

ommunicator

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New Hope Telephone Cooperative

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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:

Cathedral Caverns is a great place to visit in the fall when the temperature begins to drop a bit. This photo was taken at the Cathedral Caverns Welcome Center.

MANAGER'S MESSAGE

Feds consider \$8.8 billion question

I wonder how many people reading this article would enjoy having no electricity in New Hope, Grant or Owens Cross Roads? No one, I'm sure. Truth is, if you couldn't get electric service, you simply wouldn't live here — you'd go somewhere else.

Why? Because electricity is vital to the way we live. We hear stories from previous generations about oil lamps and manual labor, and we just can't fathom it all.

That's how tomorrow's generations will look at Internet service. A broadband connection will be so vital to life in the future, people simply will not want to live where broadband is not available.

Already, we have young adults all around us whose lives are measured by the progression of Internet service. Many of those who graduated from college this spring can barely remember life without the Internet. It was dial-up to start with, yes. But they recall sitting with their parents and talking with distance relatives in a chat room, or waiting what seemed like forever for the dancing baby video to download across their "blazing fast" 56k connection.

With people entering the workforce today with few memories of life before the Web, we are fully engaged in a new connected age. Already, we depend on our broadband connection to get our news, communicate with friends, buy and sell goods, run a business, share photos and videos, play games, go to school and watch television. What is tomorrow going to look like?

I've been in this industry a long time, and I must say that as exciting as it is to be part of this connected age, I am very concerned about the ability of rural telcos like NHTC to continue providing exceptional service at comparable prices in the years ahead. The Federal Communications Commission is changing the rules of the game, and rural providers — along with their members and customers — are getting the short end of the stick.

You've read about this topic in *The* Communicator before, and you've heard me talk about it at the annual meeting. But let me share with you some statements from the Small Company Coalition, an alliance of rural telecommunications companies:

As part of the FCC's Universal Service/Intercarrier Compensation Reform Order, the FCC has put in place new regulations that change the way access charges and USF funding (the fund that keeps the costs of high-speed Internet, voice and other fiber-optic driven services comparable and affordable for all Americans) is administered and paid for, resulting in the transfer of approximately \$8.8 billion over the next five years from small rural companies to the largest telephone companies using those networks.

You can visit the group's website at www.smallcompanycoalition.com to learn more. But in summary, I just want you to understand this: there is a great debate going on around us that could have a significant impact on broadband access and pricing for rural Americans. Every member of a rural telco should take the time to educate themselves, and be willing to sign an online petition or contact their elected officials in sup-

port of rural broadband. After all.

we must work to "keep the lights on" when it comes to our broadband connectivity. It is truly a vital service.



TOM WING General Manager, New Hope Telephone Cooperative

Hey Kids!

October is National Co-op Month and we want you to help us celebrate!

Students at Owens Cross Roads, New Hope and DAR schools can help NHTC celebrate National Co-op Month by participating in the following contests:



COLORING CONTEST

for Pre-K, Kindergarten and 1st graders

Theme: A coloring sheet will be provided with the theme "NHTC is my cooperative"



DRAWING/COLORING CONTEST for 2nd through 4th graders

Theme: "Stay Safe: Call 8-1-1 before you dig"



POSTER CONTEST

for 5th through 8th graders **Theme:** "How I Use the Internet"



ESSAY CONTEST

for 9th through 12th graders

Theme: "My Community, My Cooperative"

Each school will have a first, second and third place winner in each category. OCR will not have essay contest winners. NHTC will award prizes for the winners. First place winners will receive a Kindle E-Reader, second place winners will receive \$50 cash and third place winners will receive \$25 cash. Teachers will have more details.

And the winner is...Micayla Sparkman!

During Career Day at DAR and New Hope Schools, NHTC held a word search contest. Each completed puzzle was entered into a drawing for a \$25 Wal-Mart aift card. Micayla Sparkman of New Hope High School was the winner of the drawing. NHTC thanks all the students who participated and congratulations to the winner.





Need help paying for **Telephone** Service?



Is your annual household income at or below 135% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines for a household of its size? Do you or someone in your household participate in any of the following lowincome government assistance programs?

