

A Publication of New Hope Telephone Cooperative

The

Communicator

Vol. 9, No. 2

February 2010



Inside:

**Madison County Sports Hall of Fame
inductees Mitchell, Paseur**

Advertise in *The Communicator*

is a member-owned corporation dedicated to providing communications technology to the residents and businesses of New Hope, Grant and Owens Cross Roads.

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The Communicator

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

For Customer Service: Call 723-4211

For Editorial Advertising:
Call 723-2008

or email communicator@nehp.net

Produced for NHTC by:

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On the cover:

New Hope High School's football stadium is named in honor of former coach, Jack Mitchell, who was inducted posthumously into the Madison Co. Sports Hall of Fame. Read more on page 8.

Manager's Comments

Weather outages will soon become a thing of the past for NHTC members



As I watched the news this morning, I saw a very serious winter storm moving across the Southwest and heading our way.

As I write this column, more than 200,000 homes and businesses in Texas and Oklahoma have been left without power and other utilities, and the storm that is expected to hit states all the way to the east coast hasn't even reached the halfway point yet.

Watching storms like these always make me nervous. It makes me nervous because, as manager, I am responsible for this cooperative and for making certain that your services stay in working condition.

There is no way to avoid downed lines from fallen trees or ice. That's one of the reasons we decided a couple of years ago to bury our lines underground.

By working together with North Marshall Utilities and Owens Cross Roads Water Authority we are putting the spirit of cooperation to work, burying their pipe and ours at the same time, in the same trench.

This will pay off for everyone involved today, and will benefit the water authority in the future when our GIS mapping system is able to help them locate water lines.

Working together for the benefit of everyone involved — that's the cooperative way.

In the next three to four years, we will have completed the process of burying over 400 miles of hard line and 200 miles of drop wire, making our services much less vulnerable to bad weather. In my 40 years in this industry, I have only seen the weather affect underground lines two times. That's a pretty good track record if you ask me.

Losing service is an unfortunate part of being in our industry. But, as we convert from copper wire to fiber optic cable, we are transferring from exposed wire strung from pole to pole, to buried cable that runs deep underground and out of Mother Nature's sometimes cruel grasp. Each switch site also has a back-up generator so even if the power goes out, our services are still covered.

The further we advance with our fiber project, the less susceptible we are to losing service through inclement weather taking down our lines. At that point, I think we will all be able to breathe a little easier when a storm is headed our way. ▲

Tom Wing

*General Manager,
New Hope Telephone Cooperative*

NHTC Accepting Bids

NHTC is accepting bids on the following:

- 1997 Toyota 4-Runner with front end damage
- 1998 Case Trencher with trailer

Sealed bids may be dropped off at the NHTC Business Office or mailed to: NHTC, Attn: Tom Wing, P.O. Box 452, New Hope, AL 35760. Bids will be accepted through March 1st. The winning bidder will be notified March 2, 2010. NHTC reserves the right to reject all bids.

CUSTOMER APPRECIATION DAY

New Hope Telephone Cooperative will hold
their annual Customer Appreciation Day
on Friday, March 19th
from 8:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m.
at the NHTC Business Office

Everyone is invited to stop by our office
for refreshments and to visit and meet the staff.

Be sure to register for door prizes to be given away
throughout the day!

New Email Protocol in Effect

Last month, NHTC implemented changes in the company's email policy to better protect against spammers who were sending massive amounts of spam email using NHTC email addresses.

One of the major changes was the use of Simple Mail Transfer Protocol (SMTP) technology with every outgoing email from an "nehp.net" email account.

If you are having trouble sending email, contact NHTC at 723-4211. Someone there will be able to instruct you in what to do to fix your outgoing email. After office hours, call Tech Support at 723-8940. Tech Support is available 24/7 to help set up email, a new computer, help with Internet troubleshooting and general support.

The perfect date for
Valentine's Day.

Pizza and
a Movie?
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or mine?



