

The

Communicator

VOL. 10, NO. 6 • NOV/DEC 2011

PUBLISHED FOR MEMBERS OF

New Hope
Telephone Cooperative
Your Communications Connection

A Christmas Story

Richard Holland gets his wish

***Small clinic with a
BIG heart***

Winning Season

JV team goes undefeated

The Communicator

Vol. 10, No. 6

November/December 2011

is a bimonthly magazine published by New Hope Telephone Cooperative, ©2011. It is distributed without charge to all Cooperative members/owners.

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Produced for NHTC by:

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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.

On the cover:

NHTC wishes you and your family a joyous Christmas season.

MANAGER'S MESSAGE

NHTC exists to serve you, our members

Each fall, I feel especially lucky to live in our area. The mountains here are beautiful year round, but as the leaves change and our community starts to celebrate Thanksgiving and Christmas, everything seems to take on a different life. We stay busy with planning holiday menus, decorating our homes and bringing our families together.

After Christmas is over, we begin to think about New Year's resolutions and ways we can improve over the upcoming year. As the end of 2011 approaches, New Hope Telephone Cooperative has been readying its own list of resolutions, with the help of our members.

In the last issue of The Communicator, you received a survey. This survey gave everyone a chance to let us know what's on the mind of our members. Several of you have filled out the survey and sent it in — thank you so much! For those of you who haven't, there is still time to give us your feedback. You can consider it an early Christmas gift to us at NHTC.

Through the survey, we can help make this cooperative more responsive to your needs. The feedback will help us make decisions about what services are important to our members and how our team can better serve you.

That is the spirit of a cooperative. In this truly unique business, each of our customers are also owners of the cooperative. As a member, you have a voice in the direction of NHTC and your concerns are at the heart of every decision we make. That's the cooperative way, and that is why we love to have your feedback on how we can best meet your needs.

In this holiday season, we are asked to stop and reflect on what we are thankful for. Every year, I am thankful for you, our members. We have a great community, and I am lucky to be working in such a great business. Happy holidays, and I look forward to our new year together. ▲



TOM WING

*General Manager,
New Hope Telephone
Cooperative*

Holiday Schedule

NHTC will be closed

Thursday and Friday, Nov. 24 & 25 for Thanksgiving
Friday, Dec. 23, and Monday, Dec. 26 for Christmas
and Monday, Jan. 2 for New Year's Day
to give our employees time with their families.

A photograph of three women smiling in an office setting. The woman on the left is wearing a teal top, the woman in the middle is wearing a red patterned top, and the woman on the right is wearing a blue patterned top. They are standing in front of a wooden wall with a window and some decorations.

Billing, Carrier Access & Capital Credits

While the jobs of Kanita Medlen, Rhonda Tart and Nikki Dudley cannot be categorized as a traditional department at NHTC, there is no question that the three are definitely a team when it comes to getting the job done.

They each have different titles at NHTC: Medlen is the CABS Coordinator, while Tart is the customer service specialist and Dudley is the billing coordinator. Each has her own specific job responsibilities, but they work very closely together. "The three of us cross-train on each other's jobs," Dudley says. "Each one of us has to rely on the other at some point in time to get our jobs done."

Medlen has been with NHTC for more than 10 years. She began her current position five years ago. "I mainly do Carrier Access Billing, or CABS. I'm responsible for making sure we accurately bill other phone carriers that use our major lines and cell towers to connect calls. I also deal with NECA, a membership association that includes telephone companies across the country.

"I love knowing what it really takes to keep our cooperative running smoothly," she says. "I'm a detail-oriented person so this is a perfect position for me." Medlen is the proud

mom of a toddler, Elizabeth Jayne.

As the customer service specialist, Tart, who has also been with NHTC for more than 10 years, handles capital credits and service disconnections. "Sometimes the disconnections are due to customer deaths," she says. "I'm soft-hearted, so if the customer cries, I just cry right along with them. My favorite part of my job is seeing a customer leave with a smile on their face because I've been able to help them." Tart has two sons, Blake, 15, and Brandon, 6. She is expecting her third child in December, a baby girl she plans to name Addison Reese. She also has two stepchildren: Chandler, 13, and Chloe, 9.

