



# The Buzz

Piedmont Communications

January 2025 • 191 Reeds Baptist Church Rd. • Lexington, North Carolina • 336.787.5433



## Attention High School Seniors: Apply for \$2,500 Scholarship

The Foundation for Rural Service (FRS) offers an annual college scholarship program to help further higher education among rural youth. FRS awards a one-time \$2,500 scholarship to students from rural America for their first year of college, university or vocational-technical school. Each student is sponsored by Surry Communications, an NTCA member company. The FRS College Scholarship Program seeks to encourage students to return to their rural communities upon completing their education. Applications can be accessed from [www.ptmc.net/scholarship](http://www.ptmc.net/scholarship). Click Download, then click [FRS.org/student](http://FRS.org/student), to set up your account to begin the application process. Be sure to select Surry Telephone Membership Corporation as your telco provider. Information can also be obtained from your Guidance Counselor at your local high school. Scholarship must be submitted by February 14, 2025.



**Happy New Year From All of Us at  
Piedmont Communications.**

Thank you for allowing us to serve you with all of your communications needs.




## Toy Drive a Success!!

The 2024 Toy Drive was a huge success. Thanks to all of our customers and employees of Surry Communications that brought in toys to our stores. These toys were distributed to kids in need in our area.



*Skate through*  
**STREAMING**  
*with ease*

**OUR INTERNET IS  
SMOOTH AS ICE**



## Nominations by Petition

Seventy-Five (75) members residing in a district for which an election of a director is to be held may nominate by written petition a nominee for Director from that District. Each petition is subject to verification. These nominations must be filed in the Cooperative on or before Monday, February 17, 2025 at 12:00 noon in accordance with the By-Laws.

### Follow Us

For contests, promotions, photos & video from community events, news and tech tips, follow us on Facebook to be in the know!

 [facebook.com/piedmontcommunications](https://facebook.com/piedmontcommunications)

### It's Easy to Pay Your Bill





# Recipe of the Month: Cheesy Broccoli Soup in a Bread Bowl

(recipe from tasteofhome.com)



## Ingredients

- 1/4 cup butter, cubed
- 1/2 cup chopped onion
- 2 garlic cloves, minced
- 4 cups fresh broccoli florets (about 8 ounces)
- 1 large carrot, finely chopped
- 3 cups chicken stock
- 2 cups half-and-half cream
- 2 bay leaves
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/4 teaspoon ground nutmeg
- 1/4 teaspoon pepper
- 1/4 cup cornstarch
- 1/4 cup water or additional chicken stock
- 2-1/2 cups shredded cheddar cheese
- 6 small round bread loaves (about 8 ounces each), optional
- Optional toppings: Crumbled cooked bacon, additional shredded cheddar cheese, ground nutmeg and pepper

## Directions

1. In a 6-qt. stockpot, heat butter over medium heat; saute onion and garlic until tender, 6-8 minutes. Stir in broccoli, carrot, stock, cream and seasonings; bring to a boil. Simmer, uncovered, until vegetables are tender, 10-12 minutes.
2. Mix cornstarch and water until smooth; stir into soup. Bring to a boil, stirring occasionally; cook and stir until thickened, 1-2 minutes. Remove bay leaves. Stir in cheese until melted.
3. If using bread bowls, cut a slice off the top of each bread loaf; hollow out bottoms, leaving 1/4-in.-thick shells (save removed bread for another use). Fill with soup just before serving.
4. Serve soup with toppings as desired.

# BUSINESS OF THE MONTH

## Creative Style Salon & Tanning



### Creative Style Salon & Tanning

4549 W Old US Hwy 64 | Lexington, NC | 336.787.3142

Start the New Year with a fresh look at Creative Style Salon & Tanning. As we step into the New Year, there's no better time to refresh your style and radiate confidence. At Creative Style Salon, located right here in Lexington, they specialize in helping you look and feel your best.

From cutting-edge hairstyles and vibrant color transformations to flawless tanning services, they're your one-stop destination for all things beauty. Give them a call today!

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

### BEULAH EXCHANGE

336-352-3813 Jada Lowe

### PIEDMONT-REEDS EXCHANGE

336-787-5239 Shelia Cope

### CLEC - KING

336-983-8723 Kelly B. Allen

336-787-4557 Jaylen Evans

336-787-0142 Jeanette Gray

### CLEC - MOUNT AIRY EXCHANGE

336-786-7768 Andrea B. Davis

### RED BRUSH EXCHANGE

336-320-3204 Doris Ann Eaton

### CLEC - STATE ROAD EXCHANGE

336-827-8110 Rosa A. Kelly

## STATEMENT OF NON-DISCRIMINATION

Piedmont Communications is the recipient of Federal financial assistance from the Rural Utilities Services, an agency of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, and is subject to the provisions of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended, and the rules and regulation of the U. S. Department of Agriculture which provide that no person in the United States on the basis of race, color, national origin, age or handicap shall be excluded from participation in, admission or access to, denied the benefits of, or otherwise be subjected to discrimination under any of this organization's programs or activities.

Any individual, or specific class of individuals, who feels that this organization has subjected them to discrimination may obtain further information about the statutes and regulations listed above from and/or file a written complaint with this organization; or the Secretary, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C. 20250; or the Administrator, Rural Utilities Services, Washington, D. C. 20250. Complaints must be filed within 180 days after the alleged discrimination. Confidentiality will be maintained to the extent possible.

**Richie C Parker, CEO**

### To file a complaint of discrimination, write:

USDA, Director  
Office of Civil Rights  
Room 326-W, Whitten Building  
1400 Independence Avenue, SW  
Washington, DC 20250-9410

or call (202) 720-5964 (voice or TDD)