- Medicaid
- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- Section 8 Federal Public Housing Assistance (FPHA)
- Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program
- Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)
- National School Lunch Program's Free Lunch

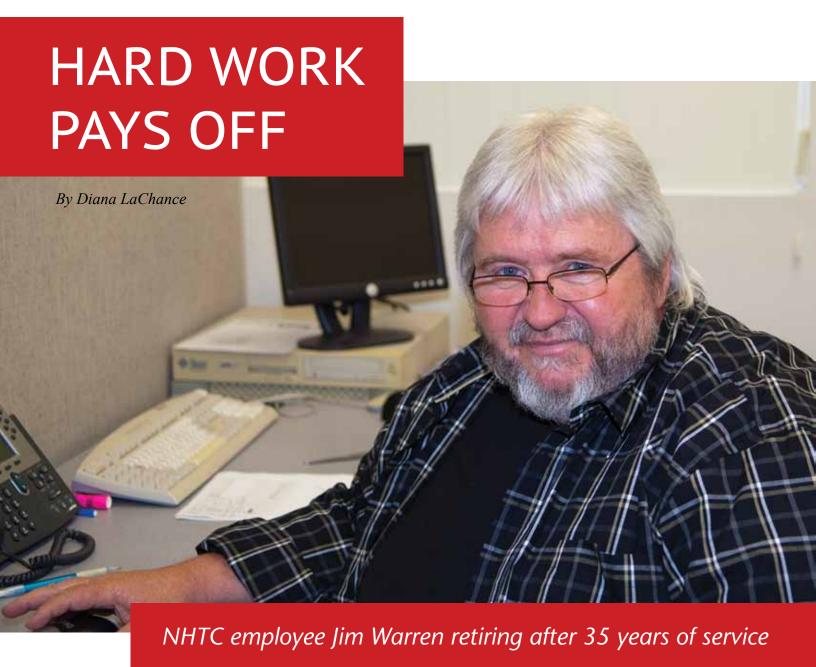
If so, you may qualify for a special program:

LIFELINE SERVICE

This program assists qualified residential customers with their monthly local telephone service.

For more details about Lifeline Service, to apply for assistance, or for additional information about NHTC's local and optional calling, please call us at 256-723-4211 or stop by our business office.

To find out whether you qualify for Lifeline Assistance, customers must fill out standard forms, available at NHTC's office, as mandated by the Federal and/or State government. NHTC is not responsible for determining who qualifies for these programs or who receives assistance. Customers must meet specific criteria in order to obtain assistance with their local telephone service, and qualifying is dependent upon government-established guidelines. To qualify for Lifeline credit, each customer must apply and provide proof that he/she, or a household member for whom he/she is financially responsible, participates in at least one of the programs listed above in Alabama or that the customer meets the income-based requirements. Additional eligibility requirements also apply.



Then Jim Warren applied for a janitorial position at the New Hope Telephone Cooperative in 1977, he wasn't planning to make a career in telecommunications. "I wasn't really looking for a job in the telephone industry when I found this one," he says. In fact, the New Hope native says he wasn't even planning to stay in the area. Like many youngsters, he had dreams of leaving his small town in the rearview mirror.

But one thing led to another, and Warren was promoted within the cooperative to a warehouse position. "I took care of stock and ordering," he says. He was also "elected" by the warehouse manager to refurbish used or damaged

pay phones, a job he said most other employees disdained.

"I started out changing coin accepters, handset cords, and internal parts," he says. "And I did the same with the key systems, the old push-button multi-line phones. I had to refurbish those as well."

Eventually, Warren built up an expertise that allowed him to head out into the field full-time as an install/repairman. "I rode with one of the installers and trained under him for six months," he says. "Then I ended up in a truck of my own and worked the Owens Cross Roads area."

It was a job he says he loved. "I was raised in this community and every-

body knows everybody," he says. "So I knew everyone whose house I went to – or they knew me – through family and friends."

Warren points to that camaraderie and familiarity as one of the cooperative's greatest assets. "It helps that we know the customers," he says. And while other companies may be able to provide relatively cheaper services, he says customers ultimately end up paying the price. "We're almost same-day service, whereas other companies may take a week. Our customers realize that it's not such a good deal and they end up coming back to us."

That doesn't mean things always run smoothly. During his time in the field,

Warren had more than his fair share of unpleasant experiences, from dog bites to wasps' nests. "I had an instance when I was working on Race Track Road in New Hope and lightning must have struck somewhere down the line," he recalls. "I wasn't touching the line, but it made the hairs stand up on the back of my neck!"