Dudley began her work at NHTC more than 15 years ago. She is responsible for customer billing and late notices. She also processes long distance charges for billing and oversees customer bank drafts. "But I also work with *The Communicator*," she says. "That is my favorite part of my job. I get to be out in the community where I grew up. I like finding stories that I think readers will enjoy. It's just a lot of fun." Outside of her job, Dudley is a mom of two, Garrett, 10, and Maggie, 5. "My kids are my world," she says. "What they do, I do." ▲

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“Local Nurse Reveals The Truth...”

Dear Friend,

Local Nurse Bill Denney did something the other day that changed his life. Here's his story.

Bill had been limping around the nursing home for several days trying to take care of his patients the best that he could. It's tough trying to tend to dozens of elderly patients when you've got a pinched nerve in your lower back. The impinged nerve was causing pain to shoot all the way down his leg from his back and hip area. The severe pain was not getting any better, therefore he decided to try and do something about it.

He had seen an article in the Gleam about a doctor in Grant who got good results with this type of problem. So he decided to make the drive from Albertville to Grant to see him. After just a couple of treatments he was feeling like a new person. In fact, he was so impressed with his results he referred a coworker from Rainbow in Blount county. She also got great results. Oh, did I mention that this doctor is a Chiropractor?

Dr. Mike uses a new technique that gets great results with pinched nerves, “Sciatica.” Most traditional treatments do not help with this type of problem. In fact, the U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services recommend Chiropractic and exercise for acute low back pain. No other treatments are recommended.

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 December 12, 2011, 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 18 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.

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UNDEFEATED: The New Hope Middle School football champs

The 2011 season was a year of firsts for Bobby Milam.

For the past 38 years, Milam has coached high school football, but 2011 marked his first year as the New Hope Middle School football coach. While the change from high school to middle school took a little getting used to, Milam says there were a couple of other firsts that made the season even more memorable.

"This was the first time I had ever coached a team with a girl on it," he says, "and it was also the first time since 1974 that New Hope Middle School's football team went undefeated."

Milam has nothing but praise for Shayna Griffin, the seventh-grade girl who was a second-string defensive lineman for the Indians. "I could tell from the start that she put her heart into everything she did. I don't recall her ever missing a practice," he says. "She was injured right before the last two games, so she didn't get to play, but she still came to every practice."

Of his undefeated team, Milam says his coaching staff's strategy obviously

paid off. "The other two coaches, Chris Hicks and Obie Childers, Jr., and I all worked on a strategy together," he says. "We tried not to put more on the kids than they could handle since they are just seventh and eighth graders."

"There is always the temptation in football to come up with more and more plays and more and more defensive moves," Milam continues. "I was constantly fighting that all year, because I wanted them to be confident that they knew what we wanted when we called a play. I didn't want to confuse them by trying to teach them too much."

"The kids were all very coachable and wanted to learn," he adds. "When we went over to Guntersville for our first game — the jamboree — they won, and that really helped their confidence. Then we played Stevenson, and they are a really good team."

The game against Stevenson came down to a tension-filled ending that Milam says he will never forget. "It was near the end of the game with about 58 seconds to go, and we were behind by four points. I said, 'Guys, we've got just

one chance to win this game, and that is if y'all will hold the runner down, and reach in and strip the ball away from him.'

"They did that," he continues, "and one of our guys got the ball and ran about 60 yards for the winning touchdown!"

New Hope Middle School beat Westminster Christian Academy, Brindlee Mountain, Gurley and, in their last game, came away the victor over Hampton Cove. "I had watched Hampton Cove," Milam says, "and scouted them a couple of times, and they were very athletic. I knew it would be a tough game. I hoped we could finish undefeated, and as it turned out, we did."

"I've already told Coach Taylor that this is a good class that he can look forward to coaching in high school," Milam says. "I'm so proud of them. I think what they accomplished was not only something the kids could be proud of, but also the whole community. They worked hard and they deserve the recognition." ▲

Protect your wallet this winter

Try these energy saving tips that could lower your electricity expenses

Is your home ready for winter? By making a few simple changes, you will be more comfortable during the cold months ahead while conserving electricity — and saving money — for your family.



