening from All Kids and Medicaid to help eligible children sign up for health coverage. Those who are uninsured and are not eligible for Medicaid or All Kids can be covered through the Alabama Child Caring Foundation.

"KidCheck will be a great way to kick things off at New Hope Children's Clinic," Thomas says. "We will be able to have every child in the school screened from head to toe. It is a great opportunity for all children, but particularly those who may not have seen a doctor in a very long time. After the children are assessed, we will be able to treat them in our clinic and track their progress in the months and years to come. It also allows us to help uninsured children get the coverage

that is so important to their well-being."

New Hope Children's Clinic will accept payments from those who can and want to pay and children covered by insurance, but will turn no one away due to lack of insurance or inability to pay.

Thomas says the costs of operation for the clinic will be high.

"We will be able to provide health care to these children because of the many selfless doctors and medical professionals who have volunteered to work at no cost, and through the generous support from individuals and groups who have donated time, money and supplies," Thomas says. "However, it is still very expensive to operate a full-service medi-

cal clinic, and any child whose costs can be offset by reimbursement to our clinic from their insurance companies will be a help."

cal clinic, and any child whose costs can be offset by reimbursement to our clinic from their insurance companies will be a help."

office, triage room, two exam rooms and an office for the clinic's director. Thomas says the New Hope Children's Clinic has seen great support from many individuals, businesses and groups in the community and area. "It would be impossible for me to name every individual that has played a part in seeing this vision become a reality," Thomas says. "I have been overwhelmed by the generosity and love that has poured in from people all over this community and region. God has made this clinic possible through the generosity and love and support of others."

In addition to donating the trailer to house the clinic, Cove Church has made a generous monetary donation to help get the clinic up and running.

Local software company, Oceris/Flex-Medical donated more than \$50,000 in medical software.

Thomas says County Commissioner Jerry Craig has been very supportive

and New Hope City Council and the city of Owens Cross Roads have also pledged financial support.

Unclaimed Baggage in Scottsboro has agreed to donate monthly what will eventually amount to thousands, if not millions, of dollars worth of medical equipment. Thomas says Tara Manufacturing has been supportive and Huntsville Hospital, through a philanthropic Community Health Initiative, has awarded the clinic a very generous grant.

The clinic will be open Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. Open enrollment for New Hope Children's Clinic will be July 27 - 30th from 10:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m. For more information, visit newhopechildrensclinic.org or call (256) 723-HOPE. ▲



cal clinic, and any child whose costs can be offset by reimbursement to our clinic from their insurance companies will be a help."

The clinic will be staffed by Thomas, who will continue her role as Executive Director, a volunteer team of at least five physicians, a counselor, two nurse practitioners and a paid nurse and administrative professional.

Thomas has also received volunteer commitments from local dentists and vision care professionals who will begin work when additional space is secured to house dental and vision care.

The clinic is located on the campus of New Hope School in a trailer that was donated by Cove Church. The facility is fully equipped with a waiting room, counselor's office, doctor's and nurse's

COUNTY SHED DAY



COMMISSIONER JERRY CRAIG HOSTS APPRECIATION LUNCH

On May 7, Madison County Commissioner Jerry Craig hosted “Shed Day” in New Hope. Craig has hosted the annual event at the county shed off of Main Drive in New Hope to show his appreciation to the residents of this area for the past 15 years.

Each Spring, on an afternoon during County Government Week, the shed bays that normally house back hoes and dump trucks are filled with picnic tables and enough food to feed the hundreds of residents who come out to enjoy a free meal, live music and fellowship with neighbors.

“This day serves as a thank you from me to the good people of this community for the love and support they have shown me through the years,” Craig says. “It has been an honor and a privilege to serve as Madison County Commissioner for almost 25 years. To be able to show my appreciation by hosting such a wonderful day of food, fun and fellowship could not be any more fulfilling.”

Craig is quick to acknowledge the efforts of the county employees whose hard work helps make the day possible.

“Our county workers put in a lot of effort to help me make this day a





success,” Craig says. “Their help with this every year means a lot to me, and I know it means a lot to the people of New Hope. This would not be possible without them.”

This year, those in attendance enjoyed a beautiful day of sunshine, live music and a meal of barbecue chicken, baked beans, cole slaw and corn on the cob. Craig also gave away hundreds of free books.



“I believe reading is beneficial to people of all ages,” Craig says. “By giving away books, we are sharing knowledge with others. It is something that has the potential to make all of us better.”