Despite these perils, Warren might have stayed out in the field were it not for an internal job opening in the Internet/Connectivity Department. "We only had one person here doing all the internal work, the outside networks and the Internet connecting," he says. "So when I came in, I took over the outside part, overseeing installs and going to people's houses and troubleshooting their problems."

Much of that was similar to what Warren had been doing in the field, but not all, given the Internet boom of the 1990s. "I had no idea when I started at the cooperative, because back then, we didn't even offer Internet service," he says. "I had been working outside doing install and repair for years before we even offered anything more than dial-up!" As a result, he says, "some of the installers in the field were older and had never been around computers and weren't curious about them." Not Warren, however. "I already had a basic understanding of computers, because I had messed around with them at home for a while. Then, when I started working in the Internet/Connectivity Department, I just continued to do that."

After all, says Warren, "the more you know, the more valuable you are." And that's what makes his retirement this November a real loss for NHTC. Not that they're unprepared, having recently hired a new member to help handle Warren's responsibilities. But after 35 years of employment, Warren's contribution cannot be underestimated. And he, in turn, is just as appreciative of what the cooperative has given him.

"I never thought about leaving once I got past the janitorial position," he says. "Of course, you have good days and bad days. But I had made my mind

up I wanted to stay here. It's good benefits, good pay, close to home, good job security - they take good care of vou here."

One other perk? It was thanks to his employment at the Cooperative that Warren was introduced to Loretta, his beloved wife of almost thirty years. "I met Loretta through the lady who took over the janitorial position from me," he says. "She introduced me to her at a softball game." Now the couple has two daughters and one son, in addition to one grandchild, Jackson, all of whom live nearby.

As for what Warren has planned for his second chapter, you can be sure it's not work. "No, if I was going to keep working, I'd stay at the cooperative!" he says laughing. Instead he'll spend more time on his hobbies: flying his radio control model airplanes, cooking on his smoker, singing and playing guitar and spending time with Loretta.

"Maybe the wife and I will get to do some traveling — Gatlinburg and places like that," he says, adding that he has no interest in going much further. "This is where I was born and raised. I never got away," he says. "When I was

younger, I thought I wanted to leave, but I couldn't afford to lose such a good job!" Not that he has any misgivings about spending so many years at the Cooperative.

"I do think I made the right choice," says Warren. "I don't have many regrets."



CHANGING ROLES - Since he started at NHTC in 1977, Warren has worked in maintenance, the warehouse, as an installer/ repairman and as an Internet technician.



MAKING TIME FOR FUN - After 35 years of dedicated service to New Hope Telephone Cooperative, Jim Warren will spend his retirement traveling with his wife and enjoying his favorite hobbies including flying radio-controlled airplanes.

Remember those less fortunate during this holiday season



hristmas is the most widely celebrated holiday of the year in the U.S. For most of us, it's hard to imagine waking up without any presents under the tree. But, for some less fortunate children in our community, that is a very real possibility.

Neighbors Helping Neighbors (NHN) is trying to eliminate that possibility. The non-profit Christmas charity helps collect and distribute presents to children throughout New Hope, Grant and Owens Cross Roads.

"There are guidelines that must be met," says Tonya Moore, one of three board members for NHN. "Applications are processed to make sure they meet all qualifications and the applicants are not already receiving help from another Christmas charity."

Applications may be filled out on Sunday, Sept. 16 between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. at the New Hope Rec. Dept.

Once all applications have been processed and the final list of children has been determined, paper angels are prepared for each child — complete with a personal wish list — and placed on

Angel Trees at area businesses.

"The angels will have the first name of the child, his or her age and a special number assigned to the family that child belongs to," says Moore. "Our hope is that parents and grandparents will pick up an angel and purchase some of the gifts for their 'angel'," says Moore. "It's not necessary to purchase everything on the list, but I think of it as 'what if this is the only thing this child gets?"

Once purchases are made, they can be returned to the store the angel was taken from. Please be sure to label each gift with the name of the child and the family number that is on the paper angel. The gifts can be bagged up, but NHN requests that the items remain unwrapped.