- >> Weatherstrip windows and doors to keep cold air outside.
- >> Caulk around openings that could allow cold air inside your home. This includes windows, dryer vents, spigots and phone and cable lines.
- >> Lower your thermostat. Experts estimate that lowering your thermostat by even one degree can save up to 2% on your energy bill. Programmable thermostats could save you more by enabling you to program a lower temperature when no one is home.
- >> Use LED Christmas lights this year. Incandescent lights can use up to 99% more energy.
- >> Set your water heater thermostat to 120°. The pipe coming from the top of the heater should be insulated for at least the first five feet.
- >> Make sure your home is well insulated. Most older homes don't have enough insulation. It is recommended that you have at least an R-30 rating or equivalent amount of insulation in your attic. Visit www.energysavers.gov for more information.



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Santa one more time:

Richard Holland's Christmas wish comes true

Everywhere he went, Richard Holland, of Grant, brought joy and laughter to people's hearts. If you ever met him once, he never forgot you — and you would certainly never forget him. Looking into his face was like looking at someone you had known and loved your whole life. From the snowy white hair and long beard, right down to the twinkling blue eyes and honest-to-goodness rosy cheeks — he was the very image of Santa Claus.

Along with the breath-taking physical resemblance, Holland also embodied that special kind of holiday spirit that made everyone love him, especially children. "He had the most gentle way about him," says Darlene Price who attended New Hope First Baptist Church with Holland and his wife, Faye. "He was always smiling and he loved everybody. He was everything you'd expect to find when you meet Santa."

For more than 40 years, Holland

dressed up in a traditional Santa suit and brought his special kind of Christmas cheer to department stores, malls and portrait studios all over the south as a professional Santa. He posed for photographs with hundreds of excited children who climbed onto his lap and whispered their Christmas wishes into his ear. He paid close attention and always said a prayer in his heart that each child would find the things they dreamed of under their tree on Christmas morning.

But this year, 77-year-old Richard Holland was the one who had a wish. Since 2010, underneath the rosy cheeks and jolly demeanor, he had been fighting a life-threatening cancer. A Baptist minister for most of his life, Holland was not afraid of going home to Heaven when he passed from this life. But there was one thing he longed for before he went, one thing that brought a smile to his face every time

he thought about it — he just wanted to be Santa one more time.

Ho, Ho, Ha

The first time he was asked to put on the famous suit, Holland was much younger but already a preacher. "My boss came to me at the automotive shop where I worked and he had a Santa suit in a box," he said. "He told me he had something for me to do. So we went to Pinson Elementary School and I put on the suit and played Santa Claus for the kids. I had a ball that day, and my boss said 'Preacher, you sure did make those kids smile.'"

From that moment on, Holland realized that God had given him a special way to communicate with people of all ages. "Everybody loves Santa," he said.

He grew his beard out, and with his snow white hair and round belly, the man who described himself as a "simple country preacher" soon found



From Richard Holland's photo collection

that even in his street clothes, everyone — grown-ups and children alike — stared at him in amazement.

Sometimes the effect was downright humorous.

"There was a little boy at church who was always getting into trouble," says his daughter, Betty Holland of Grant. "But one Sunday he was sitting all straight in the pew and not moving a muscle. So his mother finally asked him what was going on and he pointed to Daddy and said, 'I've got to be good. Santa Claus goes to this church!'"

Not everyone he met qualified for the nice list, but Holland recalled even those stories with his typical humor.

"One time I was standing outside of Wal-Mart a couple of days after Christmas," he said. "I was dressed in my regular clothes, when I saw this elderly lady coming toward me across the parking lot. She looked kind of frail, and I thought she was about to fall down when she just hauled off and kicked me right on the shin! I asked 'Lady, what in the world did you do that for?' and she said 'You didn't bring me what I wanted for Christmas. I wanted a tall, dark, handsome man, and I didn't get one!'"

Santa sightings

Over the years, Holland's services as a Santa model were very much in demand. His professional duties took him all over the south as the official Santa for Target and J.C. Penney's department stores for many years. "I once met Mr. J.C. Penney himself in the hallway of the Chattanooga store," Holland said. "He was a fine fella. He said 'Mr. Holland, I believe you are the best-looking Santa I have ever seen.'"

