

A Publication of New Hope Telephone Cooperative

The

# Communicator

Vol. 6, No. 9

September 2007



## FOOTBALL PREVIEW





# "Concern for Community" is the best part of being a cooperative

The small Iowa farming community I grew up in taught me many things. I learned there is no substitute for hard work, and that treating others the way you want to be treated really is a great way to live. But most of all, my rural upbringing taught me the value of community.

I remember the news spreading from farm to farm when a neighbor was sick or injured. Even though everyone had plenty to do on their own land, they would come together to get the fields planted or the crop in for their neighbor in need.

On Page 12 of this month's *Communicator* you will find a shining example of the community spirit I grew up with. No doubt you have been following our coverage the past few months of Ben Schaaf, a young New Hope student diagnosed with leukemia earlier this year. As we have chronicled Ben's battle, there has been one constant in the story — the willingness of the community to help Ben and his family.

Last month the community came together to watch an episode of a television reality show that featured a local hair stylist. The event quickly turned into another opportunity to help a fellow citizen in need.

As you'll read in the story, the event raised more than \$3,000 for the Schaaf family. No doubt this will be a blessing for a family who has endured tremendous hardship in the past few months.

Of course, this effort is on top of other fundraisers and acts of kindness extended to this family. I have only been

in the area a short time, but I can tell you I have been touched by the genuine concern and love shown by this community for their friends in need.

And I am thankful that I'm here working at New Hope Telephone Cooperative with some of the best, most kind-hearted people I have ever met. Because we are a cooperative, we were able to do our part to help make last month's event a memorable one. Our employees worked to establish a high-speed Internet connection at the event to host a live Webcast of the activities. Young Ben was able to watch the whole thing and see his many friends, right from his computer in the hospital.

That's what 'Concern for Community' means when you read about the Seven Cooperative Principles. It's being there to help with community events. It's planning for the growth of your service area to support new families and businesses. It's recycling more than 7,000 pounds of old office records and paperwork (like we did last month) instead of throwing it into our limited landfills.

My wife and I have felt right at home since moving here earlier this year. Thank you, Grant, Owens Cross Roads and New Hope, for making us part of your caring communities. ▲



*Tom Wing is General Manager of New Hope Telephone Cooperative*



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### **The Communicator** Vol. 6, No. 9 September 2007

is a monthly magazine published by New Hope Telephone Cooperative, © 2007. It is distributed without charge to all Cooperative members/owners.

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*On the cover:  
Coach Childers and Coach Holland gear up for some fierce competition on the grid-iron. A complete schedule for both teams can be found inside.*

# We're looking out for our members

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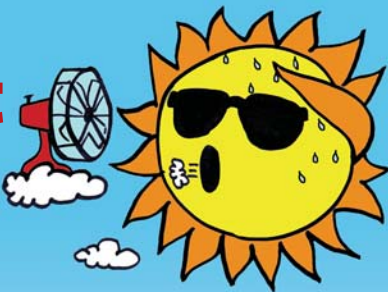
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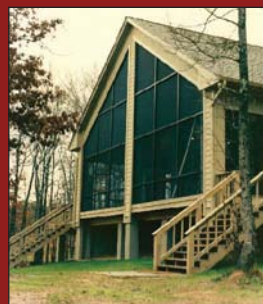
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# Coach Holland is rooted in DAR

**“We have a team, now we are building a program”**

## 2007 PATRIOTS ROSTER

Jersey	Name	Grade
#1	Cody Cryer	11
#2	Justin Barnes	11
#3	Ryne Jordan	11
#4	James Mills	9
#5	Kyle Ratchford	12
#6	Alex Gowan	9
#7	Josh Batey	10
#8	Sam Winkler	10
#9	Chuck Bradley	9
#10	Mike Yates	12
#11	Luke Bailly	9
#15	Josh Troup	9
#16	Jacob Stubblefield	10
#17	Nik Filmore	9
#22	Zack Jones	11
#23	Jared Denney	12
#32	Dakota Sutphin	12
#34	Jason Douglas	10
#40	John Keller	9
#42	Mark Fortune	12
#44	Zack Perkins	9
#47	Griffin Gamble	9
#50	John Stanley	11
#51	Korey Murphy	11
#52	Justin Erby	11
#53	Jesse Cunningham	11
#54	Jordan Marsh	10
#55	Eli Phillips	9
#56	Andy Fortenberry	9
#57	Jose Fernandez	11
#58	Jerry Hurt	9
#59	Payton Edmiston	10
#61	Drew Pendergrass	9
#63	Justin McGaha	9
#65	Nathan Foster	11
#68	Kyle Hyatt	10
#69	Jeremy Sims	11
#70	Nathan Cooper	12
#71	James Atchley	10
#72	Stan Sims	9
#73	Kerry Rice	10
#74	Anthony Wildman	11
#75	Jesse Applequist	10
#76	Cody Brewer	10
#78	Trevor McElyea	10
#79	Houston Waldrop	10
#80	Will Drury	12
#81	Mikey Hass	12
#82	Austin Phillips	10
#88	Blake Gourdine	10