This is the second year the charity has helped make Christmas brighter for area children. "We don't want anyone to go without," says Moore. "We live in a great place with a really close-knit community. We're counting on the people of OCR, Grant and New Hope to reach out to help their neighbors in need."



at our business office in New Hope

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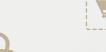
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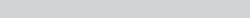
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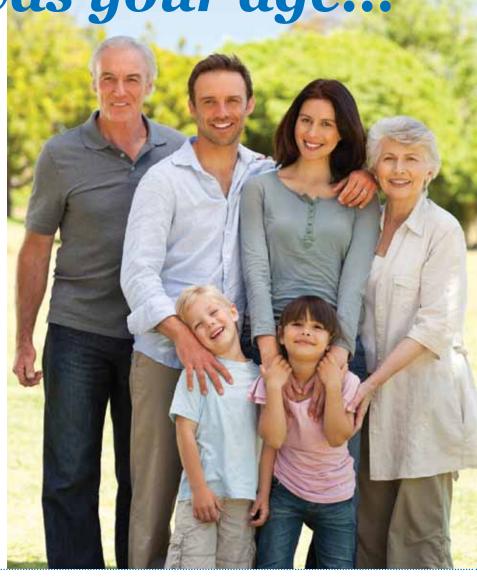




"When I was your age..."

t some point, most everyone has been told that their generation lacks something that the previous generations had. Your great-grandfather walked up a hill to school, barefoot, through snow. Sometimes, he probably had to fend off wild animals using only a book strap to receive his education. Your mom dropped you off at the schoolhouse door.

But how different are things really? Today's youth may use an iPad for interactive class assignments, while their parents thought the Atari was the pinnacle of entertainment when they were kids. But, despite these differences, each generation had to do their homework, complete their chores and get to the school house on time.



What's in a name?

Journalist Tom Brokaw coined the term the Greatest Generation for those who grew up suffering through The Great Depression, then went on to win World War II, stop fascism, save the economy and start the fight against global communism. It's hard to disagree with the name.

Their children, born between 1946 and 1964, are the Baby Boomers. Baby Boomers are currently in their 50s or 60s. They are defined by the social upheaval in the 1960s, the assassination of President Kennedy, the Vietnam war, the Cold War and the Watergate scandal.

After the Baby Boomers came Generation X. Members of this generation are now in their 40s or late 30s. This generation saw the Space Shuttle Challenger explode and the fall of the Berlin Wall.

Those born after 1980 are referred to as the Millennials. or Generation Y. This generation has been defined mostly by their technology. They are the first generation to experience the Internet as children and have access to pervasive digital media. So far, the September 11th attacks and the recent financial global crisis have been their defining events.

Home sweet home

The differences between generations start with their childhood and the house they grew up in. Over a quarter of the Greatest Generation grew up on a farm, while one percent of Gen X and Gen Y did. While 86 percent of Baby Boomers lived in a home with both of their parents, 30 percent of Millennials were raised by one parent or grandparents. Parenting has also changed. Gen Y was the generation raised by "Helicopter Parents" who were so named for hovering over their children, even well into college. Gen Y also marked the rise of parents who scheduled out most of their children's days with sports, music lessons and more. Baby Boomers were more likely to have much more "free time" as children.

They don't even make encyclopedias anymore



Teenagers today are growing up in a world interlaced with technology. Even just a dozen years ago, worldwide Internet use was at 360 million people. Today, that number is closer to two billion. In the year 2000, 17 billion text messages were sent — in 2010 there were over 6 trillion. The technological marvels of the Baby Boomers, such as cellular phones and personal computers are so pervasive today that Generations X and Y can hardly imagine a world where you couldn't buy a movie ticket from your phone or find directions from a GPS. Whereas Baby Boomers had to go to a library or find someone with an encyclopedia for their research papers, Generation Y has most of the knowledge of any library in the world on their phones. For these reasons, Generation Y has sometimes been dubbed "the Immediate Generation."

An apple a day

The current life expectancy for men in Generation Y is over 70 years. For many in the Greatest Generation, it was less than 50. Advances in nutrition and prenatal care account for much of the increase. Instead of Wonderbread, Generation X and Y built strong bodies with wheat bread, and drank skim milk. Generation X can remember when you could smoke in the workplace and in all restaurants, while Generation Y may not even remember what a smoking section is.

We've also eradicated diseases like smallpox. Anyone born before 1970 can show you a scar from their smallpox vaccination — something Generation Y will never have to have.



When I'm 64

As of 2011, the first of the Baby Boomers have started to retire. While the Greatest Generation generally had quiet retirements with some travel and games of bridge, the Baby Boomers are rocking out. Unlike any previous generation,

many of their childhood favorite actors and musicians are not only still alive, but still touring! Paul McCartney, Keith Richards, Mick Jaggar and Aretha Franklin are all still putting on shows and (in most cases) dance around almost like they used to.