Holland always had fun with his Santa celebrity status and always carried a bag of suckers for any children he might meet by chance — even in the summer.

"One year we went to the Shrimp Festival in Gulf Shores," says his daughter Missie Rogers, "and Daddy was standing out on a pier at the State Park, crabbing, and he had on red shorts and a white shirt. People were stopping

and taking his picture because 'Santa Claus' was out on a pier crabbing, and they wanted to put his picture on their Christmas cards."

"But he didn't mind," Faye adds. "He loved people and he loved having his picture made. He just hammed it up and let them take all the pictures they wanted."

One of Missie's favorite memories of her famous dad happened a few years ago in a most unexpected place. "I own a cleaning business," she says, "and one day I was in this really nice house in Birmingham to do a job. I looked up, and there was Daddy dressed as Santa in a huge photograph over the fireplace posing with the family's child. I smiled at the lady and said, 'I know that Santa Claus personally.'"

The real reason for the season

Throughout the years, Holland had his whiskers pulled, his Santa knowledge tested and his patience tried, but he always had a good time and never lost sight of his original purpose.

"I promised the Lord when he called me to preach that I would preach His Word the best I could, as boldly as I could and I hoped the people would accept it," he said. "I didn't start out as

Santa Claus, that was the inroad. It just gave me a lot of opportunities to speak to a lot of kids and point them in the right direction."

In his lifetime, he did just that. He pastored a church, created and ran a mission for the needy with his wife, and even started a phone ministry after a stroke in 2007 left him in a wheelchair. "He called to check on people from our church and pray with them every week," Faye said, "until his cancer got so bad that he couldn't."

Sadly, Richard Holland passed away on Oct. 6, 2011, just two weeks after learning that he would be featured in *The Communicator*. Although his Christmas wish did not come true the way everyone who loved him had hoped, he did get to be Santa one more time — if only through the memories he relived when telling his story. "This is such an honor and I thank you," he said when being interviewed, tears rolling down his face. "I've been Santa hundreds of times and I've met lots of wonderful people. I have a wife of 56 years that I wouldn't trade for a million dollars. We have six kids: Pearl, Richard Jr., Missie, Betty, Sunni and Nicholas, plus numerous grandkids and great-grandkids. I've had a really good life and I thank God for it." ▲



A Baptist minister, Richard Holland reached hundreds by portraying Santa Claus.

New Hope Children's Clinic: a place where love abounds



The New Hope Children's Clinic (NHCC) is a place that has been built and sustained by the love and generosity of the community where it began. Located behind the New Hope School in a modest modular building, hundreds of patients pass through its door each year. Each one receives an exceptional level of care which is provided free of charge by the staff of volunteer physicians and healthcare personnel to any child aged 3 to 21.

Since the clinic opened in 2009, it has provided more than \$220,000 in medical care and seen more than 2,100 patients. In the year 2010 alone, physicians, healthcare workers and other volunteers donated over 1,700 hours of their time providing quality medical care to the children of New Hope, Owens Cross Roads and surrounding communities.

But as the need for healthcare grows among these rural communities, the need for a larger clinic that can provide even more services has also grown. As the New Hope Children's Clinic moves into its third year, plans to build a larger facility are already underway.

Little clinic, big service

After the clinic's previous director left for a different position, the board hired a new executive director with strong ties to the school where the clinic originated. Kerri Dewitz served as the nurse at New Hope School for 10

years before being chosen for her new position.

"I love these kids," she says. "I've known most of them since they were in kindergarten, so they are my babies. I would never have thought of leaving my job as the school nurse, but God obviously wanted me in this position. He has woven my life so that this day would happen even though I never thought it would."

Once she took the job, Dewitz realized she was exactly where she needed to be; she is passionate about her new job and excited about the clinic's future. "I'm responsible for running the day to day operations, maintaining the staff, and writing and maintaining existing grants," she says. "I'm also in charge of recruiting physicians and meeting with members of the community to help gain public awareness and additional funds for the clinic."

"My heart is here," she continues. "The love in this place is so real. Once someone volunteers here one time — from the people who take care of the grounds to the actual physicians and nurses — they are hooked. They have to keep coming back. It really is an amazing place."