Hunter Holland has been with DAR football since it's beginning. The relationships he has built with these young men will be one of the team's strongest assets. Leadership is built on trust.

As Holland steps up into DAR's high school head coach position from his middle school coaching position, he'll be taking with him the knowledge of a squad he has worked with for three years.

“What is so unique about this team is that all 50 players are outstanding young men,” says Holland. “Each one is ready to work. They want to learn and they want to get better; they are so coachable.”

Holland says this young Patriot team, “understands the task at hand, and accepts the challenges ahead.”

Challenges are a main part of football. It is one of the life lessons that football teaches its participants.

“The biggest challenge we are facing is getting kids to understand that football doesn't just start the first week of August,” he says. “This game requires year round conditioning.”

With the help of assistant coach Heath Evans, this football team has been hitting the weights and hitting them hard.

“We are implementing a weight training program. That's never been done before,” says Holland. “Getting these kids caught up physically has been our number one priority. We have a team; now we are building a program,” he says.

Another challenge facing the newly established team is a tough class 4A schedule. This region always brings powerhouses of football programs. “We have some big teams to start off with,” says Holland. “But the first five games are at home. That will be a big help.”

The first game will pit the Patriots against hometown rivals the New Hope Indians. DAR is poised to settle a score with last years loss as the class 3A Indians defended their home turf.

Coach Holland sees promise this year in his starting lineup of seniors.

“We have some great seniors. They have really shown leadership,” he says. “We look for big things from our quarterback, Kyle Ratchford, and our tailback, Mark Fortune. Both will both carry a big load.”

All of DAR's seniors have earned starting positions. Will Drury, Nathan Cooper, Mikey Hass, Mike Yates, and Jared Denney will do their part. “And we hope to see Dakota Sutphin at split end coming back from knee surgery,” Holland adds.

“We have some great players up here, and some great community support,” he says.

The community has rallied around the Patriot program through the

## SCHEDULE

### 2007 DAR Patriots Football

8-31	New Hope	Home
9-07	North Jackson*	Home
9-14	East Limestone*	Home
9-21	Madison County*	Home
9-28	Douglas	Home
10-05	Priceville*	Away
10-12	East Lawrence*	Away
10-18	Columbia* (Thursday game)	Away
10-26	Ardmore*	Home
11-02	Brindlee Mountain	Away

\* Regional Games

Quarterback Club, fundraisers, donations and “gracious support.”

“This community is really excited about football,” he says.

DAR principal Stacy Anderton is excited about Holland. Anderton consid-

ers Holland one of DAR’s better teachers, and likes the way the students respond to him.

Holland graduated Athens State University in 2001 and has been at DAR for seven years. Here, he has lead the

middle school team for two years, and assisted the varsity for three years.

Holland says he is rooted in DAR’s football program. He brings stability, knows these players and is here for the long haul.▲



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# The Indians are ready to play

## Coaches can't wait to see what happens when the lights come on

High school football is all about pressure. And the pressure will be on the seniors to fill the cleats of the 16 graduates that left last year's football program with a winning season. The Indians finished the 2006-2007 season at 7 – 3, an impressive turn around from the year before at 2 – 8.

"We could have been 9 – 1 last year," remembers Head Coach Obie Childers. He is challenging the team to go even further than last year.

"Our goal is to make it to the playoffs *and* get to the second round," he says. Susan Moore proved to be too much for the New Hope team last season, taking the Indians out of the playoffs in round one.

The 2007 Indians will have to do their part and stay focused on their goal to meet these aspirations.

"The right chemistry and a good start can spring board a team like this into a winning season," says assistant coach Mack Malone.

"We have ten seniors, and everyone is a contributor," Childers says. "Each one will start somewhere—they are leaders."