Craig says he is pleased with the turnout for this year's event and hopes it is a tradition that will continue for years to come. ▲



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New Hope gets *Spring cleaning*

On April 25, volunteers of New Hope came together to give the entire town a Spring cleaning. Over 150 volunteers walked the streets of New Hope gathering unsightly litter.

Volunteers from many organizations such as local churches, Boy, Girl, and Cub Scouts, New Hope High School FBLA, Fellowship of Christian Students, Peer Group, Adopt a Block, New Hope Founders Day Committee, and NHTC, as well as individual volunteers, collected

a total of 827 bags of litter.

Litter Removal Day was organized by the New Hope Lions Club, and made possible with the help of the New Hope City Council, Commissioner Jerry Craig, the Madison County government, and



the Huntsville Green Team. Monetary support and prizes were donated by local businesses.

The community clean-up efforts were a huge success. The removal of such a large amount of trash greatly improved the look and health of the local environment.

Let's all do our part to make sure we keep the streets and roadways free of debris and help keep New Hope beautiful.▲



Above: Clean Up organizer Ava Cambron shows her gratitude to volunteers with a sign. Top right: Volunteers from Junior Beta help clean up New Hope. Top Left: A group of volunteers take a break for lunch. Several merchants from around New Hope donated items for lunch and drawings for prizes.

June 1

New Hope Rec Center Pool

This is the official opening day for the pool. Hours of operation are Monday through Friday from 12:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. Cost is \$3 per day/per person. To schedule swimming lessons or a pool party call 723-3800.

June 6

North Alabama Street Toys Cruise-In

First Saturday of each month through October 3rd at 9 p.m. at the Hardee's restaurant in New Hope. Custom Cars, Street Rods, Trucks and Classic Cars are welcome (no boom boxes). 50/50 drawing, door prizes, awards. No entry fee-just lots of fun! Contact Billy Vann at 723-4631 or Donald Roy Paseur at 723-4500.

June 7

Cave Spring Baptist Church Homecoming

Begins at 10:30 a.m. with music from By Grace Trio.

June 20

First Annual Hope Festival

The New Hope Beautification Committee and Family First Homemakers have joined together to host our First Annual Hope Festival. The festival will include a cook-off and craft show. Booth spaces are available for \$25 for the craft show and \$50 for the cook off. All proceeds will go to current projects the groups are working on in Downtown New Hope. For more information please call 256-679-5448 or email brandy@taragraphics.com.

June 27

Grave Marking Ceremony

The Gunter Mountain Chapter NSDAR will mark Revolutionary War soldier John Whitaker's grave at Whitaker Cemetery. If you plan to attend contact Betty Moore at 728-4135.

Scenes from Grant Founder's Day

Stormy weather and heavy downpours limited the crowds at Grant Founder's Day in May. But those who attended enjoyed good food, great music and fun games.

Area merchants and local vendors had booths set up for everyone to stop by.

New Hope Telephone Cooperative braved the weather to man a booth at the event. "The weather was unfortunate, but everyone who came out really seemed to enjoy themselves," says NHTC Marketing Director Misty Williams.

Attendees who came by were invited to spin the wheel for a prize. Giveaways included \$10 off your next phone bill, \$5 off your NHTC bill, USB flash drives, tote bags and coffee mugs.▲



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New Hope High School Teacher of the Month

Kathy Williams is New Hope High School's teacher of the month for June.

Williams is finishing her first year at New Hope as special education teacher.

"To do what I do is a privilege," Williams says. "I get up every morning and I love what I do. Working with these wonderful children in such a great community and school is the best job in the world."

Before coming to NHHS, Williams taught at Madison County High School for three years.

Williams graduated from UNA with a degree in physical education and received her master's in Collaborative 6-12 Special Education in 2006.

Williams, a single mother of four, earned her master's in less than a year and graduated with a 4.0 grade point average while working a full-time job.

"I am able to do what I do by the grace of God," Williams says. "It's amazing what He has made possible. I believe God put me here for a reason."

Williams lives in New Hope. She is mother to four children: Chase, Ryann, Donovan and Hope. ▲



✝ Inspiration Corner

A son is born. Mom and son are fine so dad takes off, only to return with a smile on his face and a football in his hands. When the boy learns to crawl, dad teaches him the three-point stance. When the boy learns to walk, dad teaches him to hold the football. When he learns to run, dad teaches him to tackle. As the boy grows, so does dad's teaching. Finally the day comes when everything plays out: Two seconds left in the Iron Bowl, our team is behind by four. The quarterback looks right, fakes left, tucks the ball, tucks his shoulder and barrels his way into the end zone. Dad jumps up screaming, "That's my boy, that's my boy!" The son jumps up, runs to the television camera and calls out over the roar of the crowd, "Hi Mom". And pop goes dad's ego! Credit goes to Bill Cosby for the humor in this illustration, however the importance of the story is the stability of the marriage.