Because the services at the clinic are offered free of charge, Dewitz says there is often a common misconception that the care offered at NHCC is not as good as other medical facilities.

"Before I came here," she says, "I had no idea the quality of care the clinic

provided. We have pediatric intensive care physicians, pediatric emergency room physicians and physicians from Huntsville Pediatrics as well as Huntsville Hospital who come here each week and volunteer their time, which is just miraculous.

"We also have two nurse practitioners who volunteer each week," she adds. "I would love to recruit more, because we could probably be open 12 hours a day and still be full. It's pretty impressive for a little school-based clinic."

NHCC offers medical services for any general medical problem, and maintains relationships with specialists in other fields who accept referrals for medical services the clinic is not equipped to handle.

A little vision goes a long way

"We are rural poor," says Dewitz. "We are the people who have no access to care, and that is a big passion of mine — to get that care for our patients. These people who come here deserve it. Our services are free, and we do not even charge co-pays for people who have insurance. Sometimes just buying the gas to get to the doctor plus the thought of having to pay a co-pay can keep parents from bringing their child in."

At the last board meeting for the NHCC, the board set aside \$100,000

to be used for a new, larger building which they have already received permission to put in place.

The new building, which will be about 3,500 sq. ft., will provide more space for examination rooms, two dental rooms and a vision room. "We already have an eye doctor who has committed to donating the equipment we need for the vision room," says Dewitz, "we just have to get the space built."

While a date has not been set for construction to begin, Dewitz has already begun some very creative fundraising projects in the community. These involve the children who benefit most from the clinic. "I asked the school art teacher, Rhonda Taylor, to have the kids choose from three different themes and draw a picture of their choice. The themes are: what it means to be healthy, what a perfect new

clinic would look like, or their idea of a beautiful Christmas scene. I think that is a good way to showcase how the kids feel, and we will be making those into notecards or small canvases to sell and raise money for the new clinic."

Dewitz invites anyone interested in helping to make NHCC's new clinic a reality to stop by the clinic, or email her at kerri.dewitz@newhopechildren-sclinic.org. ▲



New Hope Children's Clinic, located behind New Hope School, provides medical care to any child age 3 to 21 with no out-of-pocket expense for parents.

*Wishing you
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throughout the
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The library is fun for all ages

From 1947 until the 1980s, the town of New Hope was serviced by a bookmobile from Huntsville. Through the years, the service was sporadic, but without a library of their own, the people of New Hope were glad to welcome the bookmobile any time it was available.

In 1987, Louise Mathews of New Hope circulated a petition to create a branch library in the small town. By the summer of 1988, the first official meeting of the Friends of the New Hope Library was held.

Using funds from grants, fundraisers and various sources, the New Hope Library was opened on Sunday, September 25, 1988.

On May 25, 1992, the newly named Elizabeth Carpenter Library was moved into a charmingly refurbished building on Main Drive in New Hope.

Today, there is no question of the importance of the library to the town. There is a large variety of books, as well as video and audio materials available to patrons. Children and senior adults use the library's computers to do everything from homework to online bill-paying. Parents who homeschool their children also use the library's resources.

For more information, including library hours and volunteer information, please visit: <http://hmcpl.org/carpenter>. ▲



Bailey Gowan (Left) and his little sister Erica, often visit the library with their mom, Joni, and brother, Logan. (Not pictured). Bailey teaches Erica using the library's educational toys.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Galaxy of Lights at the Huntsville Botanical Garden

Drive through and see the spectacular animated holiday light displays Nov. 10 - Dec. 31 from 5:30 - 9 p.m. nightly. \$20 per car or van load of up to 10 people. \$3 for each additional person. Walking tours also available. For more information, call 256-830-4447.

November 4

OCR PTO Fall Festival and Bingo

There will be games and fun for everyone. The festival starts at 6 p.m.

November 21

Entry Deadline for Little Miss Merry Christmas Pageant

\$50 entry fee. Open to girls from birth to 19. All girls can choose to participate in Best Christmas Wear. This can be custom made or store bought, it just has to be Christmas Wear. Judges will choose a separate winner in this category. There will be a crowned winner and alternates in each age division. There will also be a Most Photogenic winner in each age division and a Best Christmas Wear winner in each age division. There will be one overall People's Choice Award! People's Choice \$1 per vote! You may collect these votes prior to the date of the pageant and the night of the pageant! Judges will not be local. For contact Kim Lemley

256-508-2723 or 256-723-2950 or by email: lemleys@nehp.net.