A few players to watch this season include receiver, Seth Vann who will also have a new position on defense and running back Sawyer Green.

"We also have a few linemen, like Bobby McGuire and others that are practicing at a game speed," Childers says. "And we like that!"

Coach Childers also mentioned underclassman Kyle Gurley as a "pleasant surprise." He says the junior is "one of the most faithful in doing what the coaches ask."

The coaching staff surrounding the

New Hope football program is made up of former players, alumni, and community leaders: Chris Hicks, Mack Malone, Larry Durham, James Bernard and Bro. Ralph Cane.

"Anybody that can work as hard as this team has and stay with us in this heat wants to play football," says Coach Hicks. "We'll just have to see what happens when the lights come on."

The coaches help train the team in schoolwork and behavior. "If a player gets in trouble at school, they will also suffer the consequences here," says Childers.

The minimum punishment starts with a one mile run and a 100 yard bear crawl. One of the challenges program leaders have faced is breaking old habits. But improvement is being made.

"These guys are starting to act like young men," says Childers.

Attitude, character and focus is very important to the football program. Childers believes that football is more than just a game, because it teaches about life.

"Football is the game of life," he says. "You endure so many challenges through the conditioning, the practices,

### 2007 INDIANS ROSTER

Jersey	Name	Grade
#2	Dustin Whitaker	9
#3	Brandon Bell	12
#4	Brian McGuire	9
#5	Josh Langford	11
#7	Hernandez Ford	10
#9	Steven Cochran	11
#10	Austin Wilkinson	12
#16	Justin Adams	11
#17	Seth Vann	12
#20	Justin Harris	11
#21	Jeremy Whitaker	11
#22	Bradley Hood	9
#23	Trevor Cross	9
#24	Kyle Gurley	11
#25	Ethan Dean	10
#30	Kevin Bell	9
#31	Danson Roberts	9
#32	Tyler Gurley	9
#33	Rodney Heathington	10
#35	Austin Barnett	9
#42	Chris Tucker	11
#44	Sawyer Green	12
#45	Keith Manley	9
#50	Wesley Childers	11
#52	Justin Green	12
#53	JT Manley	12
#54	Josh Baker	9
#55	Alex Hendrix	9
#56	Seth Hammond	11
#58	Preston Norman	9
#62	Robert Drake	12
#64	Matt Hornbuckle	9
#66	Cliff Salmon	9
#68	Derrick Wesley	12
#70	Alan Bates	12
#72	Jake McCutcheon	10
#73	Austin Gray	9
#74	Nick DeArmond	9
#75	Jake Lang	10
#78	Robert Wilbourn	11
#80	Bobby McGuire	12
#81	Dylan McKee	10
#82	Dylan Payne	9
#89	Deshawn Drake	12
#90	Preston Moore	10

### SCHEDULE

#### 2007 New Hope Indians Football

8-31	DAR	Away
9-07	Sumiton Christian*	Away
9-14	Holly Pond*	Home
9-21	Madison Academy*	Away
9-28	Columbia	Away
10-05	Vinemont*	Home
10-12	Danville*	Away
10-19	Hanceville*	Home
10-26	Good Hope*	Home
11-02	Madison County	Home

\* Regional Games



and the games. This is a tough sport and it prepares these young men both mentally and physically for challenges they may face in life."

Football is also about working with

others, following direction, and taking criticism. "These young athletes learn how to accept their peers for who they are and come together in unity," he says.

Coach Childers is proud of the

progress the team is making.

"We have a good group for a small 3A school," he says. Their first test will be against hometown rival DAR, Friday night August 31.▲



