

# CONNECTIONS



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www.SkyBest.com



## SkyChange

We are excited to share about our new round-up program that seeks to assist area non-profits that help those in need throughout our community, and we invite you, our customers and members, to participate!

SkyChange allows customers of SkyLine/SkyBest to round up their monthly bill to the next whole-dollar amount. The money generated from the round-up will, in turn, be distributed to programs assisting those in need throughout our community. Customer bills will reflect a line item showing the monthly round-up donation. Funds collected through SkyChange will be distributed to crisis centers across our SkyLine/SkyBest service area but not to individuals directly. SkyLine's employee-led and

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## Call One Call System Before You Dig

If you have an outside project in your plans before summer ends and it requires digging, do yourself a favor and call the One Call System first. Now, you can reach One-Call System by dialing '8-1-1' from any landline phone or any cell phone that is connected to a tower in North Carolina. And, our Shady Valley and Mountain City customers also can contact the Tennessee One-Call Center by dialing 8-1-1 from their homes or businesses. When you contact the One-Call System, you will need to provide the following information:

- County and town
- Location of work – street address
- Nearest cross street
- Area to be marked
- Date and time of excavation or digging
- Type of work
- Your name and number or the contractor's contact info



Know what's below.  
Call before you dig.

If you don't call first, you may end up with environmental damage, interruption of service, job or project delays or the potential for accidents and injuries. When you contact One Call first, our personnel will come and mark the utility lines in your work area. You can then dig safely without the fear of damaging telephone lines.

Enjoy the remainder of your gardening and landscaping projects this summer, but remember to be safe and the One Call System before you dig.

## Directory Omissions

**Ashe Animal Clinic**  
605 East Main Street, Jefferson 336-246-2341

**Ashe High Country Realty**  
7 S Jefferson Ave., West Jefferson 336-246-6348



## Supporting Relay for Life and the American Cancer Society – A SkyLine Tradition

Normally at this time of year, we are donning our t-shirts and shorts or jeans and hitting the track to support Relay for Life, the signature fundraising event of the American Cancer Society. SkyLine has been a longtime supporter of Relay, and our employees join equally dedicated businesses, churches, families and individuals throughout the community to form teams or become sponsors in raising awareness and supporting this effort each year. As early as 1995, Relay for Life events have taken place during late spring and summer months across the region. While events this year have been cancelled due to COVID-19 concerns, our employees got an early start to their annual pledge campaign in 2020 and before news of COVID-19 broke. Those pledges made in February, along with SkyLine's support, raised over \$6,000 in contributions, which will be sent to the ACS in 2020 so its vital work can continue.

We are grateful to our company, employees and directors for their enduring dedication to the fight against cancer and for supporting the ACS in its continuing work to discover new and better ways to treat cancer, lessen its impact through targeted and effective therapies, and improve and extend the quality of life for those touched by cancer. We will continue to walk that walk because every step is one closer to a cure!

We offer a sincere 'thank you' to our members, customers and communities for your support of this important cause over the years, and we look forward to doing our part in helping to fund regional efforts again in 2021. We hope you'll join us.

## Protect Your Personal Information

There are many ways scammers will try to convince you to share valuable personal information. While we've shared information about these schemes before, we want to encourage our customers to be diligent in not falling into one of these traps, even in this time of uncertainty due to COVID-19. This month we're revisiting the topic of Phishing Scams with tips provided by the Federal Trade Commission (FTC).

**Phishing** is when a scammer uses fraudulent emails or texts, or copycat websites to get you to share valuable personal information – such as account numbers, Social Security numbers, or your login IDs and passwords. Scammers use your information to steal your money or your identity or both.

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## NEED TO CONTACT US?

### CUSTOMER SERVICE

LOCAL  
118

TOLL-FREE  
1-800-759-2226

### REPAIR SERVICE, 24/7

LOCAL  
611

TOLL-FREE  
1-877-475-9546

Additional Local  
Repair Service Numbers:

ALLEGHANY  
336-372-4444  
(10-DIGIT DIALING)

ASHE  
336-982-3111  
(10-DIGIT DIALING)

AVERY  
898-9250

WATAUGA  
297-4811

JOHNSON  
739-4500

LENOIR  
929-2872

### INTERNET TECH SUPPORT, 24/7

TOLL-FREE  
1-866-759-7591

### WORTH NOTING:

#### STAFF:

Kim Shepherd  
Chief Executive Officer

Brian Tester  
Chief Operations Officer

Angie Poe  
Customer Service Manager

Jamey Jenkins  
Retail Sales Manager

Karen P. Powell  
Public Relations Administrator  
& Editor



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employee-funded Project Teamwork program addresses crisis relief for individuals across our service area.

Some of the established crisis centers across the region include Alleghany Cares, Inc., A.S.H.E., Grandfather Home for Children, the Hunger and Health Coalition and Johnson County Safe Haven. These and others would be eligible to receive support.

