

A Publication of New Hope Telephone Cooperative

The

# Communicator

Vol. 7, No. 5

May 2008



*Inside:*

**NHTC's Annual  
Meeting is May 20**

**Meet Tony Baker**

**The latest inductee in the  
Madison Co. Sports Hall of Fame**

**There's a new place  
to play in Grant**



# What your cooperative stands for

May 20th is an important date in the life of your cooperative — the Annual Meeting. This is the yearly event when members actively participate in the direction of their cooperatively owned utility.

Last month we shared with you some of the principles that guide cooperatives. Known as the Seven Cooperative Principles, they form the basis for every decision made by New Hope Telephone Cooperative (and other such organizations).

To recap, those principles are:

1. Voluntary and Open Membership
2. Democratic Member Control
3. Members' Economic Participation
4. Autonomy and Independence
5. Education, Training, and Information
6. Cooperation Among Cooperatives
7. Concern for Community

Now look at #2 again. Here are the details on that principle:

*"Cooperatives are democratic organizations controlled by their members, who actively participate in setting their policies and making decisions. Men and women serving as elected representatives are accountable to the membership. Members have equal voting rights - one member, one vote."*

That is the principle you see played out at the Annual Meeting. As a member of NHTC, you are part of the decision-making process. By voting on issues that

come before the membership, you are taking an active role in the direction of your company.

And by voting in the election for Board members, you are deciding who — from among yourselves, your neighbors and friends — will take on the responsibilities of setting policies and procedures for NHTC.

See how important the Annual Meeting is?

There are thousands of people, in Alabama alone, who would like to have a voice in the direction of their telecommunications provider. But when you're a customer of a big investor-owned company, all you get is a bill each month. No capital credit checks, no democratic member control, no annual meeting.

So I encourage you to take advantage of this once-a-year opportunity to participate in the business of your cooperative. Besides, you'll enjoy some great music, a chance to win door prizes, and an evening of visiting with friends.

I'll see you at your New Hope Telephone Cooperative's Annual Meeting!▲



Tom Wing is General Manager of New Hope Telephone Cooperative



**Happy Memorial Day!**  
**NHTC's office will be closed**  
**Monday, May 26 for Memorial Day**  
**Have a safe and happy holiday with your family!**

## New Hope Telephone Cooperative

Your Communications Connection

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

Greg Glover, President  
Owens Cross Roads Exchange

Jimmy Segler, Vice President  
Grant Exchange

Jim Duncan, Secretary  
New Hope Exchange

David Ayers, Treasurer  
Grant Exchange

Sonny Cantrell  
Grant Exchange

Jeff Cooper  
New Hope Exchange

Garland Elders  
Owens Cross Roads Exchange

Barry Jones  
New Hope Exchange

Barry Mefford  
New Hope Exchange

### The Communicator

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On the cover:  
(Front to back) Randy Fletcher,  
Madelyn Dixon, Julie Johnson,  
Sarah Roe and Aubrey Johnson ride  
the "Bucking Bronco". Read about  
Kidtopia playground on pages 10-11.

# ANNUAL MEETING

**TUESDAY, MAY 20, 2008**

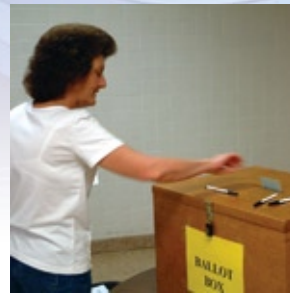
**NEW HOPE MIDDLE SCHOOL**

**Registration begins at 5 p.m.**

**Business meeting begins at 7:30 p.m.**

## *Entertainment*

**Enjoy music by the Show Choir  
& DAR Buckshot Band!**



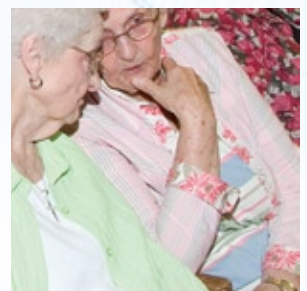
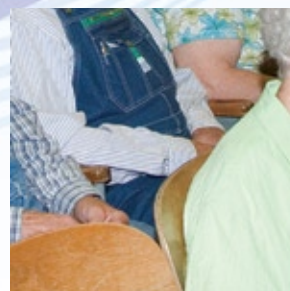
## *Door Prizes*