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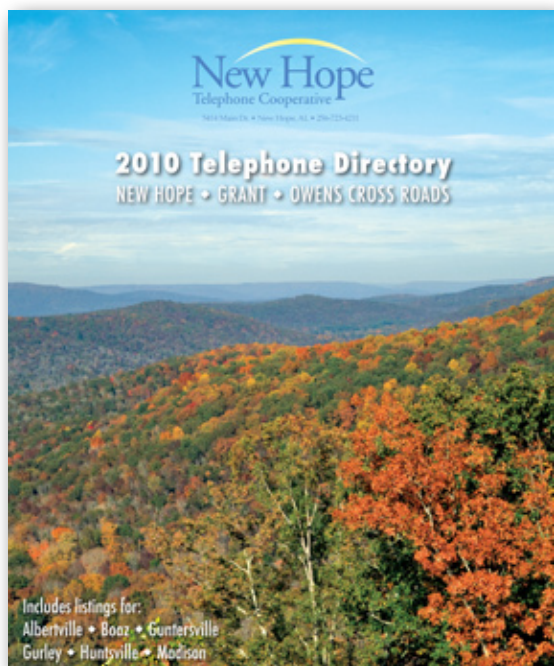
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Arriving soon...

Your 2010 NHTC Telephone Directory

Mailboxes across New Hope Telephone Cooperative's service area will be filled with 2010

neighboring areas of Albertville, Boaz, Guntersville, Gurley and Huntsville are included in the white pages.

The eight-page newcomer's guide found before the yellow pages is a great reference for those new to the area and for those who have always lived here. Phone numbers for local officials can be found in this section.

When you get your new directory do not throw your old one in the garbage. If you don't have any use for the old directory (keep one in guest rooms and each car) drop them in the recycle bin located in the lobby of NHTC's business office on Main Street in New Hope. Recycled phone books become roofing material, bags, cat litter, packaging material and even next year's telephone directory. Recycling directories also keeps tons of paper from making its way to landfills. Do your part—pitch in!

Telephone Directories soon. By the end of February, every member of NHTC should have received their new phone book.

The front pages offer helpful information about features available on your telephone, as well as instructions for their use. International long distance rates, area codes and calling plans can also be found in this section. Listings for the



Do you need help paying for Telephone Service?

Do you, or someone in your household, participate in any of these programs?

MEDICAID • FOOD STAMPS • SUPPLEMENTAL SECURITY INCOME (SSI) • SECTION 8 FEDERAL PUBLIC HOUSING ASSISTANCE (FPHA)
LOW INCOME HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (LIHEAP) • TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES (TANF)

You may qualify for these two special programs:

**LIFE
LINE**

This program provides a discount on the cost of monthly telephone service.

**LINK
UP**

This program provides a discount on the cost of installing telephone service.

Call NHTC at 256-723-4211 to find out if you qualify for one or both of these programs. You may also call the Alabama Public Service Commission toll free at 1-800-392-8050.

For a complete set of terms for the Link-Up and Lifeline programs, call or visit New Hope Telephone Cooperative. You may also contact any other eligible telecommunications company that is certified to provide service in Alabama by the Alabama Public Service Commission or the Federal Communications Commission.

Lifeline and Link-Up are part of the Federal Universal Service Fund program. The Federal Communications Commission introduced this program, and the Universal Service Administrative Company oversees it. The goal of Universal Service is to make sure consumers throughout the United States have essential telecommunications service.

Enter NHTC's Spring Coloring Contest

New Hope Telephone Cooperative is sponsoring a Spring coloring contest for local elementary students.

The contest is open to kindergarten through fourth-grade students at Owens Cross Roads School, New Hope Elementary and DAR elementary. The rules are simple:

1. Only pictures depicting Spring will be accepted.
2. Pictures must be colored with crayons or markers only. No other mediums will be accepted.
3. All submissions should be on 8.5" x 11" white paper. Paper can be mounted to colored construction paper.
4. The student's first and last name, grade and school name should be written clearly on the back of the

submission.

5. Only one submission per student is allowed.
6. All entries should be turned in to your teacher by February 25, 2010. A representative from NHTC will pick up all entries from each school on February 26, 2010.
7. Entries will be judged by an independent panel.
8. Judging will be based on creativity, originality, interpretation of theme and overall appeal.
9. The grand prize winner will be announced in The Communicator magazine in April and receive a \$100 U.S. Savings Bond.

Good luck everyone!