If you participate in the SkyChange program by simply rounding up your bill to the next dollar, your total donations per year will not exceed \$11.88. In most cases, donations will be tax deductible. SkyChange is a 501(c)3 organization with established bylaws and a governing committee. Once funds are distributed, our website and newsletter will give periodic updates highlighting how customers' donations helped their community.

Won't you join us in this collective effort to take our 'change' to make a positive difference across our region? Like other benevolent activities, be it through Project Teamwork or other charitable outreach initiatives, we recognize that our collective efforts have a bigger and broader impact and truly make a difference.

To sign up for SkyChange today, visit [www.skybest.com/skychange](http://www.skybest.com/skychange) or call your local SkyLine/SkyBest Customer Center at 118 or 1-800-759-2226.



## Support Our Local Businesses!

Now more than ever, our local business community needs our support due to the impact of COVID-19.

While there has been a gradual re-opening of some businesses, let's continue to do our part to shop locally whenever possible and support our local economy. And leading the charge to keep us updated with the latest information on the heartbeat of our local business community are our active and dedicated Chambers of Commerce. Visit these valuable links for the latest information available.

**Alleghany Chamber of Commerce** – [www.alleghanycountychamber.com](http://www.alleghanycountychamber.com)

**Ashe County Chamber of Commerce** – [www.ashechamber.com](http://www.ashechamber.com)

**Avery County Chamber of Commerce** – [www.averycounty.com](http://www.averycounty.com)

**Banner Elk Chamber of Commerce** – [www.bannerelk.org](http://www.bannerelk.org)

**Beech Mountain Chamber of Commerce** – [www.beechmtchamber.com](http://www.beechmtchamber.com)

**Blowing Rock Chamber of Commerce** – [www.blowingrockncchamber.com](http://www.blowingrockncchamber.com)  
[www.blowingrock.com/shop-at-home](http://www.blowingrock.com/shop-at-home)

**Boone Area Chamber of Commerce** – [www.boonechamber.com](http://www.boonechamber.com)

**Caldwell Chamber of Commerce** – [www.caldwellchambernc.com](http://www.caldwellchambernc.com)

**Johnson County Chamber of Commerce** – [www.johnsoncountytncchamber.org](http://www.johnsoncountytncchamber.org)

And just as importantly, we continue to appreciate all those businesses who are on the front lines of providing essential services and to our health care/senior care providers who are caring for our sick and most vulnerable during a challenging time. Thank you!

Scammers also use phishing emails to get access to your computer or network then they install programs like ransomware that can lock you out of important files on your computer.

Phishing scammers lure their targets into a false sense of security by spoofing the familiar, trusted logos of established, legitimate companies. Or they pretend to be a friend or family member.

They tell lies to get you to give them information and will make it seem like they need your information or someone else's, quickly – or something bad will happen.

**Be cautious about opening attachments or clicking on links in emails.** Even your friend or family members' accounts could be hacked. Files and links can contain malware that can weaken your computer's security.

**Do your own typing.** If a company or organization you know sends you a link or phone number, don't click. Use your favorite search engine to look up the website or phone number yourself. Even though a link or phone number in an email may look like the real deal, scammers can hide the true destination.

**Make the call if you're not sure.** Do not respond to any emails that request personal or financial information. Phishers use pressure tactics and prey on fear. If you think a company, friend or family member really does need personal information from you, pick up the phone and call them yourself using the number on their website or in your address book, not the one in the email.

**Turn on two-factor authentication.** For accounts that support it, two-factor authentication requires both your password and an additional piece of information to log in to your account. The second piece could be a code sent to your phone, or a random number generated by an app or a token. This protects your account even if your password is compromised.

As an extra precaution, you may want to choose more than one type of second authentication (e.g. a PIN) in case your primary method (such as a phone) is unavailable.

Back up your files to an external hard drive or cloud storage. Back up your files regularly to protect yourself against viruses or a ransomware attack.

## Recipe of the Month

### Gloria's Creamy Slaw

#### Ingredients:

- 8 cups of grated green cabbage (food processor works best)
- 1 cup of mayonnaise
- 1 cup of sour cream
- 1/3 cup sugar or sugar substitute like Splenda
- 1 to 2 teaspoons apple cider vinegar
- 1 1/2 teaspoons of celery seed
- 1 Tablespoon dried chives
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 teaspoon lemon pepper

#### Instructions:

Shred cabbage. Blend together all other ingredients, stirring well. Mix sauce with cabbage. Can be made ahead.

Option: For pineapple slaw, add 20 ounces of well drained and pressed down crushed pineapple.

Submitted by Gloria Graham of Alleghany Co.



# SkyBest Security

## Surveillance & Security Systems

Save money by switching your security system to SkyBest Security.

Contact us for a FREE consultation today!

[skybest.com](http://skybest.com) 1-800-759-2226

\*Restrictions apply. Available in N.C. only.