**Register to win great prizes!**



## *Board Elections*

**Vote for Board Positions - Place 4,  
New Hope and Place 5, New Hope  
Must have valid photo ID to vote**





# NHTC seeks applicants for Warehouse Coordinator

NHTC is seeking qualified applicants to fill the position of Warehouse Coordinator. The individual who fills this position will primarily be responsible for the following:

- Purchase materials, equipment and supplies to support all areas of plant and office operations, including large give-a-way items for annual meetings and vending/break room supplies.
- Stores and distributes materials and equipment as authorized and maintains inventories and internal controls.
- Building and Grounds upkeep, maintenance and enhancement
- Coordinating cable television set-top boxes

- Maintaining the gas / diesel supply
- Installing, repairing and collecting pay stations
- Participate in pager rotation with outside staff

All applicants must have a high school diploma or GED. Experience in warehouse coordination and buildings and ground maintenance is also necessary. Experience in telephone and/or cable television plant troubleshooting and repair is a plus but is not required.

A valid Alabama driver's license and a good driving record is required. A valid Commercial driver's license and valid Forklift Operator Certification are required within 90 days of hire date.

NHTC offers an extensive benefits package and a family-oriented work environment.

New Hope Telephone Cooperative is an equal opportunity employer. Qualified applicants are considered for employment without regard to age, race, color, religion, sex, national origin, or disability.

The salary is commensurate based on experience and qualifications.

Please submit resume, references, and salary requirements to: NHTC, Tammy Weeks, PO Box 452, New Hope, AL 35760. You may fax to 256-723-2800 or email [tammyw@nehpc.net](mailto:tammyw@nehpc.net).

The last day to submit a resume is May 14, 2008.



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ONE FREE AND EASY CALL GETS YOUR UTILITY LINES MARKED **AND** HELPS PROTECT YOU FROM INJURY AND EXPENSE. That perfect spot for your new excavation project, flower bed or mailbox may have one or more utilities buried underneath. NHTC reminds you to dial '811' before you start to dig to have underground utilities identified. Visit [www.call811.com](http://www.call811.com) for more information.

# Electing your Board of Directors

New Hope Telephone Cooperative members are more than just customers—they're also part owners in the company. One of the most important responsibilities of members is to vote to fill positions on the Board of Directors.

The Board of Directors is a group of individuals elected by cooperative members to represent their concerns and ideas for the future of the company.

Board members have a responsibility to stay informed and up-to-date about telecommunications issues. They use their knowledge to help direct the cooperative on both long-term and short-term goals.

By casting a ballot in this election, and letting your voice be heard, you

are sending an important message about the future direction of NHTC.

At the Annual Meeting on Tuesday, May 20, members will vote for two positions that are up for election: seat # 4 of the New Hope exchange, currently held by Barry Jones; and seat #5 of the New Hope exchange, currently held by Barry Mefford.

Jones and Mefford will face opponents chosen by the Nominating Committee, as well as any candidate nominated from the floor at the Annual Meeting.

Members of the 2008 Nominating Committee are Phillip Christian of Owens Cross Roads, Harrell Hill of New Hope and Scott Chandler of Grant.▲

## VOTING INSTRUCTIONS

*It's as easy as 1 - 2 - 3...*

- 1 Bring a photo ID with you to the Annual Meeting on Tuesday, May 20.
- 2 Present your ID and register in the Elementary/Middle School Cafeteria.
- 3 Mark your voting ballot and drop it in the ballot box. You may also hold onto your ballot and vote in the auditorium after any nominations from the floor and before final tallying is conducted.

**Remember, every vote counts!**

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# Board members approve Capital Credit refund

New Hope Telephone Cooperative is pleased to announce the Board of Directors has approved a two percent (2%) capital credit refund for all active members. The refund will represent two percent of the total capital credits a member has accumulated to date, less any refunds that have already been given.

"This is just one example of how it pays to be a member of a cooperative," says General Manager Tom Wing. With investor-owned businesses, company profits are sent to out-of-town investors in the form of dividends. Cooperatives operate on a different principle. Profits are shared with the members who use the services, keeping money in the same communities served by the cooperative.

The refunds will be sent by check to

all active members.

"Don't delay depositing your refund checks," reminds NHTC's Accountant Bobby Morrison Jr. It is very important

to cash or deposit your check as soon as it is received. Any checks that have not been deposited or cashed will be voided after 90 days. ▲



NHTC's Current Board members are, left to right: (seated) David Ayers, Treasurer; Greg Glover, President; Jimmy Segler, Vice President; Jim Duncan, Secretary; (standing) Garland Elders; Barry Jones; Sonny Cantrell; Barry Mefford and Jeff Cooper.



