

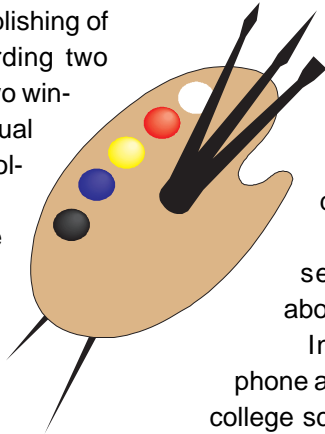


## 'Our Region's Places & Faces' Is Theme For 2006 Art Scholarship Competition

RTMC/RTC and Coastal Publishing of the Carolinas Inc. will be awarding two \$1,000 college scholarships to two winners of the prestigious 12th Annual Young Artists' Cover Design Scholarship Competition in 2006.

The two artists' work will be used on the covers of the 2007 RTMC and RTC directories. The theme for the 2006 competition is "Our Region's Places and Faces." The deadline to submit art is April 25, 2006. (Schools must have submissions by April 21.)

Art teachers in seven area high schools



are invited to submit up to five pieces of art from senior art students. Winners will be chosen May 3, 2006, by an independent panel of judges.

Ask your high school senior art teacher today about this opportunity.

In 2006, Randolph Telephone also will distribute \$5,000 in college scholarships to as many as 10 eligible graduating high school or home-schooled seniors whose parent or legal guardian is a customer in good standing

### New Directories Available Soon

The artwork from this year's art scholarship program will be featured on the 2006 Randolph Telephone Directory, which will be delivered in December. Come by our business offices for extras.

with RTMC or RTC. Applicants should obtain application forms from their high school

*(continued on page 2)*

### December Special

## Enjoy A FREE MONTH On Us When You Add These Features

Order any of the following calling features in December & receive the **12th month FREE**.

- ☛ Call forward
- ☛ Call return
- ☛ Voicemail
- ☛ Personal ring
- ☛ Distinctive ring
- ☛ 3-way calling



Use any of these features to make your life hassle-free during the holidays and all year round. Keep from missing important calls using Randolph Telephone voicemail or call forward. Talk to more than one relative at a time using 3-way calling, or simplify your household with personal or distinctive ring for separate family members. Call 879-5684 for more information. ■

### January Special

## RING In The New Year With 60% SAVINGS On High-Speed DSL



I just met my grandma via e-mail.

I made an A+ on my homework.

I finished my degree online.

I did my Christmas shopping with just a few clicks.

Start the year off right with Randolph Telephone high-speed DSL Internet service.

If you sign up in January, new DSL customers will enjoy **FREE gear, FREE installation**, and our **512 plan for just \$29.95/month\*** for six months. That's a **60% SAVINGS**. *\*(Monthly service \$39.95 after sixth month. Certain terms apply. Residential service only. Limited time offer.)* ■

## Why Randolph Telephone Is THE BEST Dial-Up Choice

DIAL-UP COMPARISON	RANDOLPH TELEPHONE	COMMUNITY WEB	AOL	NetZero
<b>PRICES</b>				
Cost per month	\$20.95	\$19.95	\$23.90	\$9.95
Accelerator/UltraSonic Service per month	\$1.00	\$3.95	—	\$5.95
Additional e-mail address	\$2/month	\$5/month	\$23.90/mth	\$2.08/mth
<b>ACCOUNT FEATURES</b>				
Spam Protection	✓	✓	✓	✓
E-mail Virus Protection	✓	✓	✓	✓
Parental Control	✓	No	✓	✓
E-mail Accounts Included FREE	10	4	7	13
E-mail Storage	10MB	5MB	UNLIMITED	2GB
FREE 24x7 Technical Support	✓	✓	✓	No (\$1.95/MIN)
Personal Web Space	12MB	2MB	No	No
Local office & technicians	✓	No	No	No
Local dial-up access numbers	✓	LIMITED*	LIMITED*	LIMITED*
Free eNewsletter with helpful advice/tips	✓	No	No	No

\*Dial-up access numbers are limited to larger metropolitan areas and most are not local to our customers.

One thing they have that we don't . . .  
Small print and multiple restrictions.

## Need A 'Stocking Stuffer'?



Randolph Telephone's prepaid calling cards make great stocking stuffers for people on the go, especially college and high school students.



them in two convenient denominations — \$5 and \$10.

Just call 879-5684 today and order your easy, thoughtful "Stocking Stuffers." ■

Giving a prepaid calling card at this time of the year is a wonderful gesture and sends the message that you want to keep in touch. They also make a perfect gift for employees.

At Randolph Telephone, we understand the high cost of living and our prepaid calling cards are designed to help control costs. We offer

### On the Calendar . . .

#### December

23-26 – Randolph Telephone business offices closed  
25 – Christmas Day  
26 – Hanukkah



#### January

1 – New Year's Day  
2 – Randolph Telephone business offices closed  
16 – Martin Luther King Jr. Day



## RT Adds Local Touch To DIRECTV

Randolph Telephone is now offering DIRECTV, with the local service and support you've come to trust.



Promotions change often, so just call our Asheboro business office, 879-5684, for the latest deals.

Join us for food, fun and freebies at our grand opening event Tuesday, Dec. 13 at Randolph Mall from 11 a.m. until 7 p.m. ■

## Scholarships

*(continued from page 1)*

guidance counselor. The forms must be completed and signed by a school official, and given to the guidance counselor by April 7, 2006. No applications will be accepted after this date!