December 3

OCR PTO Breakfast with Santa

Bring your children or grandchildren out for breakfast with Santa from 7 to 10:30 a.m. in the cafeteria. \$5 pancake breakfast includes pancakes, bacon or sausage and a drink. Professional photos with Santa will be available. Price is according to package purchased. For more information call Sonya at 256-725-7875.

Little Miss Merry Christmas Pageant

6 p.m. at New Hope School Auditorium. Admission is \$3. If you have any questions and for full pageant details, contact Kim Lemley at 256-508-2723 or 256-723-2950 or by email: lemleys@nehp.net.

January 14

Mitchell Brown and The Twickenham Orchestra

A special concert held at the VBC Concert Hall at 7 p.m. All proceeds to benefit the New Hope High School Music Department. Tickets go on sale Nov. 7: \$14.50, \$18.50, \$22.50, \$26.50. Tickets can be purchased at the VBC Box Office or through Ticketmaster on the web at Ticketmaster.com, or by calling 1-800-745-3000.

A stressed economy makes for a more stressed Thanksgiving and Christmas. Recently I read a devotion that illuminated Christmas in an old light. "Christmas is not our birthday!" Reading that sentence reminded me of a Christmas about forty-six years past. Going through difficult times, momma was determined to get Christmas gifts for family members. A few months prior, I received an imitation-leather craft kit for my fourth birthday. Not being much into sewing, I put it away. Remembering that kit, mom sewed all those little pieces of imitation-leather into change purses and wallets. After gifts were handed out at Big Mama's house, all us kids found there wasn't much to do. Then the mood changed. Dusty old board games found their way out of closets, and for one Christmas afternoon we had rare real family fun.

Thanksgiving gives us a conscious op-

portunity to offer Thanks and Praise to God. Something we tend to neglect in day to day life. One thing I praise God for are presidents who freely proclaimed the One who guided this nation into being and gave us a Thanksgiving holiday. And while Christmas may not be a celebration of Our birth, because of Jesus, you and I can receive a gift of Life which will never end! To find support in days of uncertainty, spend more time with family. To find the gift of Peace "that passes all understanding", visit a church near you. This holiday season, I pray you receive the One Gift that money can never buy.



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

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A special thanks to our
'model' William Breault.
His parents are Kevin and
Amanda Lemaster Breault.



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BIKE NIGHT MONDAYS - 50¢ wings

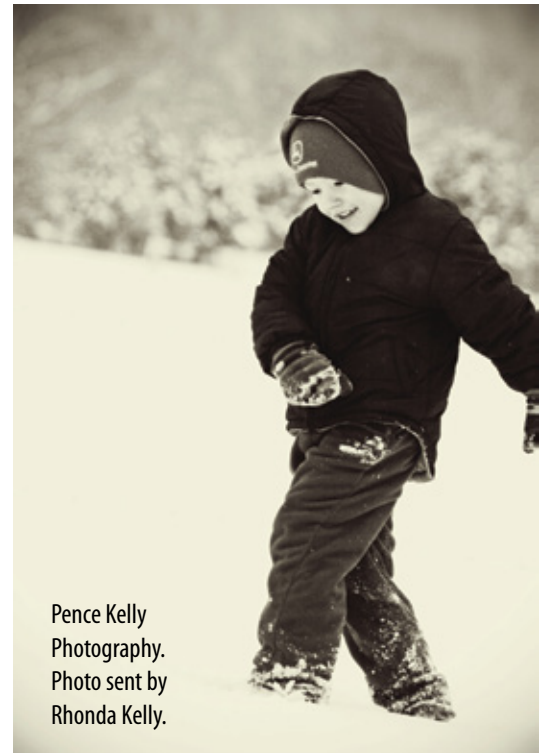
KARAOKE FRIDAY NIGHTS

LIVE MUSIC EVERY WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY & SATURDAY

Snow Days COMMUNITY PHOTOS



Sarah Shubert, Audrey Shubert, Alex Brown & Allison Brown. Photo sent by Betty Brown.