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# “Don’t Let the Door Hit You in the Rear On the Way Out”

I’m Nelson Payne of New Hope. I did something a while back that changed my life. Here’s my story.

I’ve been in chronic pain for years. I deal with neck, back and shoulder pain on a daily basis. I’ve gone to several clinics over the years, but when they find out that I do not have insurance, they just write me a prescription and say “don’t let the door hit you in the rear on your way out.”

A couple of years ago I decided to try a different doctor, who’s office is in Grant. He didn’t care that I did not have insurance; he treated me the same as the guy who had great health benefits. Dr. Mike did an exam, took some x-rays, and then adjusted my spine, and shoulders. I’ve talk Dr. Mike many times since that day, “*if I had known adjustments would help this much, I would have come here a long time ago.*”

*Oh, did I mention that this doctor is a Chiropractor?* Today I’m not on near as much pain medication, and recently he’s helped me with my TMJ problem, too? I would highly recommend Dr. Mike.

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

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

It’s strange how life is, because now people come to see me with their carpal tunnel syndrome problems. Also they come to me with their headaches, migraines, chronic pain, neck pain, shoulder/arm pain, whiplash from car accidents, backaches, ear infections, asthma, allergies, numbness in limbs, athletic injuries, just to name a few. Here’s what some of my

patients had to say:

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

*“My sciatica stays in check thanks to Dr. Mike.” (Leonard McPeters)*



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

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

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

You benefit from an Amazing Offer - Look, it shouldn’t cost you an arm and a leg to correct your health. You are going to write a check to someone for your health care expenses, you

may as well write one for a lesser amount for chiropractic. *When you bring in this article by May 28, 2008, you will receive my entire new patient exam for \$27. That’s with x-rays...the whole ball of wax.* And, further care is very affordable. You see, I’m not trying to seduce you to come see me with this low start up fee, then to only make it up with high fees after that. Further care is very important to consider when making your choice of doctor. High costs can add up very quickly. By law, we must state that additional charges may be incurred for related services which may be required in individual cases. Results may vary in individual cases.

**Great care at a great fee...** Please, I hope that there’s no misunderstanding about **quality of care** just because I have a lower exam fee. You’ll get great care at a great fee. My qualifications... I’m a 1991 graduate of Life University. I’m certified by the National Boards as well as the states of Alabama and Tennessee. I’ve practiced in Marshall County for 14 years after a one-year associateship in Huntsville. I just have that low exam fee to help more people who need care. Results may vary in individual cases.

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

- Michael Ellis, D.C.

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

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# Madison County Sports Hall of Fame inductee Tony Baker

The Huntsville-Madison County Athletic Hall of Fame recently made room for its newest members. Among the remembered great is New Hope native, Tony Baker. As a standout basketball and football player from the 1966 class, his athletic achievements record him as one of the greatest athletes to ever play at New Hope High School.

"It is quite an unbelievable feeling," Baker says about being inducted into the hall of fame. "It's something I've always dreamed about, but I didn't know it would ever happen."

His new bragging rights place him along-side other family members who have received recognition for their accomplishments as well.

"I have kin-folks in (the hall of fame), John Paseur and Jerry Craig," he says with a grin of pride.

Baker was a three-year starter for the Indians' basketball team. He played for coaches Pig Carpenter and Herman Robertson.

"I played in the rock gym," Baker

says, "in those days, there were more people standing than sitting."

He remembers playing big schools and tough schedules. "We played Boaz, Butler, Huntsville High, Sparkman...I'd whole lot rather play someone as good or better than me," he says. "It made me play better."

Baker made the All-County Tournament Team in 1965 and 1966. He received an All Conference award and led his team to the Area Championship two years in a row.

He was a leading scorer for New Hope, and led the county in rebounds averaging over 22 per game.

He also loved music. Baker was an excellent trombone player in the ninth through 11th-grade. In high school he became the band's drum major.

"My parents had spent a lot of money on uniforms, and instruments, but I just wanted to try football," he says. Baker went out for football (with his parents' blessing) only two weeks before the season started.

He made the team, and became a member of the 1966 Madison County championship football team. Playing only his senior year, Baker scored 16 touchdowns and threw four touchdown passes. He was selected by his teammates as the best back and named to the Huntsville News All-County, the Huntsville Times All-County, and the Birmingham Post Herald 3A All-State Second Team.