Deadline for entries is Thursday, Feb. 25, 2010

Open to DAR, New Hope and OCR Elementary Students

Grand prize winner announced in the April issue of *The Communicator*

We're *still* just what you're looking for



**Casey Griep,
President**

Come in to Citizens Bank & Trust and leave impersonal banking where it belongs—out in the cold. We give our neighbors and friends the conveniences they need, and the personal attention they deserve. Drop by to see our new look, and say hello to our new Branch President, Casey Griep. He's been a part of the Citizens Bank family since 2003. So, although things may look a little different, what's important is still the same: modern banking, local loan decisions, friendly people and outstanding service.



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Businesses must increase marketing efforts in order to survive recession

Our nation is in the midst of a recession. As individuals lose jobs, or even face the possibility of losing jobs, they are wary to let go of their hard-earned dollars. Factor in soaring gas prices, the failing of major corporations and banks, and the foreclosure of millions of homes, and the result is a decrease in spending across the board. What does all of this mean for businesses? Less dollars spent results in lower profits.

Keys to Survival

However, there are steps you can take to dampen the financial blow during difficult economic times. You can emerge from a recession as a more profitable, relevant brand, and position your company to gain significant market share.

Understandably, companies, just like typical households, are implementing stricter cost cutting measures. However, one of the most common mistakes businesses make during tough economic times is to slash marketing and advertising budgets.

Why do marketing dollars become an easy target? Because although economic studies usually measure the short-term effect of marketing quite well, it is difficult to quantify the long-term value of marketing or advertising campaigns. In other words, it is difficult to know for certain how many consumers buy a product as a result of seeing a television commercial or a print ad in

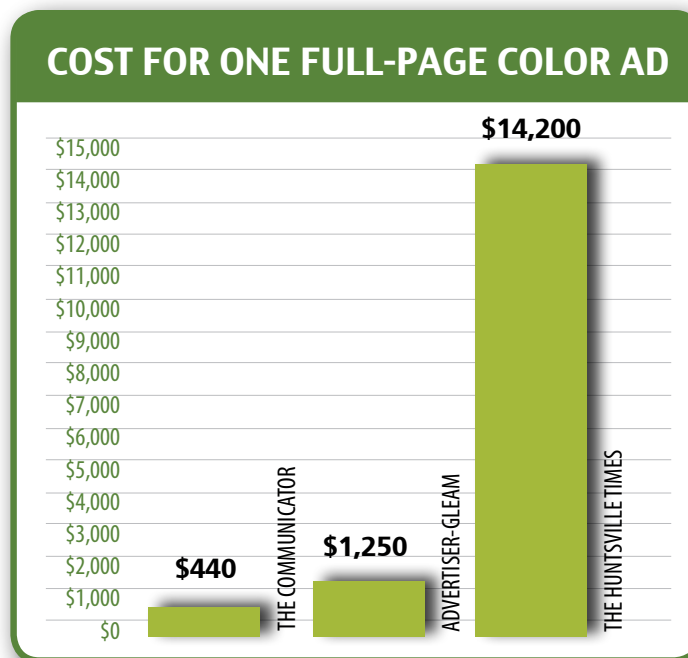
a magazine, and even more difficult to determine how advertising efforts have helped a company grow and prosper over a long period.

Business owners might ask themselves, “If consumers are buying less of my company’s products now, why shouldn’t I decrease advertising and marketing efforts until the economy recovers?”

Reducing advertising and marketing budgets might save money in the short

twenty other ads offering services or products from businesses similar to your own, your ad will stand out and will remain on the minds of consumers when they make day-to-day purchases.

The void in advertising space created when businesses slash advertising budgets often results in publications and advertising agencies selling advertising space at discounted rates, simply to fill their pages. An economic downturn provides businesses the opportunity to increase market share by buying up empty advertising space at a lower cost.



Maintain Visibility

It is also important for businesses to advertise items and services that consumers are less likely to purchase during a recession. By continuing advertising efforts, you will maintain or increase sales, maintain your company’s visibility and reputation as a solid business, and ensure that your name and products or services stay fresh on the mind of the consumer.

Although consumers may be spending less dollars right now, they still see and remember adver-

tisements for products they want to buy when financial times are better. Many will make mental wish lists of items they will buy when they regain financial footing.

Standing Out

Companies that do not advertise during a recession will miss out on opportunities to sell their products first when the economy recovers. The companies that continue to advertise will emerge even stronger after

Because many businesses take the tactic of cutting advertising dollars, your company has less advertising clutter with which to compete. Instead of your advertisement running in a newspaper with

NHTC upgrades Internet service and email



NHTC recently upgraded its DSL Internet system to provide subscribers with more bandwidth and greater reliability.