While the Greatest Generation founded companies like Hewlett-Packard and used computers in World War II, it was the Baby Boomers who embraced the computer for everyday tasks. The first personal computer – the Kenbak-1 – sold a whopping 40 units in 1971. Six years later, the Apple II and the Commodore PET (Personal Electronic Transactor) went on the market.

By the 1980s, millions of families had personal computers in their homes and Time Magazine named the computer the "Machine of the Year" in 1982. In 2008, the worldwide number of personal computers reached over a billion. Foundations exist today to provide laptops to every child across the world, and the number of mobile devices now outnumber the population of the Earth.

Generation Y is now growing up in what has been dubbed the "post-PC era." Smart phones, tablets and super-portable computers are replacing anything that weighs over three pounds or cannot fit inside a manila envelope. Like the phone, wireless technology has freed the computer of its desk. Today, we check our email, browse the Web and video-chat with our loved ones anywhere and everywhere.

Portability has created a sense of constant connection, for better or for worse. Texting and instant messaging on computers all day has even spawned its own, faster language where "I can't wait to see you!" has become "can't w8 2 c u!"



CHECK PRESENTATION:

Senator Scofield helps ball teams at NHHS

The baseball and softball teams at New Hope High School are grateful to Sen. Clay Scofield for recent donations he made.

The \$2,500 check the softball team received was used to help purchase a much needed lawn mower.

Scofield also presented a \$2,500 check to the baseball team to help purchase lights for the ball field.

"These donations will really help our teams," says Chris Hicks, NHHS baseball coach. He is shown here (left) accepting the check from Sen. Scofield.



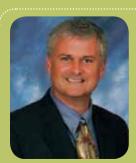
Upon hearing of the passing of Andy Griffith, I remembered a commentary from the late Paul Harvey titled "Finding the Way Back to Mayberry." Find it online and find yourself in Mayberry, smelling the crayons in Ms. Crump's classroom.

NHTC area is mostly small-town life, Praise the Lord. When comparing Mayberry with today, I hear, "those were simpler times." Maybe so, but is it the simpler times that make a community a pleasure to inhabit or is it the people? No matter when the times, you and I make anywhere a better place by living in Jesus' words to "Love your neighbor as yourself." Paul, the Disciple, tells us how: "Walk in the Spirit" so you can have "Fruits of the Spirit." These Fruits, known as Love, Joy, Peace, Patience, Kindness, Goodness, Faithfulness, Gentleness, and Self-Control, are what makes a good neighbor, thus spreading like fruit falling from a tree with seeds that come forth to grow more. If you

enjoy the idea of "simpler times," why not look inside a church near you, and don't forget to bring the children. Church folks, remember fruit does no more good hanging on the tree than does Fruit found only in church. The Fruit should be scattered about for all to see and hunger

for, and you are the ones called to make them known through Christ in you. In doing this, we could all find our way back to Mayberry.

Thank You Andy Griffith for bringing such joy. Until we can meet, tell the rest we all said "Hey."



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









NEW HOPE FOUNDER'S DAY

Saturday, Oct. 13 • New Hope City Park

Kick-Off at 9 a.m. with singing by Carlee Largen • Arts & Crafts • Concessions • Games

Parade down Main Drive at 1 p.m. • Bike/Car/Truck Run & Show • Tractor Show

Rib Shoot-Off BBQ Contest • First ever Golf Cart Show • Ugly Walk at 8:30 p.m. at the Fire Hall



Stop by NHTC's booth at Founder's Day!

There will be special offers on NHTC services, games for the little ones and a cash prize drawing!

Favorable market conditions mean it may be easier than you think to purchase a home, refinance or even consolidate your bills — usually with no out-of-pocket expenses. Our mortgage department makes it easy for you to take advantage of today's lower interest rates.

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Community CALENDAR

Holiday Season

CARE Center Holiday Shop

Located in the J.C. Taylor Building across from the post office, the store will be open Tuesday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Saturday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

September 22

Fall Beauty Pageant

The New Hope Rec Center is hosting a Fall Beauty Pageant beginning at 2 p.m. at New Hope School. For more information or an entry form, email newhopepageants@yahoo.com.