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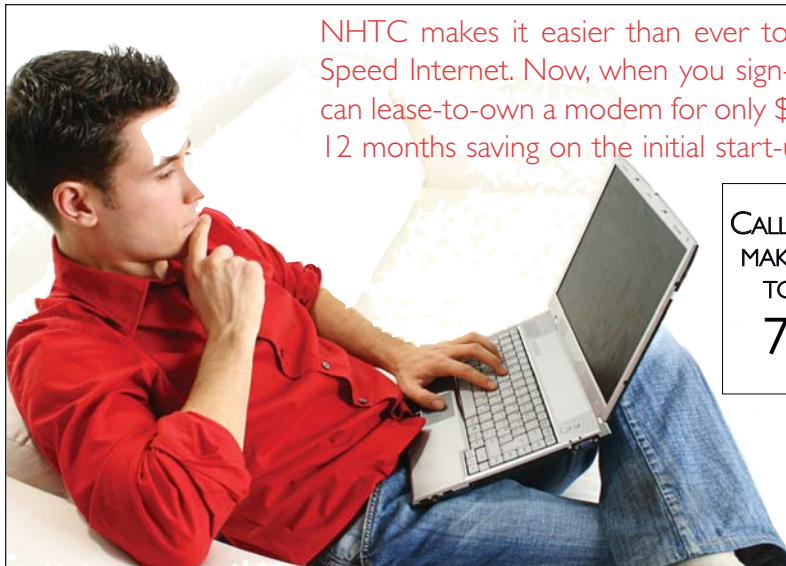


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## A Nickel for Your Thoughts

I noticed a new coin the other day – the 2007 nickel. It's appearance had changed to some degree. The profile of Thomas Jefferson on the nickel was more 3D than the standard side view. The hair-style and the facial features were more "modern."

Although these changes were noticed, there were many aspects of the coin that remained the same. For example, the city where the coin was minted and the country from which the coin originated are the same. The year and "In God We Trust" remain on the coin as well (for which we are thankful.)

I began to consider these improvements to the coin in comparison to our lives on this earth. Although there are changes made in our society and in our lives, there are some things that should remain the same. We should always maintain the character described in Philippians 4: 8-9 (KJV). "Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things. Those things, which ye have both learned, and

received, and heard, and seen in me, do: and the God of peace shall be with you."

We are instructed to receive God's righteousness by having a personal relationship with Him through His son, Jesus Christ. This "born again" experience comes by faith in the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus as the sacrifice for our sinful nature. The cross of Calvary met the penalty of death for sin through the shedding of Jesus' blood for everyone.

The moral values given to us should also remain. We are instructed not only to apply these values – to honor our parents and not to lie, steal, kill, commit adultery or covet – to our own life but to our families and others as well.

I urge all readers to take a closer look at the coins in your pockets and be reminded that our lives are being examined by our children, families, friends, co-workers, neighbors, church family and others. Beyond this, God's keeping record of us all.

Go to church this Sunday! God will be there when you arrive!



*Charles Miller is the pastor of Owens Cross Roads Baptist Church*

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# Christmas Share Program is gearing up for season

The Christmas Share Program, which began in 1993 with only two children, has grown by leaps and bounds. While the purpose remains the same - to provide Christmas presents for underprivileged children in the community - the methods have changed. Today, Christmas Share is a non-profit organization, complete with board of directors, by laws and a streamlined application process.

Angel Trees will be placed at area businesses throughout the holiday season. Anyone may purchase a gift for one of the 'Angels' on the tree and return the gift, unwrapped or in a gift box or bag, (no wrapping paper please) with the angel to the same store before December 13. Workers will distribute the gifts to underprivileged children throughout the community in time for Christmas.

If you know a child in need and would like to submit him or her for the Christmas Share Program please call 651-8334 or 527-5308. Applications will be accepted October 1 through November 9. Merchants interested in displaying an Angel Tree in their store can also call the same numbers.▲




**JUST HORSIN' AROUND** - A Horsemanship Clinic was held recently for students of New Hope Day Care at New Hope Elementary School. Shown above (left to right) are: Kristen Walker with 'Lady', Denise Brannum and 'Gomer' and Charlie Brannum with 'BJ'. The trio demonstrated the proper way to care for, mount, dismount and ride horses. Each child got to ride the horses and practice the skills learned at the clinic. "It was a great experience for the children," Denise Brannum explains. "Some of these children have never touched a horse. They were thrilled to get to ride." The clinic is one of many projects done by the Owens Cross Roads Homemakers Club. The organization performs countless acts of community service each year.

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# Reality show has far reaching benefits

The reality television show 'Split Ends' featuring New Hope stylist Scott Adams aired on August 11. Since many residents do not have access to Style Network, Adams and Sara Burleson came up with a plan to show the program.

The two coordinated efforts for the show to be aired at New Hope School. They also incorporated a fundraiser for Ben Schaaf, who recently had a bone marrow transplant. He has been at St. Jude's Hospital since March. "We wanted to do something to unite the community and there haven't been any fundraisers for Ben since May," explains Burleson.

Although Ben is doing well (he is in remission) he still has a long road ahead. If he continues to improve doctors may

allow him to go home in November.