"We are dedicated to providing our members with the most dependable Internet connection possible," says Rusty Bright, NHTC Network Administrator. "We have recently had some slowdowns with our DSL service that prompted us to upgrade our internal infrastructure allowing us to improve the overall quality of service."

All DSL Internet subscribers will benefit from upgrades to the DSL Internet system.

New Hope Telephone Cooperative has also upgraded its email server to a new Web mail interface. The new

interface will provide members with additional options such as changing their own password instead of contacting NHTC to change it for them.

"This is something that our customers have been asking for that we were not able to provide with the older technology," Bright says. "Before, customers had to call NHTC and request that we change their email passwords for them during business hours."

"This new interface allows them to manage their own passwords for their email accounts, providing greater convenience for subscribers," Bright added.

To see the new Web mail interface, customers can visit webmail.nhtc.net or visit the NHTC Web site at nhtc.net and click on the link to NHTC Web mail. ▲



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the smoke clears and things are back to normal again.

Target Your Consumer

The most important thing to think about when advertising is how to stretch your dollars as far as they will go. For businesses in the NHTC coverage area, advertising in *The Communicator* is a great place to start.

The Communicator is a free, monthly publication with a circulation of approximately 8,500. The magazine is mailed to

every address in New Hope, Grant and portions of OCR.

If your business is in this area, more than likely your target consumer lives in this area. Because every resident, business and organization in the NHTC coverage area receives a copy of *The Communicator*, advertising in this magazine is a win-win decision.

There is not another publication in our area in which businesses can advertise with the circulation and market saturation power of *The Communicator*.

Advertise Wisely

The Communicator also offers advertising rates that are lower than most any alternative.

For instance, a one-time, full-page color ad placed in the Sunday edition of *The Huntsville Times* costs businesses \$14,200.20. A one-time, full-page spot color (only three colors available) ad in Guntersville's Advertiser Glean costs \$1,205.40. A one-time, full-page color ad printed on heavy-stock glossy paper in *The Communicator* costs \$440.

Why is advertising in *The Communicator* so inexpensive? Misty

Williams, Director of Marketing and Public Relations for NHTC explains.

"The purpose of offering advertising in *The Communicator* is to provide an affordable means for local businesses to advertise in their own communities," Williams explains. "*The Communicator* exists to allow NHTC to communicate with our members. However, our magazine serves as so much more.

"It exists solely for the people in this area," Williams continues. "For advertisers, it is an amazing, affordable opportunity to reach out directly to almost all of the people who are their potential customers."

Some might argue that a newspaper as large as the *Huntsville Times* has a much larger readership than *The Communicator*. However, the circulation of the *Huntsville Times* in the NHTC coverage area is just over 2,000. That pales in comparison to *The Communicator's* circulation of 8,500.

Another advantage of advertising in *The Communicator* is its much greater lifespan than a newspaper. That means that your ad could be seen weeks or even months.

If you are interested in advertising in *The Communicator*, contact Misty Williams at (256) 723-2008. ▲

Make the most of your marketing dollars — advertise in *The Communicator*

Call for advertising rates and ask about discounts for quarterly and annual contracts
723-2008





*There were many
reasons they called him*

MR. MITCHELL

When Jack Mitchell entered New Hope High on the first day of school in 1961, he had no idea he was opening two doors at once. One led down the polished hallway into his brand new coaching job, and the other, down the road to becoming one of the town's most celebrated citizens as a local football legend.

Although Jack passed away in 1999 shortly after New Hope's Football stadium was changed to Jack Mitchell Stadium, he was recently given another great honor, posthumously. In 2009, Mitchell was inducted into the Huntsville-Madison County Athletic Hall of Fame.

He was born in Covington County, Alabama, in 1931. While attending Mumford High School, Mitchell played on the football and basketball teams, and boxed in the Golden Gloves Association. When he graduated in 1949, he joined the United States Navy and began to study Dental Technology at Bethesda Naval Hospital in Maryland.

While on leave from the Navy, Mitchell went on one date with a young teacher named Jean, and for their second date, they were married. The couple eventually had three children and had

been married almost half a century at the time of Mitchell's death.