After graduation, he received scholarship offers from all over the Southeast, but signed with Snead State and started for their basketball team.

"At that time, Snead State had the number one junior college basketball program," he says. "They had an established program, and a winning record." There he received several junior college conference honors and a scholarship to Athens State University.

"All the coaches I played for were winners," he says. "Coach Plunkett had an outstanding record, and Coach Belcher carried a couple of teams to the



Conference. Plus, we had a lot of outstanding players here. They were committed to winning.”

He remembers how these coaches took the time to teach him about college basketball. “They taught me a lot of offensive and defensive strategies that I didn’t know until I got in college.”

Baker says basketball taught him about commitment.

“The key is commitment,” he says. “If you make the commitment you will succeed...whether in basketball or in life.”

Baker applied the commitment he learned so much about in basketball to life. He devoted his life to the field of education. He tells candidly how he made the career choice in line enrolling as a freshman at Snead. But he is proud of the decision.

“I don’t have any regrets about



Josh Baker, (LEFT) with Uncle Tony, is a ninth-grader at NHHS. Josh is keeping the family name in all of the athletic programs playing football, basketball and baseball. This spring he is playing third base and pitching for the Indians.

getting in the education field,” he smiles.

He earned his Masters Degree from Alabama A&M, and gave 23 years to Woodville High School as a teacher, and coach. He won several area titles, and later became principal.

He says he owes a lot to his parents, Willard and Jimmie Baker who still live in New Hope.

“The two people who had the biggest impact on me were my mother, and father,” he says. “They taught me patience and to work for what I wanted. They never missed a game, and they were always supportive of me, the team and the coaches.”

Today, Baker is enjoying his retirement and spending time with his wife Lanell, his daughter and son-in-law Mike and Shannon Doherty, and his grandchild Savannah.▲



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# Kidtopia: Grant's perfect place to play

Once upon a time in a land far, far, away lived the kingdom of Kidtopia...ok, so it's not a make-believe fairy-tale land, but kids from all over Grant Mountain are seeing their dreams come true. The Kidtopia playground in Grant City Park is complete!

Hundreds of volunteers came together during the first week of April to finish this community-build project. They built the largest playground of its kind in Marshall

County. No one is more proud of this town and these volunteers than project secretary Wendy Self.

"We've had 60 to 100 volunteers per day working out here together," she says. "It's just been amazing. People just want to be part of something big."

Grant Mayor, Samantha Lemley, gave her time and full support to the project. She was on the job site each day of the five-day project.

"We've had some really good workers out here," she says with a

big smile and a drill in hand.

Self says local contractors and masons volunteered their entire crews. Some crews came from as far away as Douglas. Other volunteers used their vacation days to work on the project as a family.

"The way the community came together and the unity involved has been amazing," Self says.

They still have pickets, hand tiles and stones engraved with the names of donors and loved ones for sale. Call 682-0604 for more info.▲



Volunteers followed Grant Mayor, Samantha Lemley's lead (TOP LEFT) on the playground construction site. Students from DAR received a hands-on education from builders, contractors, masons and retired workers. Generations worked together to build lasting memories.





Architects from Leathers & Associates designed Kidtopia based on children's interviews from the community. They have created Grant's perfect place to play. The playground features a Giant Tree House, a Rock Wall, five slides, swings, climbers and more. Enjoying the amenities (from L-R) is Cameron Fletcher, Julie Johnson, Aubrey Johnson, Randy Fletcher, Nick Smith, Sarah Roe & Julie Johnson.



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# K-9 unit in works for New Hope

The New Hope Police Department needs some help. And Officer Chad Bearden thinks he knows just where to look. "We really need some help to cut down on the drug traffic on Highway 431," says Bearden. "Adding a K-9 unit to the force is just what we need."

Bearden knows the value of these four-footed trained professionals. He has two years of experience as a K-9 handler in Marshall County.

Police Chief Shannon Hoover wants to use the experience and knowledge of the police force for the good of the entire city.

The police work dog is a tool and not a weapon. The animal does 97% of its work with its nose, not its mouth.

They assist officers in tracking,



Tim Wright (left) presented Chief E. Shannon Hoover (right) with a \$1000 donation from Northern Lodge 278 at a recent city council meeting. The donation will help bring a K-9 unit to New Hope.

building searches, narcotics, explosives, and crime prevention. The use of these animals in searches saves money and manpower, because a properly trained K-9 unit can complete jobs like these in about a 1/4 of the time.

