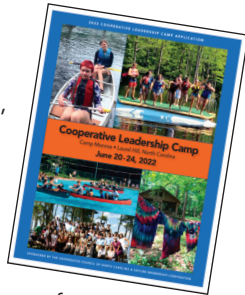


Co-op Camp Returns in 2022 with a New Location



The Cooperative Council of North Carolina has announced a new site for its annual Cooperative Leadership Camp, a week-long summer program for high school students sponsored by cooperative organizations throughout the state, including SkyLine.

Scheduled June 20 through 24, the overnight camping program will take place at the lakefront Camp Monroe in Laurel Hill, North Carolina (southeast of Charlotte and a three-plus hour drive from the SkyLine/SkyBest service area). This new location replaces the original camp location at the FFA Center at White Lake and shortens the distance for students traveling from the western part of the state.



Co-op Camp is an experiential learning process where the teens form a worker/owner T-shirt cooperative, elect a board, hire a general manager, and design, produce and distribute T-shirts. Throughout the week, they learn about leadership, cooperative governance,

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

2022 Frank James-SkyLine Scholarship

Ten scholarships with a total value of \$25,000 are scheduled to be awarded this spring to children of SkyLine and SkyBest customers to assist them with the cost of a college education.

Five \$1,000 scholarships, renewable up to four years, will be awarded to students who will attend a four-year college or university. Five \$500 scholarships, renewable up to two years, will be presented to students who will attend a two-year community/technical college.

The Frank James-SkyLine Scholarship was established by the Board of Directors in 1987 and is named in memory of Frank James, longtime SkyLine board member and former president, who was a strong advocate of education, having served as a teacher, principal and later superintendent of Ashe County Schools.

To qualify, applicants must be children of current full-time residents who have a SkyLine membership or SkyBest telephone/broadband services account of at least one year; and be graduating high school seniors (including home-schooled students) in the co-op's five-county service area (Alleghany, Ashe, Avery, Watauga and Johnson). The scholarships will be awarded on the basis of scholastic achievement, financial need, demonstrated leadership and community involvement.

Application packages are available at area high school guidance departments and all SkyLine Customer Service Centers. The deadline for this local scholarship is Friday, March 11.



SkyLine staff pictured with the Ashe Post and Times' awards are Call Center Supervisor Traci Phipps and Customer Service Representative Kim Johnson.

SkyLine/SkyBest Recognized in Multiple Categories with Ashe "Best of the Best" Awards

The Ashe Post and Times has announced its 2021 "Best of the Best" winners, and SkyLine/SkyBest was among the numerous categories of local businesses that received recognition.

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the annual event, which features a banquet, guest speaker and awards presentation, could not be held, so the newspapers recognized many of the winners at their place of business. SkyLine/SkyBest received top honors in four categories: Internet, Security, Telephone and Cable TV Company.



FRS Youth Tour to Washington, D.C. Returns in 2022

After a two-year break due to safety concerns and restrictions related to the Covid-19 pandemic, the Foundation for Rural Service Youth Tour will resume in 2022. For this year's program and to ensure the safety of attendees, all students and chaperones who attend will be required to show proof of Covid-19 vaccination. As a long-time sponsor of this annual 'once in a lifetime' experience, SkyLine will sponsor two high school juniors to be among over 100 students to attend.

Established in 1996 and scheduled from June 1 through 5, the FRS Tour brings rural students from across the United States to Washington, D.C. for a four-day visit to some of the most historical sites in the nation. While here, students also learn about the telecommunications industry, as well as the regulatory and legislative processes. Educational sessions on these topics are greatly enhanced by site visits to the U.S. Capitol and the U.S. Department of Agriculture, in addition to meetings with industry leaders and members of Congress.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

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WORTH NOTING:

Frank James-SkyLine Scholarship Application Deadlines:

Public School: March 11
Private/Home School: March 18

FRS Youth Tour Application Deadline: March 25

Co-op Leadership Camp Deadline: April 11

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Four Steps to Help You Protect Your Sensitive Information

In a world where so many things can be accessed online, we must be very careful to protect our personal information just as we would protect our bank accounts. But where do we start? Check out these four tips on how to protect yourself online:

1. Create Strong Passwords

Using at least 12 characters, you should combine letters, numbers and symbols to create strong passwords. Avoid using any passwords that can be easily guessed like your birthday or your pet's name. You should also not be using the same password for all your devices.

