

CONNECTIONS

DECEMBER 2020

Published monthly for customers of SkyLine Membership Corporation and SkyBest Communications



www.SkyBest.com



After delivering food items to the Ashe County Sharing Center, seven SkyLine employees joined other local volunteers in helping with the non-profit's November 2 drive-through food distribution to 284 families.

"Rise & Shine" Food Drive Nets Nearly 1,500 Breakfast Items

Despite the limitations of COVID-19, SkyLine still received a healthy response of support from the community for our seventh annual "Rise and Shine" Breakfast Food Drive, held in September and October. With contact-free options for picking up tote bags filled with suggested shopping lists and bins placed conveniently for embers/customers to drop off breakfast food items, the final count came to 1,475 non-perishable breakfast items earmarked for food pantries across our service area. SkyLine/SkyBest also presented corporate donations totaling \$1,000 to the five area food pantries sponsored in this drive.



SkyLine's Brent Keith, George Colvard, Justin Lambert, Matthew Ball and Eric Holt loaded and delivered hundreds of breakfast food items to the Ashe County Sharing Center.

Since the program began, our customers, employees and directors have donated just under 14,000 breakfast food items to area food pantries. This initiative would not be possible, nor would it have the impact it has without your active involvement, so all of us at SkyLine express our sincerest thanks!

As one in six adults and one in five children are considered food insecure across our region, this important drive brings immediate relief to area families and helps to restock area pantry shelves and replenish backpack initiatives. We are so grateful for the outpouring of support by

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FROM THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND STAFF OF SKYLINE
MEMBERSHIP CORPORATION & SKYBEST COMMUNICATIONS

Sponsored by SkyLine/SkyBest Ashe Chamber Honors the Best in Customer Service

The Ashe Chamber of Commerce's 12th Annual "Outrageously Good" Customer Service Awards Breakfast was held virtually via a Zoom video conference setting, and SkyLine/SkyBest continued its annual sponsorship of this popular event. The awards program seeks nominations from customers who experience an extraordinary level of customer service at local businesses.

Congratulations to this year's winners! Special thanks to those who applauded each of the winners through this special online event to give a warm appreciation to all the recipients for going above and beyond in delivering exceptional customer service, especially during this challenging time.



Chris Kearley

Jennifer Greene

Kathleen George

Dot Green

Tony Eldreth

Angela Brooks

Andria Robbins

Libby Cockerham

Kimberly Seaver

Philip Shepherd

Individual Winners: Chris Kearley, Jennifer Greene, Kathleen George, Dot Green, Tony Eldreth, Angela Brooks, Andria Robbins, Libby Cockerham, Kimberly Seaver, Philip Shepherd

Departmental/Team Award Winners: Teachers and staff from Ashe County Schools, Ashe Early Learning Center, Blue Ridge Elementary, Mountain View Elementary, Westwood Elementary, Ashe County Middle School, Ashe County High School, Ashe Early College

Business Winner: Ashe Services for Aging

Nominations for "Outrageously Good" Customer Service awards may now be submitted year-round, so when you experience stellar customer service, take time to contact the Ashe Chamber to make your individual or business nomination. Send those to: ashechamber@skybest.com.



2020 Chamber Awards – Ashe County High School

SkyLine
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118

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WORTH NOTING:

Friday, Dec. 25

Friday, Jan. 1

SkyLine Customer
Service Centers
Close for Christmas
and New Year's Day

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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our members, customers, SkyLine board/staff and the community! Thank you for continuing to share your gifts of food and resources to address this pressing local need.

Please remember to support this and other area food drive initiatives throughout the calendar year. Your support makes all the difference to those facing hunger. Note: Photo highlights of additional food deliveries will be included in next month's newsletter.



2020 Chamber Awards – Ashe County Middle School



2020 Chamber Awards – Ashe Early Learning Center



2020 Chamber Awards – Blue Ridge Elementary



2020 Chamber Awards – Ashe Services for the Aging



2020 Chamber Awards – Westwood Elementary



2020 Chamber Awards – Ashe Early College



2020 Chamber Awards – Mountain View Elementary

For the Holidays

The recipes featured in our monthly newsletter come from SkyLine's commemorative cookbook.

The latest edition includes more than 500 recipes submitted by members, customers and employees from our five-county service area, a cookbook stand insert, tabbed dividers and more. At just \$15 each, they make great Christmas presents, and when you buy a cookbook, know that you are helping others in your community, as all proceeds will support area food banks.

Call SkyLine at 118 to order yours!



Speaking of Recipes...

We hope many of you saw our social media promotion of the virtual On the Same Page Festival event last month featuring North Carolina chef Vivian Howard. The production deadline for this newsletter occurred prior to the Festival event, but we hope to include one of Vivian's favorite recipes in an upcoming SkyLine newsletter. Also, and just in time for the holidays, visit our Facebook page to learn how you can enter a special drawing this month to win a signed copy of her latest cookbook, "This Will Make it Taste Good."

Recipe of the Month

Sugar and Spice Cake

Ingredients:

- 1 (18.25 ounce) package Duncan Hines white cake mix
- 1 (16 ounce) container sour cream
- 1/4 cup butter, melted
- 2 large eggs
- 2 teaspoons apple pie spice
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 1/2 teaspoon almond extract (optional)

Vanilla Buttercream Topping:

- 1 (8 ounce) package cream cheese, softened
- 1 cup butter, softened
- 2 (16 ounce) packages powdered sugar
- 1 tablespoon milk
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 1/4 teaspoon salt

Instructions:

Cake: Preheat oven to 350°. Beat together first 6 ingredients and, if desired, almond extract at low speed with an electric mixer just until moistened. Increase speed to medium, and beat 2 minutes or until batter is smooth, scraping down bottom and sides of bowl as needed. Pour batter into 3 greased and floured 8-inch round cake pans. Bake for 20-22 minutes or until tests are clean. Cool completely in pans on wire racks for about 1 hour. Wrap in plastic and freeze 1 hour or up to 1 month. Spread with Vanilla Buttercream.

Topping: Beat cream cheese and butter at medium speed with an electric mixer until creamy. Gradually add powdered sugar and next 3 ingredients, beating at low speed just until blended. Increase speed to medium, and beat until well blended and smooth.

Recipe submitted by Wanda Ferguson of Ashe County



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