Efforts by New Hope Telephone Cooperative made the evening even more special for Ben and his family. NHTC provided an Internet feed which made it possible for Ben to watch the viewing and see New Hope residents from his hospital room.

The event was a huge success. A total of \$3107 was raised for Ben. "The money will be used to complete renovations a local church is doing on his home," explains Burleson. "Any extra funds will be used to fully stock the home so Ben's family won't have any worries when they get to come home."

Adams expressed his gratitude for the community during the event. He explained that while they used the pre-

mier of the show to "draw the community in, the night is really all about Ben." ▲



New Hope stylist Scott Adams allows Sara Burleson to 'style' him. Burleson nominated Adams for the reality TV show Split Ends. The show aired on the Style Network on August 11 and was shown at New Hope School that evening for the community.



## NHHS PTO Scholarship Recipients

2006-2007 New Hope High School seniors Samantha Davenport, Brandy Andrews, Tara Johnson, Roberta Collier and Jennifer Christian (shown above left to right) each received a \$1000 scholarship in May from the PTO.

Each fall the PTO hosts their annual Bingo fundraiser. Money raised at the event determines the amount for each scholarship. Please make plans to support the Bingo fundraiser this fall with prize and cash donations and by attending.

The PTO also supports many other projects throughout the school.

# EL PASO

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## The Truth in Love

Many today believe that there is no absolute truth. They will claim that we cannot be certain about anything, and that anyone claiming that we can be certain about things is foolish or proud. However, these same people will claim to be absolutely certain that we cannot be certain. It seems a contradiction for them to be certain about uncertainty.

Furthermore, there are things that we know to be certain: absolute truths that any person with a common level of intelligence and sense will admit to be undeniable. First, everyone with a first grade education or higher will know that  $2+2=4$ ; this is a fact we are certain about. Second, we know that the earth is round and not flat. Anyone still claiming the earth to be flat hasn't looked at the evidence we have to the contrary. There is absolute certainty today that the earth is round.

Do you know, dear reader, that the Bible also holds absolute truths: truths that are undeniable when one truly studies the evidence presented. JESUS said, "And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free." (John 8:32) Our LORD stated here that there is absolute truth (the word of GOD), and that this truth is what sets us free from the bondage of sin (verse 34). As I write each month, we will study GOD's Bible to see these truths. GOD bless as HE chooses!



Kenny Taylor is the minister of New Hope Church of CHRIST

## Did somebody say Bar-B-Que?



**New Saturday Hours:**  
11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

**723-4181**

**Hwy 431 S. - New Hope**



## COMMUNITY CALENDAR SEPTEMBER 2007

### September

**'Old Picture' Contest for the New Hope Historical Association**  
All photos for the contest must have been made before 1950 and at least some of the people, location or buildings must be identified. Please submit copies only, not originals as they become the property of NHHA and may be used in future museum displays. Mail pictures to PO Box 50, New Hope, AL 35760, or drop-off on the first Saturday of September or October. Entries must be received by October 7, 2007. Contact: Lou Ann Poole, 723-2525; Teresa Ballard, 723-2161; or Jimmie Ruth Richard, 723-4118.

### NHHS Class of 1967 Reunion

NHHS is planning a reunion for October 2007. Any member of the class that has not already been contacted should call Sandra (Hill) McClaran at 881-1188 or Sharon (McGrew) Saylor at 682-7504.

### Angel Food Ministry Deadlines for New Hope UMC

Orders must be placed by Saturday, September 29 and picked-up on Saturday, October 11 between 8 am and 9:30 am.

### Cell Phones for Soldiers Drive

Bring your old cell phones, batteries, accessories, chargers, PDAs and pagers to NHTC's office. They will be exchanged for calling cards for soldiers serving overseas.

### September 15th

**New Hope Founders Day Beauty Pageant Registration Day**  
Registration day is held from 9am until noon at the New Hope Recreation Center. Entry deadline is September 22. Entry Fee: \$40, all optionals are \$5 each. Pageant is open to girls ages 0 and up. Each contestant receives a trophy. For more information or an entry form call Tina Anderton at 585-4727, 723-5310 or 532-1533.

### September 16th - 23rd

#### Constitution Week Exhibit

Look for exhibits celebrating the 220th anniversary of the United States Constitution in the New Hope and Grant Public Libraries. The exhibits are being developed and sponsored by the Gunter Mountain DAR Chapter.