Mitchell was stationed in Norfolk, Virginia when he and Jean married and he continued to pursue his Dental degree. He assisted a Dentist there during his training and was a good student who showed exceptional talent in the field. "When Jack got out of the Navy," Jean says, "that Doctor begged me not to let Jack get out of dentistry. He said he was too good."

Mitchell did leave the profession. While he was enrolled in the pre-dental program at Jacksonville State University, he decided to change his major to coaching. It was a good decision for the natural-born athlete.

In 1961 he heard that New Hope High School needed a football coach and could not find one. So Jack, who was coaching at Hanceville High School, applied for the job and got it. Jean says he was working on his Master's degree at the time, so she actually went through his interview process for him. The first day Jack arrived at the school was the first day he had ever been there.

Jack had a big challenge ahead of him when he finally began trying to put a

football team together at New Hope. He knew the school was known for its strong basketball program and had no football program at all. He was not deterred.

Jack Mitchell faced two of the hardest problems a football coach could ever face when he came to the small school. To begin with, none of Mitchell's players knew anything about football. He once said that when they played their first game in Gaylesville in 1961, his team had never even seen a football game in their lives.

His other overwhelming obstacle was that the team had no football field. All New Hope High School had was a patch of grass where their field is today.

Again, undeterred, he went to work organizing local men to help, and the football field at New Hope was finally started. They had no real equipment, and Jean says they had to borrow the telephone company's post-hole diggers just to set the posts.

Mitchell's wife remembers a story that illustrates her husband's character. As George Wallace campaigned for governor, he made a stop in New Hope and found all the town's men working on building a new football field. Wallace

Right: Jack Mitchell received numerous awards for his many contributions to football, education and the YMCA. His widow Jean stands next to a display wall that holds many of them. Below: Jean Mitchell is shown with the Madison County Sports Hall of Fame award that was given posthumously to Jack Mitchell in 2009.



began “shaking hands with all of them, and Jack offered him his hole-diggers!” Mrs. Mitchell laughs. With tenacity such as that, Jack Mitchell soon had his football field. Before long, he had also turned the school’s football program into a force to be reckoned with.

Jack’s team in the mid-1960’s made everyone in the county stand up and notice the New Hope Indians every time they stepped on the field. For three solid seasons, Jack and his team never lost a single county game. The team won the County Championships in 1964, 1965, and again in 1966.



In all, Mitchell coached football at New Hope for nine years. He was then the school’s Assistant Principal.

Mitchell was also the director of the Northeast State Junior College night program, held in New Hope, for eight years. Jean Mitchell says she and her husband worked for the program.

“We had three kids to put through college on a teacher’s salary,” she says with a laugh.

Throughout his remarkable career, Mitchell wore many hats. Some were in the school system, and some were not. In the summer of 1962, Jean says she and

Jack started a playground program for New Hope’s kids. This eventually became the town’s YMCA program. In 1964, a swimming pool was installed at the New Hope YMCA and Mitchell was the organization’s first director. Remarkably, this was the first rural recreational program of its kind in the United States from 1965 to 1971.

It would be difficult to list every achievement of Jack Mitchell’s life. However, because he touched so many lives with his service to others, there are plenty of people who remember things about him. One such person is Allen Wayne Paseur, of New Hope. Paseur played football for Mitchell from 1964 to 1968

at New Hope High School.

“I remember Mr. Mitchell as being the one that taught us players about life’s disciplines,” he says. “And the one that stands out in my mind is selflessness—simply the way he gave up time with his own family to be there every day for other boys and girls of the community.”

“The way he carried on his life more or less demanded or commanded respect,” he says. “If you pay attention to how people address him, it’s not ‘Coach Mitchell,’ it’s ‘Mr. Mitchell’. That makes a big difference to me in how people feel about him,” he says.

Paseur, who himself will be inducted into the Huntsville-Madison County Athletic Hall of Fame this Spring, had one last bit of praise for the coach and mentor he obviously loved so much.

“I think everybody, every person, every man today that’s played football for Mr. Mitchell, probably he (Jack Mitchell), along with their father, is going to be the most important person in their life. There is no doubt about that,” he says.