All through scripture we find how FAMILY is supposed to work. Ephesians tells us in Chapters 5 and 6: "Husbands are the head of the household", "wives

are to submit to their husbands in everything", and "children are to honor their father and mother - which is the first commandment with a promise". Now, there are several things that can happen in the family structure to disrupt God's design for family. First and foremost is a father's misunderstanding of being "head of the household". For example, the father is to "love his wife as Christ loved the church and gave Himself up for it", and he is not to "intimidate his children but train them up in the instruction of the Lord". In other words, dads, being head of the house is the second greatest responsibility to giving your life to Christ. If you will love your wife to the point you are willing to give yourself up for her, unless she has a "heart of stone", she will willingly let you be the head of the house, the yard, the bed, the TV, and anything else you want to be the head of. Also, your child will grow to love and respect you beyond measure. The importance of FAMILY, with regard to the opening story, is the fact that dad spent quality time with his son! I know it is easy to get caught up in the worldliness of life and forget what's important. The time has come for husbands, and

wives, to honor their words to God and one another.

The Associated Press reports 22% of married men commit adultery, while others betray their family by being more devoted to jobs, drugs / alcohol, sports, friends, or self! So what makes the difference in a marriage? A man and woman realizing their marriage began when they said their wedding vows to God as well as each other. Ecclesiastes warns not to deny a vow made to God, for God "has no use for fools". I make this appeal to you because it seems the devil is attacking marriages now more than ever and it's up to us to stop it. If you need support or are planning to wed soon, please contact a pastor, or a marriage counselor near you. Like any life on this earth, there are none perfect, but there is also no greater life, for a man and woman to live, than to live in the sanctity of God's love together.



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



PASTOR'S NOTES

BY LARRY BISHOP, PASTOR
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
NEW HOPE

Editor's Note: This article is a continuation of the article Pastor Bishop submitted for the May issue of The Communicator. We encourage you to read that message again.

Then it happened, the light went out! Suddenly I was no longer interested in giggling frogs.

With the light out my interest and priorities changed. Where was the truck? Not where were the frogs? Within minutes (although it seemed longer) my anxiety was relieved when someone said, "we have another light."

Our new light chased away the

darkness of the night as its beam shined across the water. We discovered that we were not only close to the creek bank but there was the truck!

Life is like that. Job loses, sickness, personal disappointments, or a number of other things and suddenly we are surrounded by darkness. When these unexpected events happen, the first thing you need to know is exactly where you are. Then honestly admit your present condition. Then change your priorities.

When the light went out my priorities instantly changed. I was uneasy until I heard two reassuring statements, "I know exactly where we are" and "we have another light". When the new light shined across the water I knew everything was going to be okay. It

would not be long until we would be back in our warm house surrounded by our family and the sounds of laughter would be heard throughout the house.

God is a specialist at taking the darkest times of our life and bringing the light of hope. Have you ever thought about the first statement God made in the Bible "And God said, Let there be light and there was light"? (Genesis 1:3)

See you in church Sunday!

Sunday School	9:45am
Morning Worship	11:00am
Evening Worship	6:00pm
Wed. Prayer Meeting	6:45pm
Wed. Youth Meeting	6:45pm
Wed. TeamKID	6:30pm

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From the Community

TAMMY'S ROTEL CHICKEN

(Ann Burrow, OCR)

- 1 large stewing chicken or 3 breasts
- 3 (5 oz.) vermicelli noodles
- 1 large onion, chopped
- 1 green pepper, chopped
- 1 can green peas, drained
- 2 cans sliced mushrooms, drained
- 1 can rotel tomatoes with green chilies
- 1 (1 lb.) box of Velveeta cheese, chopped
- 6 Tbs. margarine
- 1 Tbs. Worcestershire sauce
- Salt & Pepper to taste

Cook Vermicelli noodles in chicken stock. Add all ingredients in large bowl. Mix and pour into large 9" x 12" baking dish. Bake at 350° for 20 minutes or until brown on top. Makes large dish.

PAULA'S EASY CHICKEN SALAD

(Ann Burrow, OCR)

- 2 chicken breasts cooked and chopped
- 1/2 cup mayo
- 2 Tbs. lemon juice
- 3/4 cup chopped celery
- 1/2 cup slivered almonds

Toss chicken in mayo and lemon juice.