Pence Kelly Photography. Photo sent by Rhonda Kelly.



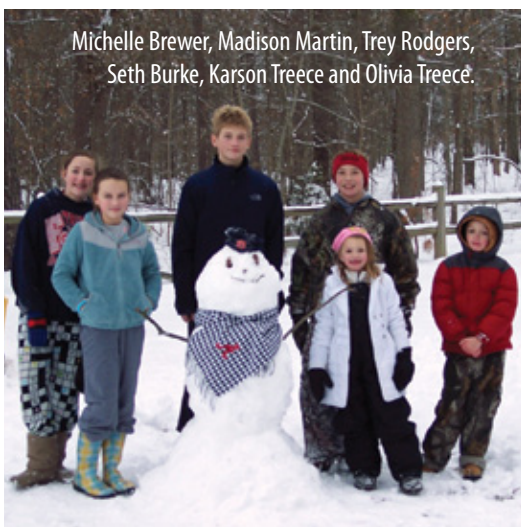
Charlee Bearden's First Snow. Photo sent by mom, Tina Bearden.



Thom, Melissa, Lilly and Sandy Brown. December 25, 2010



Connie and Henry King playing in the snow.



Michelle Brewer, Madison Martin, Trey Rodgers, Seth Burke, Karson Treece and Olivia Treece.



Jonathan Steinman, Molly Duncan, Annie Wilkerson, Markie Clement and Taylor Wilkerson. Photo by Beth Wilkerson.



Tanner and Jason Hampton.
Christmas Day, 2010



Aubrey Pence. Photo by mom,
Windy Pence.



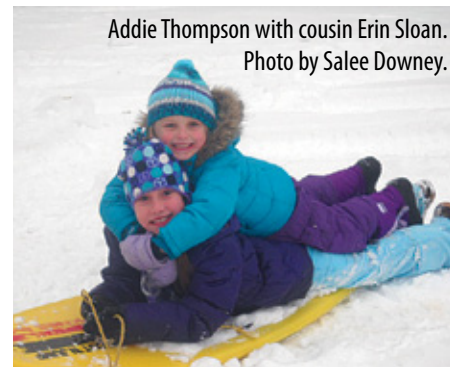
Annie and Taylor Wilkerson. Photo by their mom,
Beth Wilkerson.



Photo by Lisa Wright.



Alan Guthrie and "Aubie."
Photo by Sherry Caron Guthrie.



Addie Thompson with cousin Erin Sloan.
Photo by Salee Downey.



Mike, Gracen,
Maddox &
Olivia Keel.
Photo by Annie
Keel.



Lauren Kelly, daughter
of John & Victoria Kelly.
Photo by Jo Frazier.



Aidan, Elizabeth, and
MaHaley Mann. Photo by
Davida Mann.



Grant Maples, Hayden Kelly,
Blake Pence & Hunter Maples. Photo sent by Rachel Maples.

"Silly Faces" is the photo theme for Jan/Feb. Send to: NHTC • Attn.: Communicator Photos • P.O. Box 452 • New Hope, AL 35760, or 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 Jan/Feb issue is November 30th**. 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.

A WORD OF TESTIMONY

We'd like to hear from you, too!

If you haven't already returned the survey that was included in the Sept./Oct. issue of The Communicator, please do so! Everyone that returns the survey will be entered in a chance to win one month of free service from NHTC. The last day to enter is December 15.

Jon Wing, Manager
Dear Sir,

October 3, 2011

A few weeks ago I awoke to find my land line dead. I called the repair department and spoke with Paula. I explained I had an appointment very shortly and was unsure at what time I would return. She asked me to wait a moment while she checked to see when the repairman might be able to get there. To my surprise and delight, she said they were in Owens Cross Roads and would be there in approximately ten minutes. She was very helpful and I feel she went above and beyond the norm to try and help me.

Two young men, Michael Varn and John Thompson arrived shortly thereafter and had my problem fixed in no time. They also fixed a "drop" that was sagging and had been for some time.

I just wanted someone to know how courteous, respectful and professional all three of these individuals were. You can be proud of the excellent example they all displayed. Please thank them again for me.

Sincerely,
Claudette Pritchard