"We are working diligently to bring this unit online as quickly as possible," says Hoover.

"Chief Hoover has put his whole support behind the development of a professional Canine Division," says Bearden.

The Department has set an initial goal of raising \$7,500 to start the division. They are using a K-9 presentation to show this need to local businesses.

K-9's are exceptionally well behaved and obedient, they are only allowed to be aggressive in three situations—if

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commanded by the handler, if protecting the handler during assault, or if protecting the patrol car or home. Police dogs receive specialized training as well.

These dogs can track across pavement, through busy intersections, disregard multiple cross-tracks and identify a specific source of a given odor. If outdoors, they can detect the odor of a human being from hundreds of yards away.

K-9 units also deter crime. A well-marked patrolling unit shows the community that the Police Department is serious about reducing drug traffic and burglaries. The psychological advantage of a K-9 unit policing an area is tremendous.

"Police Canines must meet very specific and stringent criteria before they can be considered for duty," says Hoover. "Once selected, the training process is long and arduous, requiring hours of devotion between the dog and its handler.

Due to the requirements to put a dog in police service, the cost equates to the quality of product."

Bearden says the ultimate goal is to have two police canines in service. One will specialize in Narcotics, and the other will be used for general patrol duties like tracking and odor detection.

Bearden reports they have reached half of the goal, but hopes more in the community will support the new K-9 Division.

Chief Hoover is appreciative of the generous donations so far. "Local business and civic organizations like

Tara Manufacturing, Citizens Bank and the local chapter of the Masons (Northern Lodge 278) have been most generous and supportive and we are sincerely grateful for their endorsement in what we feel to be an integral component of our police department," he says. ▲

## Community Calendar May 2008

### Class Ring Found

A 1979 New Hope class ring with the initials **DLC** was found at New Hope United Methodist Church. If anyone can help identify the owner please contact the church at 723-4812.

1 p.m. and enjoy dancing, singing, horseshoes, buggy rides and more. Tickets may be purchased from your nutrition or senior center. Please reserve by May 6. Sponsored by Madison Co. Commission and TARCOG.

### May

New Hope Recreation Center  
Now you can get all the latest team sports information (rules and schedules for the teams), and news and updates about what is happening at the New Hope recreation center by visiting their new Web site at [www.newhoperec.org](http://www.newhoperec.org).

**May 17** (Rain date May 24)  
Swearengin VFD Bar-Be-Que  
The Swearengin Volunteer Fire Department is hosting their annual Bar-Be-Que fundraiser. Pre order whole Boston Butts by calling 728-7109, or 541-7781 or by contacting any Swearengin Volunteer Fire Fighter. Plates with all the fixin's will also be available. This is the main fundraiser for the fire department.

### May 3

Grant Fire and Rescue's Antique Tractor and Engine Show  
Registration begins at 9 a.m. at the Grant Fire Station. All makes and models of tractors and engines are accepted. Trophies will be awarded. Other events include: Slow Tractor Race, Skillet Throwing Contest, Pedal Tractor for Kids, Bean Bag Toss and a Tractor Parade. All proceeds benefit Grant Fire and Rescue. For more information call Lt. Jr. James at 728-2471, Chief Robert Patterson at 505-1204 or James Fuell at 728-4948.

Fishing Rodeo  
Madison Co. Commission is hosting their 26th annual fishing rodeo. Kids ages 5 to 10 fish 8:30 a.m. until 10 a.m. and ages 11 to 15 fish 10:30 a.m. until Noon. Free admission, great prizes. For more information and a registration form visit our Web site [www.co.madison.al.us](http://www.co.madison.al.us).

Tour de Cure  
The American Diabetes Association's Inaugural Triple Challenge Tour de Cure event for North Alabama will be leaving downtown Huntsville at 8 a.m. This challenging bicycle ride will take riders on their choice of 35, 62 or 100 miles rides through scenic north Alabama. The 100-mile ride will go through Grant, and back to downtown Huntsville, and will take riders through the New Hope and Gurley areas. All riders will depart Huntsville at 8 a.m. If you are interested in participating in the ride, you can find more details at [www.diabetes.org](http://www.diabetes.org). If you are not riding, please help us make the route safer for riders by clearing the roads of debris, keeping pets from entering the ride course and cheering our riders on as they raise funds to help find a cure and prevent diabetes. For more information, contact the local ADA office at 539-4404.