Second-year scholarships are available to students who won 2005 general scholarships from Randolph Telephone. Application forms are available at our business offices. The deadline is May 22, 2006.

Randolph Telephone is pleased to again partner with the Foundation for Rural Service to award one \$2,500 scholarship to an eligible graduating senior whose parent or legal guardian is a customer in good standing with RTMC/RTC.

Applications can be obtained from your high school guidance counselor. To meet the Foundation's deadline, completed applications must be delivered to RTMC by Feb. 22, 2006. ■

# Viruses Aren't Just For E-mail Anymore

Instant Messaging, or IM, is a popular method of communicating online.

Users are able to type messages to one another and see them immediately. Some of the common IM programs are MSN Messenger, AOL Instant Messenger, Windows Messenger, and Yahoo Messenger. As you know, it is possible to get a virus through e-mail, but did you know that you can get one through Instant Messaging too?

The most common way to get a virus through IM is by opening an infected file. This is similar to the way you would get a virus by clicking on an attachment in your e-mail program. It is also possible to get an Instant Message that contains a malicious link or URL. When you click the link, it downloads a virus onto your computer.

So, how can you protect yourself



against IM viruses? Here are some helpful tips to avoid these nasty bugs.

— Exercise caution when opening files or links. As with e-mail, you should always be careful when opening files. Never open or accept files from users you don't know.

— Keep your operating system updated. Visit [www.microsoft.com](http://www.microsoft.com) and click on "Windows Update." This will keep your computer's operating system updated with the latest patches and fixes for known

vulnerabilities.

— Update your instant messaging software. Visit the site where you downloaded your original IM program to see if an updated version is available that may contain protective patches.

— Use updated anti-virus software. It is important to use anti-virus software such as Norton or McAfee to keep your computer clear of all types of viruses. Remember to update your anti-virus software regularly because new viruses are being created every day.

— Use updated anti-spyware software. It is possible for IM viruses to infect your computer with adware and spyware. Microsoft has a free anti-spyware program available at <http://www.microsoft.com/downloads/>: *Windows Anti-Spyware (Beta)*.

Remember to keep it updated! ■

## SHOWCASING Randolph Telephone

### *We Hope You Paid Us A Visit*

Randolph Telephone participated in the 12th Annual Asheboro/Randolph Chamber of Commerce Business Showcase Oct. 13 at the Randolph-Asheboro YMCA.

The showcase experienced an extraordinary turnout this year and allowed us to meet with many of our current customers and potential customers face-to-face. We had the opportunity to remind customers of existing offerings such as calling features, high-speed DSL Internet access and Web hosting. We also offered an exclusive showcase-only special of two months free on our dial-up Internet.

The showcase provides a great venue for people to visit and become familiar with many different companies that offer a wide range of products and services in Randolph County.

Thanks to everyone who stopped by our booth. If you are interested in any of our services, please call 879-5684. ■



Anita Wright, Joel Brown, & Shelley Greene (left to right) represented RT at the Showcase.

## Capital Credit Checks Will Be Mailed Soon

Be sure to watch your mail for your 2005 capital credit check, which will be issued in mid-December.

Once you receive your check, it is important to deposit or cash it within 90 days of the date written on the check. The check will be voided if not cashed or deposited within this time and a check reissue charge will be applied.

Thank you for your patronage. ■

## Farmer Office Will Be Changing Operating Hours

Our Farmer business office will change its hours of operation, effective Jan. 1, 2006.

The office will now open at 8:30 a.m. and close at 11:30 a.m. Payments are still due on the date listed on your bill notices, but must now be in that office by 11 a.m.

Please make note of these changes in our operating hours to keep your service from being interrupted. ■

## In Our Neighborhood . . .

Don't miss these holiday events in your community!

- Dec. 3 – Liberty Christmas Parade
- Dec. 10 – Ramseur Christmas Parade
- Dec. 10 – Staley Christmas Parade



### Ramseur Fall Festival



Left; Our antique telephone truck and members of our staff were on hand at the Ramseur Fall Festival held in October.

Right; Randolph Telephone sponsored this beautiful tree at the annual Hospice Festival of Trees.

### Festival Of Trees



#### Randolph Telephone Membership Corporation

3733 Old Cox Road  
Asheboro, NC 27205

(336) 879-5684  
Fax: (336) 879-2100

Office Hours:  
8 a.m. - 5 p.m.  
Monday - Friday

Farmer Office  
5203 New Hope Road  
8:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

Visit Us On The Web:  
[www.rtmc.net](http://www.rtmc.net)

Pre-Sorted Standard  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
Permit #409  
Greensboro, NC



#### Randolph Telephone Membership Corporation 2005-2006 Board of Directors

Earlie Brady, President; Wayne Brady, Vice-President; Janice Scott, Secretary/Treasurer; Wallace Garner; William Joe Allen; W.A. "Bill" Garner; C. Kent Ridge; Bobby Macon; Becki Rice.

Steve A. Cox, General Manager

*Our door is always open to serve you. Should you have any questions about your service, your bill, how we can better serve you, or if you just want to chat, please stop by and see us — we're here to serve you. As they say, "Home is where the heart is" — and our heart is here.*