### September 20th

#### New Hope High School PTO Meeting

Everyone is invited to attend the first PTO meeting of the new school year on September 20th. We will meet in the library at 7:00 pm. For PTO announcements email [loramaplesmartin@yahoo.com](mailto:loramaplesmartin@yahoo.com).

### September 29th

#### Grant's 2nd Annual Mile Plus Yard Sale

Attend this event sponsored by Grant Chamber of Commerce. Booths will be open at 6:00 am with plenty of variety. Vendor space is available for only \$10. For more information or to rent a space call 728-3177, 572-2001 or 728-3579.



## From the kitchen of **Billie Warden**

It is hard to imagine a list of favorite dishes that doesn't include fried okra. But 60 years ago, our neighbors to the north were just discovering this new found delicacy. And that kept Billie Warden's family busy.

"My dad hauled truck loads of okra up north, that we raised here in New Hope," she remembers. The truck patches that her family farmed kept all eight siblings outside most of the time.

"I loved being outside. I still do," she says. Her love for the outdoors has

produced innumerable bushels of vegetables for her family today.

Gardening and canning are two of her favorite things that have been gladly received by a new generation.

"My grandson Jake Hicks has always enjoyed gardening and canning too," she says.

With two sons, three grandsons, and two great-grand sons it takes a lot to feed this many boys.

This month Warden shares some favorites that can fill any size plate.▲

### **Billie's Pork Chop Bake**

6 to 8 pork chops  
flour  
6 carrots, peeled & sliced  
6 potatoes, peeled & sliced  
3 onions, peeled & sliced  
milk

Flour pork chops and brown on both sides in skillet. Remove from heat and layer in bottom of crock pot. Add vegetables. Make a gravy with drippings from pork chops. Cook on low until carrots and potatoes are tender. Note: use cream of mushroom or celery soup instead of gravy if you prefer. Can be served with boiled cabbage.

### **Fig Conserve**

1 gallon ripe figs  
3 oranges, pulp and rind  
2 lemons, pulp and rind  
2 lb. seeded raisins  
3 lb. sugar  
1/2 lb. nuts, chopped

Cut figs into small pieces without peeling oranges and lemons, chop and

seed. Add raisins and sugar. Stir and cook until the consistency of preserves. Add nuts. Just before removing from heat pack in jars and seal.

### **Mandarin Orange Cake**

1 yellow cake mix  
4 eggs  
1/2 cup oil  
1 can Mandarin oranges

Preheat oven to 350°. Mix cake ingredients and pour into a 10" x 13" pan that has been greased and floured. Cook for 25 to 30 minutes.

Topping:  
8 oz. Cool Whip®  
1 small can crushed pineapple, drained  
1 box instant vanilla pudding

Mix together and spread over cake. Refrigerate overnight.

### **Copper Pennies**

1 large bell pepper  
1 large onion

1 lb. carrots, peeled and sliced into coins

1 can tomato soup

1/2 cup oil

3/4 cup vinegar

1 cup sugar

1 tsp. mustard

1 tsp worcestershire

salt and pepper to taste

Cook carrots until tender. Drain carrots. In a sauce pan mix all ingredients except carrots, peppers and onion. Cook until all is heated and well mixed. Chop onion and pepper. In a bowl layer carrots, bell pepper and onion. Pour hot mixture over layered vegetables. Refrigerate overnight.

### COOK OF THE MONTH

Everyone knows a great cook. If you would like to see someone you know featured as cook of the month send us their name, phone number and 4 to 6 kitchen-tested recipes. All cooks featured will receive an apron from NHTC.

Send submissions to: The Communicator, Cook of the Month, PO Box 452, New Hope, AL 35760.



# School SPIRIT



Wesley Davis on his first day of school. His mom is Alicia Esslinger



Tala Manning with an Auburn cheerleader at Auburn's A-Day Game this year.



Proud Patriots Pat, Rhonda & Patrick Wright.



Natalie Santoyo all dressed up. Picture submitted by Pam Martin.



Allison Burleson supporting the New Hope Indians during Homecoming 2006. Mom, Sara, submitted the photo.



Montana Heath Marks proudly sporting the orange and blue. He is Tala's little brother.

Send your favorite photos matching November's photo theme "Hunting Season" to: NHTC • Attn: Tammy Pritchett • 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 November is September 10th.**

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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