Toy/Food Drive

The Alabama Dream Girls USA State Ambassador, Monica Anderton, will be hosting a Food/Toy Drive for the CARE Center to help families in need during the holidays. Drop off toys or food from 9 a.m. until noon at New Hope School.

September 28

Customer Appreciation Day

Peoples State Bank is hosting this event from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Come out for free hot dogs and door prizes.

September 29

Grant Mile Plus Yard Sale

Sale begins at 6 a.m. Vendor spaces are available. Call the Grant Chamber of Commerce to reserve your spot at 256-728-8800.

October 13

l Ride Because I CARE

Join the fun at this Bike, Truck & Car Run/Show and first ever Golf Cart Show across from NHTC beginning at 8 a.m. The proceeds will support the CARE Center's "Bags of Blessings" program. For more information call 256-508-6158 for the run or 256-541-2194 for the show.

3K Walk/Rur

Walk or run in memory or honor of someone you love at the Grant Relay for Life Team 3K Walk/Run beginning at 1 p.m. Call the Grant Chamber of Commerce for more info at 256-728-8800.

Founder's Day Cook-Off

Do you have the best ribs or chicken in New Hope? Prize money awarded to first, second and third place winners. \$50 entry fee. Call Mike Page for more info at 256–990–5056 or pick up an entry form at NHTC.

November 3

New Hope School Fall Festival

Dinner will be available from 4 to 6 p.m. and games from 5 to 8 p.m. A dance will also be held in the middle school gym. Tickets are \$5. Fifth- and sixth-graders dance from 6 to 8 p.m. while seventh- and eigth-graders dance from 8 to 10 p.m.



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Visit www.boxtops4education.com for a complete list of participating companies and for more information about the program.

New Hope Scouts participate in mallard release program

or the past several years, local scouts learned to think globally, act locally and help some ducks along the way.

Each year Cub Scouts, Webelos and Boy Scouts from New Hope help the Alabama Waterfowl Association (AWA) band and release wild mallards to locations across North Alabama. "We have a long-standing relationship with the AWA and conservation projects," says assistant scout master Greg Vinyard. "Part of what the scouts do here helps them achieve a World Conservation Award." The award is given to scouts who learn to "think globally" and "act locally" to preserve and improve the environment.

The mallards involved in the program are raised in AWA containment pens until they are 35 days old. At that time, the scouts help catch each duckling and place a leg band on it before distributing them to groups and individuals for release. The leg bands will identify the year and indicate a website for hunters to report their harvests. This information makes it possible to track the birds migration as well as hunting patterns.

Since 1988 the AWA has been banding and releasing mallards across North Alabama. Some of the 240,000 ducks the AWA has distributed have been released on private property while others are released on the Tennessee River, Lake Guntersville, and



SCOUTS HELP IN ALABAMA WILDLIFE ASSOCIATION MALLARD RELEASE PROGRAM - Shown (I to r): Mikayla Cranford, Jackson Cowan, Brandon Hayes, Charlotte Mann, Zeke Kennemer, Jeremy Stone, Max Guida, Chase Guida, Coby Hubbard, Mark Cowan, Michael Kennemer and Lewis Barnwell.

other locations around Jackson County and North Alabama. Hunters from 14 states and three Canadian provinces have harvested some of the mallards, which have been identified by their leg bands. But while there are some long distance travelers among the ducks, roughly 82 percent of the ducks are being harvested within a 50-mile radius of their release site, which has helped

boost Alabama into the top 15 states for duck hunting.

In addition to the mallard banding, the scouts also do duck work with TVA. "We have about 50 wood duck boxes on the Flint River," says Vinyard. "We put up, maintain, observe and collect data off wood duck boxes and share that data with TVA biologists."



SEPTEMBER IS SCOUT ROUNDUP TIME

The Boy Scouts of America is one of the nation's largest values-based youth development organizations. The BSA provides a program for young people that builds character, trains them in the responsibilities of participating citizenship, and develops personal fitness.

For more information about joining Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts or Webelos contact Mitchell Brown at 256-723-8498, Lewis Barnwell at 256-725-4585, Charlotte Mann at 256-723-4570 or Greg Vinyard at 256-723-2293.