Wife, Jean, could not agree more with Paseur about the one love of her life. “We were married 47 years and he was a wonderful husband and a wonderful provider,” she says. “We had a great life.”▲

Judy Barnes gives retirement two thumbs up

People in Grant are sure to miss the bright, smiling face and friendly greeting they always received from Judy Barnes of Peoples State Bank of Commerce.

Barnes, who began her banking career in 1966, retired last month after years of dedication to great customer service. She spent the last three decades at Peoples State Bank, where she served as Head Teller. "I will miss the interaction with customers and coworkers," she says. "I have really enjoyed getting to know and help the people of this area."

"In a world of big banks, online banking and drive-thru ATM machines, it's not often you enter a bank and the teller knows your name," says Brenda Barnes, President & CEO. "But Judy did. She cared about our customers and each transaction was important to her. She realized how far a warm smile could go. We will all miss working with her."

Barnes has no immediate plans. "Right now, I plan to enjoy retirement one day at a time," she says. "In the future, I'd love to go to Hawaii and travel other places with my husband, Colin." She also hopes to spend more time with her two children and four grandchildren.



PASTOR'S NOTES

BY LARRY BISHOP, PASTOR
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
NEW HOPE

Sitting in Dr. John Greco's office recently, I read a Sports Illustrated article about golfer, Michelle Wie. One sentence stood out: "...she has the maturity to listen to her body so she doesn't worsen her injury." That sentence reminded me of athletes who attempt to get back in a game before healing from injuries. Then I realized, there are many warning signs in life to which we do not "listen", thus worsening the injury - or problem, if you will.

I just love it when scripture brings to life – LIFE! Proverbs 13 tells us, "He who scorns instruction will pay for it, but he who respects a command is rewarded." Get the picture? God's word is telling us that it doesn't matter whether we're an injured athlete, someone suffering with a problem at home, on the job, or a spiritual dilemma, if we're not willing to follow instruction and listen to the warning signs and act accordingly, those problems can only get worse. Ignoring a problem has NEVER made that problem go away. I say that specifically for this month in which we celebrate the mission of Saint Valentine. If you're feeling warning signs in a relationship, especially marriage, please don't ignore them. As with every other aspect of life, the health of that relationship will depend on how you deal with those signs. As always, the best place to go for help with life's warning signs, is a church near you.

May the Spirit of St. Valentine's God grow in your heart this month.



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“He Told Me Not To Do It, But I Did It Anyway...”

Betty Ann Flynn of Grant did something the other day that changed her life. Here's her story.

Betty Ann had been in severe pain for two months. She was limping around because she was in so much pain with her lower back. She had asked her doctor about seeing a doctor in Grant who specializes in her type of problem. He didn't think that was such a good idea, but she decided to go anyway. Nothing she had tried so far seemed to help, and she was in great pain.

The next day after Betty Ann saw this doctor in Grant she was feeling 80% better. After suffering so much for 2 months she just couldn't believe it. She felt so much better. Oh, did I mention that this doctor is a Chiropractor.

Chiropractors are trained like no other doctor. They spend countless hours studying the detection and treatment of biomechanical problems of the spine. The decision of which type of doctor to see could affect you for the rest of your life. Seeing someone who specializes in the spine might be in your best interest. Many times their approach gets results where traditional treatments do not; and this is backed up by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

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 him with their carpal tunnel syndrome problems. Also they come to him 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)

“I did have a lot of leg pain due to a pinched nerve. Not any more thanks to Dr. Mike.” (Leonard McPeters)

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 February 28, 2010, 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.

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 16 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.

P.P.S. Can you imagine not having to wait at a doctor's office? Well, your time is as valuable as mine. That's why we have a no-wait policy. You will be seen within minutes of your appointment.

Gunter Mountain DAR hosted ceremony for Vietnam Veterans

On Saturday, Nov. 8, 2009 the Gunter Mountain Chapter NSDAR along with the Gunter Mountain CAR recognized and celebrated Veterans of the Vietnam War Era during their annual Veterans Day Program. This year the program celebrated 47 Vietnam Veterans. Regent Betty Moore presided over the program. Gunter Mountain Daughters led the Pledge of Allegiance and the National Anthem, and the Gunter Mountain CAR presented and posted the colors and led the American Creed. The Gunter Mountain Chapter Chaplain Lillian Botos gave the

invocation.