2. Be Cautious When Opening Emails

Be very careful responding or clicking on any email that requires urgent action, especially when these relate to sensitive topics. Most scam emails will use scare tactics to try to compel you to give up your personal information. Be cautious of clicking on any links or attachments, and of any spelling errors in the email. If you have any doubts at all about an email being real, you should contact the company directly by phone.

3. Keep Your Devices Clean and Up-to-date

Make sure to keep all frequently used apps up to date. Delete apps that are no longer in use, as they can collect personal information like your location while sitting idle on your phone. You could also consider investing in SkyBest Internet Guardian. For just 99 cents a month, you can have protection on up to three computers from most viruses. Call us at 1-800-759-2226 or visit our website at skybest.com to find out more information.

4. Take Charge of Your Online Presence

Be sure to monitor who has access to your information and what you decide to share. Try not to share your login information with anyone if you can help it. Remember that it is okay to tell people what they can and cannot post of you. Always keep in mind that things posted online never go away. You can visit <https://stay-safeonline.org> to learn more about managing your privacy setting from the National Security Alliance.

YOUTH TOUR CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The students also are given ample time to explore the Nation's Capital and its many attractions. While here, the group visits such sites as the Lincoln and Jefferson Memorials; the Korean, Vietnam and new World War II Memorials; Mount Vernon, home of George Washington; the Smithsonian Museums; and, much more.

To be eligible to apply, the student's parents must receive telephone or internet services from SkyLine or SkyBest, and the student must be a rising high school senior in the co-op's five-county service area. Other requirements include:

- submitted statement of future plans beyond high school;
- 300-word essay on a specified topic;
- 3.25 minimum grade-point-average (GPA);
- recommendation from a teacher or school official;
- involvement in school organizations;
- community volunteer activities.

Applications for the Youth Tour are available at area high school guidance departments, all SkyLine Customer Center locations and online at www.skybest.com. The application deadline for this program is **Friday, March 25**. For more information, contact PR Administrator Karen Powell at 1-800-759-2226.

CO-OP CAMP CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

and the cooperative business principles. The teams put together Cooperative Principles Skits, have a leadership awards banquet night and learn what it means to be a part of the greater good that cooperatives offer.

The week also includes workshops from a wide range of cooperative industries including the agriculture sector, credit unions, retail and telephone/broadband and electric utilities. Every activity is hands on and interactive. Camp also includes swimming, canoeing, sports, games and meeting new friends from all across the state.

The objectives are to educate, connect and promote the cooperative way of doing business and provide a fun learning experience for the students that are selected to attend. Students that are in their freshman year of high school and up to current seniors are able to apply for a spot.

Bus transportation is provided to and from designated stopping points along the route through the camp sponsorships, which are underwritten by sponsoring cooperatives. SkyLine/SkyBest will provide student transportation to the nearest bus stop location.

SkyLine will sponsor up to 10 area high school students to attend this year's program, and student participants are eligible to apply for a \$1,000 Jim Graham Cooperative Leadership Scholarship during their senior year of high school.

Camp applications are available through area high school guidance departments, all SkyLine Customer Center locations and SkyLine's website at www.skybest.com. The application deadline for this program is **Monday, April 11**. For more information, contact PR Administrator Karen Powell at 1-800-759-2226.

Recipe of the Month

Pecan Breakfast Bread

Bread:

- 2 cans Pillsbury Crescent Dinner Rolls
- 2 Tablespoons butter, softened
- 1/2 cup sugar
- 1-2 teaspoons cinnamon
- 1/4 cup chopped pecans

Topping:

- 2 Tablespoons honey
- 1/4 cup confectioner's sugar
- 2 Tablespoons butter
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- 1/4 cup pecan halves

Instructions:

Unroll crescent dough and separate into 16 triangles. Spread each triangle with softened butter. Combine sugar, cinnamon and pecans; sprinkle over triangles. Roll up each triangle starting at wide end of triangle and rolling to the opposite point. Place rolls, point side down in greased 9x5-inch loaf pan forming two layers of eight rolls each. Bake at 375° for 35-40 minutes or until golden brown and center is done; place right side up and drizzle with topping.

Topping: In saucepan, combine all ingredients except pecans. Bring to boil. Stir in pecans. Cool slightly. Pour over bread.

Recipe submitted by Amanda Estes of Ashe County



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