### May 10

Indian Classic Golf Tournament sponsored by New Hope Homerun Booster Club  
Gunter's Landing — Guntersville, AL, 1 p.m. Shotgun Start. Pre-event/registration begins at Noon. Food and drinks will be furnished following the tournament. Contacts: Sam Baker - 214-0002 work, 683-8604 cell; Devin Whitaker - 755-6519 cell, 723-2195 home; Mike Whitaker - 723-4040, Brian Largent - 723-8687

### May 13

(Rain date May 15)  
Older Americans Festival  
Come out to Sharon Johnston Park in New Market from 9:30 a.m. until

## Bar-B-Que Family Pack

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# New Hope native makes serving his country a family affair

Jordan and Elizabeth Martin are serving their country as a family. This husband and wife team knows the meaning of self-



U.S. Air Force Staff Sergeant Jordan Martin (right) is shown receiving his certificate for completion of a Leadership Program.

sacrifice and putting others first as Staff Sergeants in the U.S. Air Force.

Jordan is the son of Wade and Marsha Martin of New Hope. He joined the Air Force in May 2003. "He chose the Air Force because he felt a need to serve his country," says Marsha.

Jordan's wife, Elizabeth, is from Dallas, Texas. They met after Jordan completed his AIT training in Wichita Falls, Texas.

Jordan has served as an Honor Guard and been to South Korea on a short tour. He was recently promoted to Staff Sergeant in the Munitions Systems Operation Department.

Elizabeth has also been promoted to Staff Sergeant and holds a position in the Personnel Division. They have both received their certificates in a recent Leadership Program.

They have one son, Isaac, who is six-months-old and is the center of their life and leisure time.▲



Jordan's wife Elizabeth is shown receiving her certificate for the same Leadership Program. She was expecting the couple's first child in the photo.



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# COMMISSIONER JERRY CRAIG HOSTS County Shed Day

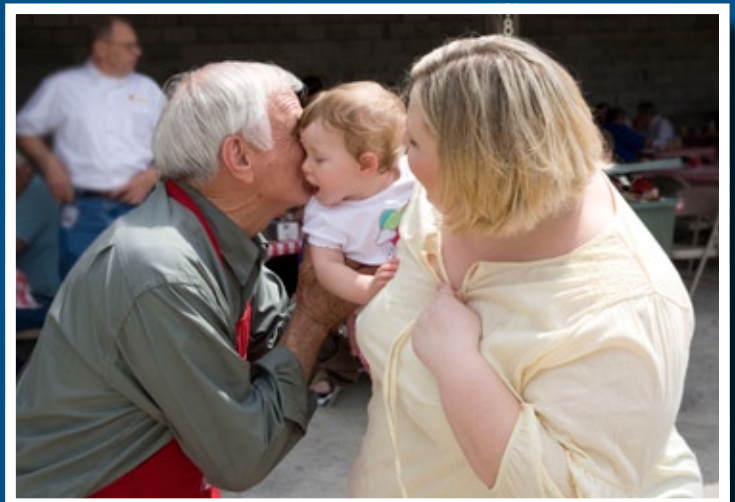
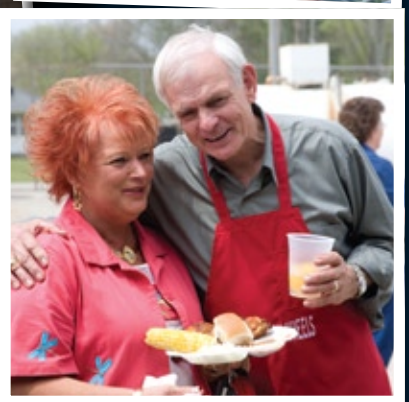
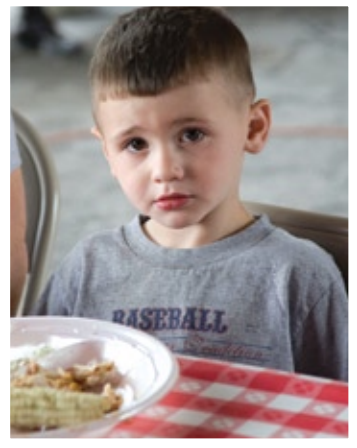
It's become a tradition in New Hope. Each spring, residents of all ages drop by the county shed, just off Main Drive, to enjoy some great food, a time of fellowship, and entertainment by local musicians and singers.