Grilled potatoes

(Nikki Dudley)

- 5 pounds potatoes, peeled and diced
- 2 sticks of butter
- 1 large block velveeta cheese, cubed
- 1 large onion, sliced
- 1 large green pepper, sliced Salt & pepper

In a throw away aluminum pan, either spray heavily with cooking spray or line with tin foil. Put potatoes in pan, then layer onions and peppers on top of potatoes. Season well with salt and pepper and mix the onions and peppers up together. Slice the butter and place over the potatoes, then add velveeta cheese. Cover with tin foil and place on grill. Check potatoes every 30 minutes and stir to incorporate the cheese in butter throughout as it melts.

Buffalo chicken dip

(Nikki Dudley)

- 2 blocks cream cheese
- 2 cans chicken
- 1 cup buffalo wing sauce
- 1 cup ranch dressing

1 package shredded cheddar cheese

Press cream cheese in the bottom of a 9 x 13 pan. Mix the chicken, ranch and sauce together and pour over cream cheese. Top with cheddar cheese and bake until cheese melts and it is bubbly around the edges. Serve with celery sticks or tortilla chips.

Turnip green egg rolls

(Nikki Dudley)

- 1 large can greens, (can be turnip, collard, mixed)
- 1 large purple onion, chopped
- 1 package pepper jack cheese
- 1 can chicken
- 1 package of bacon (I use the real bacon pieces that you can buy for salad topping) Jalapenos (optional)
- 1 package egg roll wrappers Salt and pepper, to taste

Mix first six ingredients, then season to taste with salt and pepper. Follow directions on the egg roll package to wrap the egg rolls. Place 2 heaping tablespoons of the greens mixture in the middle of the egg roll wrapper and fold as directed on the package. Wet the outer edges and the outside seal so it will stay sealed shut. Drop in hot grease and cook until the wrapper becomes golden brown.

Dipping sauce:

- 1 cup mayonnaise
- 2 tablespoons mustard, (just enough to make the mayonnaise a light yellow color)
- 1 tablespoon chili powder
- 1 tablespoon seasoned salt

In a small bowl, mix all ingredients together well.

Frito Corn Salad

- 2 cans corn (yellow kernel, drained)
- 1/2 green bell pepper, finely chopped
- 1/2 purple onion, finely chopped
 - 1 cup mayonnaise
 - 2 cup shredded cheddar cheese
- 10.5 ounces. chili cheese flavored corn chips

In a medium mixing bowl, combine first 5 ingredients. Just before serving, crush chili cheese corn chips and mix with other ingredients.



BLT Wraps

- 1 cup mayonnaise
- 1/2 cup dried tomatoes in oil, drained and chopped
 - 8 (10-inch) flour tortillas
 - 1 large head iceberg lettuce, chopped
 - 1 medium onion, thinly sliced (optional)
- 16 bacon slices, cooked and crumbled
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1 teaspoon pepper

Combine mayonnaise and tomatoes in a small bowl. Spread evenly over one side of each tortilla, leaving a 1/2-inch border. Layer lettuce, onions and bacon evenly over tortillas; sprinkle with salt and pepper. Roll up tortillas; cut in half diagonally, and secure with wooden pick.

Smoky Ranch Dip

- 1 (1 ounce.) envelope Ranch dressing mix
- 1 1/2 cups light sour cream
 - 2 teaspoons finely chopped chipotle peppers in adobo sauce
 - 1 teaspoon adobo sauce from can

Potato chips or assorted raw vegetables

Whisk together first 4 ingredients. Cover and chill 30 minutes. Serve with chips or assorted raw vegetables.

Barbecue Ranch Dip: Omit chipotle peppers and adobo sauce. Stir in 2 tablespoons barbecue sauce. Serve with roasted red new potatoes.

Marinated Grilled Shrimp

- 3 cloves garlic, minced
- 1/3 cup olive oil
- 1/4 cup tomato sauce
 - 2 tablespoons red wine vinegar
 - 2 tablespoons chopped fresh basil
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/4 teaspoon cayenne pepper
- 2 pounds fresh shrimp, peeled and deveined skewers

In a large bowl, stir together the garlic, olive oil, tomato sauce, and red wine vinegar. Season with basil, salt, and cayenne pepper. Add shrimp to the bowl, and stir until evenly coated. Cover and refrigerate for 30 minutes to 1 hour, stirring once

or twice. Preheat grill for medium heat. Thread shrimp onto skewers, piercing once near the tail and once near the head. Discard marinade. Lightly oil grill grate. Cook shrimp on preheated grill for 2 to 3 minutes per side, or until opaque.

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