Add chopped celery, slivered almonds, salt & pepper to taste.

BACON AND SWISS DIP

(Ann Burrow, OCR)

- 8 oz. cream cheese
- 1/2 cup mayo
- 2 Tbs. finely chopped onion
- 1 cup Swiss cheese finely chopped
- 1/2 cup crushed Ritz crackers
- 4 or more slices of crisp bacon, crumbled

Mix first four ingredients together in medium baking dish. Sprinkle 1/2 cup crushed Ritz crackers and bacon on top. Bake at 350° until hot (about 20 minutes). May use extra sharp cheddar cheese instead of Swiss cheese. Serve with crackers, chips, or pita chips.

SOUR CREAM CORNBREAD

(Ann Burrow, OCR)

- 1-1/2 cups self rising cornbread
- 1 egg
- 1 small can cream style corn
- 1 medium onion chopped
- 1 cup sour cream

Mix all ingredients. Grease an iron skillet and have it warm. Pour mix into skillet and bake 20 minutes at 350°. Muffin cups may be used instead of skillet.

7 LAYER SALAD

(Ann Burrow, OCR)

- 1/2 bowl sliced lettuce or chopped bite size
- 1/2 cup celery, chopped
- 1/2 cup bell pepper, chopped
- 1/2 cup onion, chopped
- 1 can English peas, drained
- 1 cup mayo

- 2 Tbs. sugar
- 6 oz. grated cheese
- 1/4 cup Parmesan cheese
- 8 slices of cooked bacon crumbled

Layer in order from above and refrigerate.

JANE'S QUICK CHILI

(Ann Burrow, OCR)

- 2 lbs. ground beef, brown and drain
- 1 medium onion, chopped
- 2 cans tomatoes, blended
- 2 cans Bush chili Beans
- 2 packages Chili-O Mix

Mix together in large pan. Heat and serve.

CORRECTION: A mistake was made in last month's Splenda Ice Cream recipe. The recipe should have said use 2 cans fat-free evaporated milk. Please do not use sweetened condensed milk in this recipe. We apologize for the mistake.

CALLING ALL COOKS

SEND US YOUR RECIPES

NHTC members have been enjoying the recipes they find in the pages of *The Communicator* for years. But in order to continue this feature we need more recipes. If you have one recipe or several that you want to share, please send them to us by mail or email. As long as we continue to receive great recipes from our members, we will continue to feature them here. Send your recipes to: **NHTC • The Communicator • PO Box 452 • New Hope, Alabama 35760, or email your recipe to communicator@nehp.net.**

Father's Day



Samuel, Isabela, and Faith love their father, Shane Hubbard. Photo by Kristi Hubbard.



James Holliday with "Daddy's Girls" Cassie and Emily. Photo sent by Brandy Holliday.

COMMUNITY SNAPSHOTS



Brynn Atchley with her dad Michael. Picture taken by Maw Maw Davis.



Jimmy Meadows and his four-year-old son Mason. Photo submitted by Donna Meadows.



Matthew Franks with his Daddy, Todd Franks. Photo by Jennifer Franks.



"World's Best Dad"
Don Mann. Picture sent by Ashley Cody.

Justin Watwood
with children
Nathan, Nolan,
Jarrett and Kaylee
LeBon. Photo by
Stephanie Ikard.



Melvin Green with his children, Romy Shae, Julia and J. Christian. Photo by Melanie Green.

"Furry Friends" is the photo theme for August. Send pictures matching the photo theme to: NHTC • Attn.: Communicator Photos • P.O. Box 452 • New Hope, Alabama 35760. You may prefer to e-mail your photo to communicator@nehp.net. Follow these guidelines for publication: (1) Photos must match theme. (2) **Photos must be high resolution.** The resolution offered by some printers is not high enough for publication. (3) Do not write on the back of photo. Include names of persons in photo, as well as, photographer, address and phone number on paper taped to back. (4) Include a self-addressed stamped envelope if you would like your photo returned. (5) The **Deadline for August is June 20th.**

By submitting your photos: (1) you attest that you are the creator and owner of the photos, (2) you give New Hope Telephone permission to publish your material in *The Communicator*, (3) you agree to offer said photos without the expectation of payment from New Hope Telephone, and (4) you understand that photos are selected for publication in *The Communicator* at the sole discretion of New Hope Telephone, and that submission of your photo does not guarantee your photo will appear in the magazine.

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