

## Scholarship Opportunities Available

If you are the parent or guardian of a 2017 graduating high school senior who is planning to pursue a degree from a two- or four-year college, university or vocational-technical school, you have probably already experienced the stress and dread of financing at least two years of college for your graduate. Even if you have been saving for your senior's moment to "walk across the stage", there are always unknowns and unexpected expenses associated with college.

To help ease some of the financial burden, your soon-to-be-graduate is probably rushing around filling out applications for every scholarship opportunity available. It is quite an honor for Star Communications to be able to announce two scholarship opportunities available for upcoming high school graduates.

The first scholarship program is sponsored by the Foundation for Rural Service (FRS). As stated on the FRS webpage, "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 an NTCA member company. FRS funds \$2,000 of each scholarship, and the sponsoring company awards the remaining \$500. The FRS College Scholarship Program seeks to encourage students to return to their rural communities upon completing their education." There will be several FRS \$2,500 scholarships awarded in different geographic regions of the United States. There are also four additional \$5,000 scholarships awarded by FRS, but funded by the John Staurulakis Family Scholarships, which will be awarded with a preference to students who are majoring in math, science, engineering or medicine.

For additional information and the downloadable application for the FRS Scholarship Program, please visit the FRS website at [FRS.org](http://FRS.org). Once on the FRS homepage, choose the "Youth Programs" tab, and then, choose the "College Scholarship Program" option. If your graduate meets the minimum requirements, please submit the completed application to Star Communications for the signature of our General Manager. In order to meet the postmark deadline of March 1, 2017, all applications must be in our business office no later than Monday, February 20, 2017.

In addition to the FRS 2017 College Scholarship Program, Star Communications is pleased to once again offer the Star Communications Scholarship Program. Star Communications will be awarding five \$1,000 nonrenewable scholarships to the applicants chosen by the Scholarship Selection Committee, which is comprised of Star Communications employees.

Information regarding the Star Communications 2017 Scholarship Program can be obtained by visiting [www.starcom.net](http://www.starcom.net), where you can download the application. Unfortunately, the Star Communications Scholarship Program is only available to students who will be attending a four-year college or university. Along with the completed application, each applicant must provide Star Communications with: a copy of the student's high school transcript; SAT/ACT test scores; a "Letter of Application", in the student's own handwriting, to Star Communications explaining what impact growing up in a rural environment has had on their life and goals, as well as , any special needs or other information the student feels would be appropriate in order to help the committee know the applicant better; a Letter of Recommendation from the student's principal, guidance counselor, teacher, pastor or someone influential within the community; a Letter of Acceptance from a four-year college or university; a copy of a recent Star Communications Statement or Invoice; and a photo of the applicant in a sealed envelope marked "Photo". Also the student's "Home of Record" with his or her respective school must subscribe to at least one of Star Communications' services. In order to be considered, all application packets must be complete. Incomplete applications will be disqualified.

If you feel your graduate meets the requirements for the Star Communications 2017 Scholarship Program, please submit applications to: Star Communications, 2017 Scholarship Program, P.O. Box 348, Clinton, NC 28329. All application packets for the Star Communications Scholarship Program must be postmarked on or before Monday, March 6, 2017.

If you have questions about either scholarship program please do not hesitate to contact Sara Boyer at [sboyer@stmc.net](mailto:sboyer@stmc.net) or 910-564-7891.



## From Your Kitchen

Valentine's Day...the day we give sweets to the sweetest ones we know! Red hearts, cupids, roses, chocolate candies and other confections are associated with our true feelings for the ones we love. Our recipe for the February edition of *TeleBytes* combines chocolate and sugary caramel for you to make and share with your special Valentine on the very special day of love! Enjoy!

### Chocolate Toffee Cake

#### Filling:

1 package (8 oz.) milk chocolate English toffee bits  
1 cup semi-sweet chocolate chips  
2 tablespoons brown sugar

#### Cake:

1 cup butter, softened  
1 1/4 cups packed brown sugar  
4 eggs  
1 teaspoon vanilla extract  
3 cups all-purpose flour  
1 1/2 teaspoons baking powder  
1/2 teaspoon salt  
1/2 teaspoon baking soda  
1 1/4 cups buttermilk

#### Caramel Icing:

1/4 cup butter, cubed  
2 teaspoons all-purpose flour  
1 can (5 oz.) evaporated milk  
1 cup packed brown sugar

Combine the toffee bits, chips and brown sugar. Set aside.

In a large mixing bowl, cream butter and brown sugar until light and fluffy. Add eggs, one at a time, beating well after each addition (mixture will appear curdled). Beat in vanilla. Combine the flour, baking powder, salt and baking soda; add to the creamed mixture alternately with buttermilk, beating well after each addition. Pour a third of the batter into a greased and floured 10-inch fluted tube pan. Sprinkle with a third of the toffee mixture. Repeat layers twice. Bake at 350 degrees Fahrenheit for 55 to 65 minutes or until a toothpick inserted near the center comes out clean. Cool for 10 minutes before removing from pan to wire rack to cool completely.

For the caramel icing, in a small saucepan, melt butter. Stir in flour until smooth. Gradually add evaporated milk and brown sugar. Bring to a boil. Cook and stir for four to five minutes or until thickened. Cool. Drizzle over cake.

## New Neighbors to Serve

L. Alvarado.....	564-4898
Sutton Autry.....	532-6111
Craig Bell.....	564-2693
Johnny & Dayna Bruha.....	567-6552
William Edward Campbell.....	645-6571
Ada Rose Carter.....	645-6659
Harvey Coble.....	588-4915
FFC Institute for Change.....	648-5586
Pedro Gonzalez-Panuco.....	567-2992
Sam Gore.....	564-2833
Rayford Hardison.....	531-3032
Diana S. Johnson.....	531-4426
Charles Earl Lankert.....	588-6242
Ella M. Lewis.....	648-2713
Emory Lewis.....	533-2738
Manuel Lopez.....	533-2269
Richard McAllister.....	532-6076
Sue McLaurin.....	588-4008
Tiana Marie Melvin.....	531-3749
David & Dottie Phillips.....	567-2432
Pamela Phillips.....	564-2419
Otis Purdie.....	645-4051
Darlene Richardson.....	532-2983
Chris & Traci Robinson.....	564-2191
Rocky Branch Farm.....	532-2888
Rosa A. Sarmiento.....	533-3636
Alshawn Smith.....	645-2085
Ruby Braddy Stephens.....	645-4332
Donnie Strickland.....	567-5284
June Strickland.....	567-5733

## Timothy A. Butler

It is with heavy hearts and great sorrow that we bid farewell to our friend and coworker, Timothy "Tim" Butler. Tim lost his life in a motorcycle accident on Saturday, December 24, 2016.

Along with his "Star Family," Tim leaves his beloved wife, Jennifer "Gemma" Butler, and two children, Dalton and Brianna, to cherish his memories.

Rest in peace our dear friend!

