



MARCH 2021 | VOL 19 ISSUE 3

Grant Supports Reading Room

Shallotte Middle School students and teachers are enjoying a new seating area in the school's library because of an education grant from ATMC. With the grant funds, Shallotte Middle School's library got an updated look by adding ten memory foam bean bags to the reading areas.

"My mission is to make reading fun for the students here," said Jennifer Murphy, Media Coordinator at Shallotte Middle School, "This grant from ATMC makes kids want to come visit the library, sit in the new comfortable chairs and read a book. I am so grateful for ATMC's support."

For more information about ATMC's Smart Connections grant program, visit atmc.com/giving-back.



More Areas in Boiling Spring Lakes Have Access to Fiber Optics

ATMC crews have been diligently working on a \$9 million dollar project to upgrade the older copper network that serves Boiling Spring Lakes residents and businesses with FOCUS fiber optic service. Several phases of the project have been completed and residents and businesses in those areas now have access to ATMC's fiber



optic internet with speeds of up to 1 Gig. The project is scheduled to be completed this year.

For more information about fiber optic service in Boiling Spring Lakes, or to see when service will be available in your area, visit iwantATMC.com.

ATMC and NC Co-ops Give to UNC Children's Hospital

ATMC and four other members of CarolinaLink recently pledged \$500,000 over ten years to UNC Children's Hospital to support virtual rural health programs across the state. The gift will help the hospital launch a telemedicine program that connects children living in rural areas with specialty providers at UNC Children's Hospital in Chapel Hill. ATMC, Randolph Communications, Skyline/SkyBest, Star Communications and Surry Communications donated to support the telehealth program.

"ATMC is thrilled to be a part of this partnership with UNC Children's Hospital," commented Keith Holden, ATMC CEO. "We are excited to see how this gift will impact children and families in rural North Carolina."

CarolinaLink is made up of North Carolina's broadband membership cooperatives who provide advanced technology services to many of the state's most rural areas. For more information, visit carolinalink.org.

Advertise Your Business in the 2021 ATMC Telephone Directory

Don't miss out on the opportunity to showcase your business in the 2021 ATMC Telephone Directory. When you purchase an ad in our telephone directory, you'll get a listing that can also be accessed online or on any mobile phone via our ATMC Search App.

Data Publishing is the only authorized yellow pages sales agent for ATMC and one of their representatives will be contacting existing advertisers soon. If you would like to find out more about how you can help expand your customer base and grow your business just by having your business included in the 2021 ATMC Telephone Directory, please call 888-328-2782.

Last Chance to Sign Up for Paperless Billing

Sign up for paperless billing before March 31st and get a \$5 bill credit. Paperless billing is simple, easy and environmentally friendly. Customers can sign up for paperless billing by visiting atmc.net/myatmc and enrolling online, calling our customer care department or by visiting any ATMC retail location. For more information, call ATMC's customer care department at 910-754-4311.



For new paperless billing enrollments only. A \$5 one-time credit will be applied following successful enrollment in paperless billing. Only one credit per account. Cannot have been enrolled in paperless billing within the last year.

ATMC Service Will Soon Be Available to More Areas of Columbus County



ATMC is working to bring fiber optic delivered high-speed internet to more Columbus County residents and businesses through grant funding from the NC GREAT Grant program and USDA ReConnect funding. Some homes and businesses along Swamp Fox Hwy E. in Tabor City and Rough and Ready Road near the Fair Bluff community will soon have access to fiber optic speeds.

ATMC is currently in the process of constructing a fiber optic network that will serve more than 5,000 Columbus County residents in areas near Tabor City, Hallsboro, Lake Waccamaw, Fair Bluff, Boardman and areas north of Whiteville.

To sign up for ATMC's high speed services, call 910-754-4311 or to find out when service will be available in your area, visit fastercolumbus.com.

Ten-Digit Dialing Coming Next Month

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) has adopted "988" as a new three-digit number to be used nationwide to reach the National Suicide Prevention and Mental Health Crisis Lifeline. For 988 to work successfully in our area code (910), mandatory 10-digit local dialing must first be implemented to all landline subscribers. While we understand that this can cause some inconveniences for the dialer, the addition of this national three-digit number will make it far easier for an individual to reach out and receive immediate assistance during a time of a mental health crisis. You can begin dialing 10-digits on April 24th, 2021. If you forget and dial just seven digits your call will still go through. This change will become mandatory by October of this year. The price of a call on your coverage areas will not change due to this new method of dialing. For more information, visit atmc.com/10digitdialing.