Highlights of the program included words from Colonel Donald Brewer, US Air Force Retired, to honor American soldiers killed in action, and remember American POW and MIA. Sherry Spurlin provided a musical salute to veterans of all wars and active military. Regent Moore recognized each Vietnam War Veteran, giving an account of each individual's service.

The keynote address was given by Vietnam War Veteran Jimmy Bradshaw of Grant. Special remarks were given by

Colonel John R. Oxford, Deputy Director US Army Aviation and Missile Research, Development, and Engineering Center. Vietnam War Veteran Lewis Patterson of Grant. gave the benediction.

There were 28 Vietnam War Era Veterans present at the Veterans Day ceremony. Vietnam Veterans' memorabilia was displayed on tables for all guests and other veterans to view. The ceremony was filmed and a DVD of the program and a CD of the memorabilia were placed in both the New Hope and Grant public libraries.



VIETNAM VETERANS HONORED IN CEREMONY HOSTED BY GUNTER MOUNTAIN DAR: First Row (L to R): Donald R. Bevel, Tony Garner, Jimmy Bradshaw, Lewis B. Patterson, Jerry D. Shelton; Charles B. West, Paul Thrasher, Rick Lovelady, Keith Lampkin and George Connally. Second Row: Dennis Garner, James D. Milligan, Donald Brewer, Roger Smith, James E. Irwin, Tony Botos, Preston T. Watson, Burwyn Brewer, Roger Hornbuckle and James E. Teal. Third Row: Larry D. Anderson, Rex Sisk, Charles Boos, Dean Manley, William D. Ayers and Joe Balch. Fourth Row: Johnnie Wayne Bearden and Kenny Cobb.

Community Events

Weekly

The Care Center

Women Helping Women Ministries

The Care Center offers the following free programs every week.

Monday - (Noon - 1 p.m.) Grief

Recovery Support Group

Tuesday - (9 a.m. - 10 a.m.) Women's Recovery Group

Wednesday - (9 a.m. - 10 a.m.) Family Parenting and Relationship Skills

Thursday - (9 a.m. - 10 a.m.)

Motivational Book Studies

Monthly

Angel Food Ministry

Help cut grocery costs by participating in Angel Food ministry through New Hope United Methodist Church.

Call (256) 723-4812 or go to www.newhopeunitedmethodistchurch.org

for more information on the program, dates, times, and menu. You may also

order online at www.angelfoodministries.com, and find menus and recipes along with other useful information.

March 13

Queen and King of Hearts Pageant

The New Hope Recreation Center is sponsoring a beauty pageant. The pageant will be held Saturday, March 13, 2010 at 6 p.m. at New Hope School.

The pageant is open to boys and girls ages 0 and up. The entry deadline is

Feb. 20. Registration day is **Feb. 27**

from 10 a.m. until noon at New Hope Recreation Center. There is a \$50 entry fee for the pageant and all option-

als are \$5 each. Each contestant will receive a trophy. All proceeds go to the New Hope Recreation Center. For entry forms and more information call Tina Anderton at 256-655-4102 or email her at tinaanderton35@yahoo.com.

April 17

Lion's Club Spring Clean Up

8 a.m. - Noon

Meet at Piggly Wiggly Parking Lot

Contact Ava W. Cambron, 723-4695 or, Charley W. McPeters, 479-0184.

Legislative Update

By Rep. Butch Taylor

Alabama House of Representatives, Dist. 22



The 2010 legislative session kicked off on January 12. We have been very busy conducting committee meetings, lining up bills for the upcoming session and beginning work on our state budget.

You may have read that the governor's proposed budget is based completely on the hopes that our state will receive half of a billion dollars of federal stimulus money and that our economy will pick up. The governor's budget contains no cuts to the General Fund and adds \$400 million for education.

That's despite Legislative Fiscal Office predictions of budget shortfalls of more than \$670 million and predictions of 3,500 teacher job cuts without new money.

While I appreciate the governor's optimism, I do not agree with budgeting using dollars that do not yet exist. I don't plan my family's budget with the hopes that I might come across extra money in the future, and I don't think our state should plan that way either. We must be realistic and base our budget on money we actually have, not money we might have in the future.

In order to receive \$200 million of Riley's speculated stimulus money, we must enact a plan to allow charter schools in our state. I am totally against charter schools. These schools are private schools paid for by the citizens of the state of Alabama. I do not agree with that regardless of how much money our state will receive for allowing them.

