

# TeleBytes

"Your Cooperative Link"

# STAR

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## COMMUNICATIONS

Vol. 100 ♦ December 2016

### Matthew...Gone but Not Forgotten!

Once the wind stopped blowing and the torrential rains stopped falling, the Star Communications service area and all of Eastern North Carolina were just beginning to see what was to come in the days and weeks before us. From downed trees, rising flood waters and closed roadways to days and weeks without power, we have persevered and our communities will continue to work together to become stronger and better than ever before.

Star Communications was not spared the wrath of Matthew, by any means. From massive service outages throughout our service territory to the flooding of our Clinton Main Office, on Highway 421 North of Clinton, Hurricane Matthew was not kind to our communities.

The flood waters from the river on the north side of the Clinton Main Office rose to flood the parking lot and the inside of the building. As a result, the Clinton Main Office is expected to be closed for at least six months while crews work to dry us out and rebuild our "home" office. Like the "Star Family" is known for doing, the employee body worked tirelessly during the days and weeks following the hurricane to relocate our Clinton Main Office employees to other Star Communications offices in Clinton and Elizabethtown, so that we would be able to continue to provide service to you. We are all very thankful to our customers for your understanding and patience, while we relocated all the Clinton Main Office employees and while we worked to restore your services in a timely manner.

Again, thank you for your patience and understanding during your service outages and during the time it takes to repair the flood damages to the Clinton Main Office.



*Merry Christmas  
&  
Happy Holidays*

from your neighbors at

# STAR

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## COMMUNICATIONS



## From Your Kitchen

One of everyone's favorite appetizers at Christmas, or most any time of the year, is meatballs in a tangy but sweet glaze. This recipe is a new spin on the old favorite. Give it a try...this might become one of your favorite year-round "go to recipes". Enjoy!

### Christmas Meatballs

#### *Meatballs:*

2 eggs

1 envelope onion soup mix

½ cup seasoned bread crumbs

¼ cup chopped dried cranberries

2 tablespoons minced fresh parsley

1 ½ pounds lean ground beef

#### *Sauce:*

1 can (14 ounces) whole-berry cranberry sauce

¾ cup ketchup

½ cup beef broth

3 tablespoons brown sugar

3 tablespoons finely chopped onion

2 teaspoons cider vinegar

In a large mixing bowl, combine eggs, soup mix, bread crumbs, cranberries and parsley. Crumble beef over mixture and mix well. Shape into 1-inch balls. Place 12 to 14 meatballs on a microwave-safe plate. Cover with waxed paper. Microwave on high for 2-3 minutes or until no longer pink. Remove to paper towels to drain. Repeat with remaining meatballs. In a 2-quart microwave-safe dish, combine sauce ingredients. Cover and microwave on high for 3-4 minutes or until heated through, rotating once. Gently stir in meatballs. Cover and cook on high for 1-2 minutes or until heated through.

## Business Office Closings

The Star Communications Business Offices in Clinton and Elizabethtown will be closed on Friday, December 23, and Monday, December 26, 2016, in observance of the Christmas Holidays. The business offices will reopen on Tuesday, December 27, 2016, at 8:00 a.m. The business offices will also be closed on Monday, January 2, 2017, in observance of the New Year's Holiday. The business offices will re-open on Tuesday, January 3, 2017, at 8:00 a.m.

The Star Communications Family wishes you and your family many joyous memories of the holiday season and may you have a prosperous and wonderful new year!

## Promotion Announced

Congratulations to Jeffrey Allen Nethercutt on his promotion to Assistant General Manager of Star Communications. This position was created with the announcement of current Executive Vice President and General Manager's, Lyman Horne's, upcoming retirement. Mr. Nethercutt has been with Star Communications for 21 years, and has held several positions within the corporation...most recently Vice President of Corporate Operations.

Again, we congratulate Mr. Nethercutt! We wish Mr. Horne many years of happiness during his upcoming retirement.