"It's County Government Week, and every rural commissioner has the opportunity to do something for the folks they serve," says Jerry Craig. As Madison County Commissioner for District 3, which includes the New Hope area, Craig hosts a community breakfast at the Gurley equipment shed on Highway 72 the same week he hosts the lunch in New Hope.

"This is one of the biggest crowds we've ever had," Craig said of this year's New Hope event, held on Thursday, April 10th. Those who came by for a free lunch of smoked chicken, slaw, baked beans, rolls and cookies also enjoyed music by the New Hope Senior Citizens Center.

Many who attended came away with a smoke alarm and a household fire extinguisher. "We received a grant to provide these to our community," Craig says. "It's something for the safety of our citizens, and I hope it will save some lives." There were also free books available, compliments of Craig and his son, Mark, county license director.

Craig expressed his appreciation to all those who came by to visit and enjoy lunch. "I especially want to thank the county employees for the great job they do, and for helping make county shed day successful," Craig says.





## OCR students give back

Volunteers for the CARE Center donate their time to tutor students at Owens Cross Roads Elementary School. One-on-one tutoring changes lives. It raises literacy rates, increases SAT scores, and dramatically effects the confidence and self-esteem of the student.

Children at OCR Elementary recently held a four week drive to give back to the CARE Center. They collected donations of soap, toothpaste, toothbrushes and other toiletries to help the center replenish their stock of emergency supplies.

The supplies are given to families in need throughout the community.

The CARE Center also has a Clothes Closet and Home Repair Ministry.

For more information about the services offered visit them on the Web at [www.thecarecenter.us](http://www.thecarecenter.us).



Front row (L to R) Kneeling: Haley Wilbourn, Breanna Smith, Austin Marcum, Jeremiah Steelman and Haley Choat. Back row (L to R) Standing: Becca Abercrombie, CARE Center Director, Noah Bunch, Wendy Pearson, OCR Counselor, Bradley Marshall and Dakota Jenkins.

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## New Hope High School

You could say baseball is in Coach Largen's blood. He played the sport while a high school student at NHHS and received a scholarship to continue at Snead State. He played catcher for the team. He also played at Alabama A&M while working toward his masters degree in education.

Largen has been teaching for 12 years, the last four at his Alma Mater. He coaches the baseball team and teaches High School Essentials to 9th graders.

HS Essentials is a new program for NHHS. "The class orientates freshmen to high school. They learn organizational skills, good study habits and character education. The class introduces them to some career choices, too," explains Largen.

He is married to the school librarian, Amy Largen and they have two beautiful girls.



## ✝ Inspiration Corner

Thirty years ago when working in Huntsville, I listened to a mom worrying over trouble with her son. She explained how she and her husband "raised him right, taught him to respect other people.....", and on I listened. When she finished she asked the fatal question, "Where did we go wrong?" After taking a moment to explain how God gives everyone "free will", I then asked, "In all your teachings did you ever reinforce those values with church, prayer, and scripture?" Another example of how free will does us in, as individuals and as parents. Not using Faith to raise our children, then asking "where did we go wrong", is like a chain smoker asking a doctor how they got cancer. Moms and dads, the next time you wonder why your child did something stupid, first ask yourself

whether or not you did ALL you could do, then if there is any blame left, try working that out.

No one can give the right answer for every childhood adventure, for God made each of us different. However there is one answer that fills every heart with guidance and that is Jesus. The next time you wonder about your child-rearing tactics, ask yourself one question; Am I training him/her "in the way they should go so when they are old they will not depart from it", as Proverbs directs?" Remember, to "train" is to show more by example than words, and a Christ-filled church is a great place to start.



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

Knute Rockne was considered to be one of the greatest football coaches to have ever coached the game of football. In his thirteen years as head coach of Notre Dame, his teams won 105 games, lost 12, and tied 5. He never had a secret practice. In fact, he sometimes would put up a sign for visitors that said, "Secret practice, come and bring your notebooks." When someone would ask about his actions, he would say, "It isn't the play that wins, it's the execution."

All great coaches agree. Majoring on fundamentals makes champions. The team that executes well will be the consistent winner. A team that uses trick plays or gimmicks will win occasionally but it is the majoring on fundamentals that makes for consistency.

"Fundamentals", now that is an interesting word! In the football world it means blocking and tackling. But what does it mean to the non-football player such as me?

Growing up there were some basis things (fundamental things) that were instilled into my life. Things like conduct, authority, integrity, punishment, and individual's rights just to name a few. I'm sure you can add a great deal more to this list.