In the weeks to come I will continue to work hard for you in Montgomery. Feel free to visit me in Montgomery or call my office at (334) 242-7219. ▲

NEW HOPE RECREATION DEPARTMENT BASEBALL AND SOFTBALL SIGN-UPS



Sign-ups begin in February

**Season: March-June
Ages 12 and under**

**Visit www.newhoperec.org
or call 256-723-2111**



From the Community

VALENTINE RICE CRISPY TREATS

1/2 cup butter
10 cups crispy rice cereal
9 cups miniature marshmallows
2 cups candy hearts (tiny red spice ones)
Candy hearts (with messages)
3/4 cups miniature chocolate chips
Red food coloring

Melt butter and marshmallows; stir until smooth. In a large bowl, mix rice cereal, red candy hearts and miniature chips together. To marshmallow mixture, blend in 2 drops red food coloring, adding more coloring if necessary to reach desired shade. Add marshmallow mixture to cereal mixture; stir quickly to combine. Spread on a large buttered pan; press with buttered hands. While warm, press on candy hearts with messages spaced 1 to 1/2-2 inches apart. Refrigerate and cut into squares.

VALENTINE PRETZEL RODS

White chocolate chips
Whole pretzel rods
Red, white and/or pink sprinkles

Melt chocolate according to package directions. Dip pretzel rods in the chocolate and place on the wax paper. After the chocolate has hardened, dip them again and then roll them in the sprinkles. Place them on a new sheet of wax paper to harden.

SUGAR-FREE NEW YORK STYLE CHEESECAKE

Crust:

1-1/4 cups graham cracker crumbs
1/4 cup Splenda No Calorie Sweetener, Granulated
1/4 cup butter, melted

Filling:

2-1/2 pounds regular cream cheese
1-2/3 cups Splenda No Calorie Sweetener, Granulated
3 Tbsp. flour
5 large eggs
2 egg yolks
1-1/2 tsp. vanilla
1/4 cup heavy cream

Preheat oven to 475°. Mix crust ingredients together and press into a 10-inch springform pan. Beat cream cheese, Splenda and flour in a medium bowl until well mixed and smooth. Add eggs and egg yolks, beat until smooth. Add vanilla. Scrape sides of bowl. Mix briefly and add heavy cream. Mix until well blended. Pour filling over crust. Bake 10 minutes at 475°. Turn oven temperature down to 200° and bake for 1 hour. Turn oven off and leave cheesecake in the oven for one more hour. Cheesecake will be slightly firm to the touch. Let cool 15-20 minutes before placing in the refrigerator.

Refrigerate a minimum of 4- 6 hours or preferably overnight before serving.

OREO TRUFFLES

1 (16 ounce) package OREO Chocolate Sandwich Cookies, divided
1 (8 ounce) package PHILADELPHIA Cream Cheese, softened
2 (8 ounce) packages BAKER'S Semi-Sweet Baking Chocolate, melted

Crush 9 of the cookies to fine crumbs in food processor; reserve for later use. (Cookies can also be finely crushed in a resealable plastic bag using a rolling pin.) Crush remaining 36 cookies to fine crumbs; place in medium bowl. Add cream cheese; mix until well blended. Roll cookie mixture into 42 balls, about 1-inch in diameter. Dip balls in chocolate; place on wax paper-covered baking sheet. (Any leftover chocolate can be stored at room temperature for another use.) Sprinkle with reserved cookie crumbs. Refrigerate until firm, about 1 hour.

HOMEMADE CHOCOLATE POPS

Chocolate bars or morsels
Fruit, marshmallows, caramels, cookies and other treats for dipping
Wooden skewers

Melt chocolate in microwave by heating for 1 minute, stirring, and repeating after 30 seconds until smooth. Insert wooden skewer through treats and dip into melted chocolate. Let harden on wax paper. Decorate with sprinkles or white chocolate.

My Funny Valentine



My Sweet valentine -
Kinley Marie Rodgers,
one month old. She is
the daughter of
Robert & Jennifer Rodgers.



Eden Self sending smiles from Hawaii. Photo submitted
by her Grandmother, Glenda Self.

Gracelynn Self sending kisses from Hawaii.
Photo sent in by her Grandmother, Glenda Self.

"Egg-citing Easter" is the photo theme for April. 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 April is February 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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