In today's society there are a variety of books and media persuasions that have slowly changed our fundamental beliefs. We are accepting things in our lives that we thought we would never accept.

Why not get a grip on the changeless, timeless fundamental truths of the Bible. . . . GOD'S WORD!

See you in church Sunday!



# Recipes from DAR High School Family and Consumer Science Department

Beth Cagle has been an instructor for the Family and Consumer Sciences Department of DAR High School for 20 years. She teaches Family Dynamics, Creative Foods & Fashion Decisions and Senior Dynamics. Nutrition, time management, communication skills, financial planning and decision making are just a few of the valuable life skills students learn as a result of the courses. Just as valuable are the table manners, place setting and etiquette taught as part of the lesson plan.

Her senior students recently participated in a cake baking/decorating project. Their cakes became a school-wide competition. The money earned from voting was placed into a scholarship fund for FCCLA (Family, Career, and Community Leaders of America).



Students from Ms. Cagle's Senior Dynamics class share some of their favorite recipes.

## Frito Pie

1. Brown 1 pound of ground beef in a skillet (drain the grease into a colander & drip pan).
2. Return beef to skillet.
3. Add 1 package of taco seasoning.
4. Heat together in a saucepan on medium heat.
  - 1 can of corn, drained
  - 1 can of refried beans
  - 1 jar of taco sauce or salsa
5. Pour ½ bag of Frito chips into the bottom of a 9x13 baking dish.
6. Pour ground beef over the chips.
7. Pour corn/bean/sauce mixture over the beef.
8. Sprinkle ½ cup mozzarella cheese and ½ cup cheddar cheese over the top of the dish.
9. Bake at 300° until the cheese melts.
10. Garnish with 1 cup shredded lettuce (tomatoes/black olives/onion, etc. optional).

## Monster Munch

- 1 box Crispix cereal
- 1 can mixed nuts/peanuts (optional)

- 1 bag pretzels (optional)
- 2 cups packed brown sugar
- 2 sticks margarine
- ½ cup white syrup
- ½ teaspoon baking soda
- ½ teaspoon vanilla

In a brown paper bag combine cereal, nuts and pretzels. Over medium-high heat cook sugar, margarine and syrup for 4 minutes. Remove sugar mixture from heat. Add soda and vanilla. Slowly pour mixture over cereal, then stir. Microwave on high for 3 minutes. Remove and stir. Return to microwave & cook on high for 1 ½ minutes. Remove from microwave & stir. Pour contents onto waxed paper to dry. Break clusters apart and store in an airtight container.

## Monkey Bread

- 1 stick margarine
- 2 cans of biscuits [20 total]
- 1 ¼ cups sugar
- 1 ½ teaspoon cinnamon

Preheat oven to 350°. Melt margarine in the microwave for 45 seconds. Mix sugar and cinnamon thoroughly in a separate bowl. Cut each biscuit into four smaller pieces. Lightly dip each section of biscuit into the melted margarine. Roll each section of biscuit in the cinnamon/sugar mixture. Place sections into an ungreased bundt or tube pan. Bake for 20 minutes or until golden brown on top. Flip bread onto a large serving plate.

## Kooky Cookies

- 1 package of cake mix (any flavor)
- ½ cup oil
- 2 tablespoons water
- 2 eggs
- ½ cup nuts, peanut butter, chocolate chips or M&Ms optional

Preheat oven to 350°. Combine all ingredients. Drop by teaspoon on ungreased cookie sheet. You can line pan with parchment paper. Bake 10-12 minutes.



# May Flowers



Kelsey Bolton is the daughter of Chad & Shannon Bolton of New Hope. Photo submitted by Mom.



Sloan Butler, daughter of Chris & Amy Butler. Photo sent by Nana.



Brandon Russell, 2 1/2 years old.  
He is the son of Rhonda & Joey Russell.



Zoie Laine Walling at 6 months. Her parents are Roger & Jennifer Walling.



Top: Jonas Murray; L to R: Gracelynn Self, Eden Self, Luke Pilotte, Lane Pilotte. Photo by Glenda Self.



Elizabeth Medlen. Her parents are Donnie & Kanita Medlen.



Jordan Aaron when he was a little boy. He is now 20. Picture sent by mom Paula.



Olivia Grace Henley. Photo sent by April Hyatt.



Savanna Ginn is the daughter of Angie Ginn. Photo taken & submitted by mom.

"Independence Day" is the photo theme for July. 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](mailto: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) **Deadline for July is May 20th.**

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