IN FOR THE LONG HAUL
George McClure’s successful life on the road

FLAVORFUL FRANCHISE
Serving up delicious dishes at Fat Jack’s

BOUND FOR THE BEACH
A few family spots for your springtime escape
How do you get your news?

It has been a long time since America watched Walter Cronkite sign off his nightly newscast with “and that’s the way it is.” As a news anchor, he was often referred to as the most trusted man in America.

The story is quite different today. No single news source is considered the authority. The traditional networks now fight for viewership with cable channels. Many newspapers have limited their publishing schedules, and some have even gone out of business. The radio format has been splintered by countless other sources vying for listenership, including the fast-growing podcast format.

Aside from the sources themselves, the technology of delivering content has changed dramatically thanks to the internet. In its examination of major findings from 2016, the Pew Research Center recently reported that 38 percent of Americans say they often get their news online (this includes social media, websites and apps). This surpasses both print newspapers and radio.

As this trend continues, this is yet another reason your telecommunications provider is committed to delivering reliable internet service over a robust broadband network. If the internet is your main source of news, we want you to know you can depend on us to keep you connected.


Are your passwords secure?

Those who use the internet today find themselves with a long list of passwords to access websites for banking, shopping, sharing photos and status updates, accessing medical records and more. A report released in January by the Pew Research Center found that 39% of online adults say they have a hard time keeping track of all these passwords.

As a result, many internet users make common mistakes, such as using common words for their passwords or even the same password across several accounts — and these mistakes could be putting their personal information at risk.

ConnectSafely.org, a nonprofit organization dedicated to educating users of connected technology about safety, privacy and security, offers these tips for managing your passwords:

- Make the password at least 8 characters long.
- Don’t use just one password.
- Create passwords that are easy to remember but hard for others to guess.
- Include numbers, capital letters and symbols.
- Consider using a password manager.

For more tips, visit www.connectsafely.org

---


The new year has witnessed an explosion of policy ideas and actions. At the recent NTCA Rural Telecom Industry Meeting and Expo, I was pleased to announce the Build Broadband With Us campaign that will harness the momentum of this focus on infrastructure. This exciting initiative is designed to engage broadband providers, policymakers and most importantly, rural residents like you.

Through social media, industry events and meetings with policymakers, we’re trying to showcase the need to build broadband as a key component of our nation’s critical infrastructure.

A big part of that means educating state and federal officials about the importance of rural broadband. For instance, did you know rural providers like yours:

- contribute billions of dollars to the U.S. economy and support billions of dollars in e-commerce
- proudly serve 37% of U.S. landmass
- proudly support rural and urban jobs
- collaborate with local leaders on broadband-enabled solutions

Your broadband provider is working hard with neighboring telcos to be sure that Congress, the president and state governments “Build Broadband With Us.” Whether it’s using our new hashtag — #BuildBroadbandWithUs — on social media or calling your representatives, please join us in spreading the word about how vital rural communications are to our nation’s future. Learn more at ntca.org/BuildBroadbandWithUs.
New FCC chairman has strong ties to rural America

BY STEPHEN V. SMITH

The federal agency tasked with regulating communications services in the U.S. has a new leader, one with strong ties to rural America and an understanding of the unique challenges faced by rural service providers.

Ajit Pai was named chairman of the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) in January by President Donald Trump. Pai grew up in Parsons, Kansas, a town of just over 10,000 in the southeast corner of the state. “Our backyard was a country pasture with cows and ponds,” Pai said in 2015 as he addressed the Telecom Executive Policy Summit hosted by NTCA–The Rural Broadband Association. “We lived on an unpaved road, next to an ostrich farmer. Our address was Rural Route 4.”

This rural upbringing taught Pai that “rural America is different,” he said. “So when rural issues cross my desk at the Commission, they aren’t just abstractions to me,” he said.

NTCA Chief Executive Officer Shirley Bloomfield applauded Pai’s appointment as chairman, saying that since joining the commission in 2012 he “has shown a commitment to solving rural broadband challenges and to thinking creatively about ways our country can more effectively deploy and sustain advanced communications in rural America.”

This could signal a positive direction from the FCC regarding regulations that impact broadband and related services in rural areas. “(Pai) has a deep and genuine understanding of how the services that NTCA members deliver improve the quality of life and promote economic development in our rural communities,” Bloomfield says.

“I am deeply grateful to the President of the United States for designating me the 34th Chairman of the Federal Communications Commission,” Pai said in a statement on January 23. “I look forward to working with the new Administration, my colleagues at the Commission, members of Congress, and the American public to bring the benefits of the digital age to all Americans.”

WHAT IS THE FCC?

The Federal Communications Commission is a regulatory body that governs communications in the United States and its territories. The commission is comprised of five members who are appointed by the president of the United States and confirmed by the U.S. Senate. A chairman is selected from among the five commissioners.

From FCC website:

In its work facing economic opportunities and challenges associated with rapidly evolving advances in global communications, the agency capitalizes on its competencies in:

- Promoting competition, innovation and investment in broadband services and facilities
- Supporting the nation’s economy by ensuring an appropriate competitive framework for the unfolding of the communications revolution
- Encouraging the highest and best use of spectrum domestically and internationally
- Revising media regulations so that new technologies flourish alongside diversity and localism
- Providing leadership in strengthening the defense of the nation’s communications infrastructure

Visit www.fcc.gov to learn more.

BACKGROUND

Before being named to head the agency, Ajit Pai served in various positions at the FCC. From 2007 to 2011, his roles included deputy general counsel, associate general counsel and special advisor to the general counsel.

Pai was nominated to serve as an FCC commissioner by President Barack Obama and confirmed unanimously by the Senate on May 7, 2012.

A graduate of Harvard University and the University of Chicago Law School, Pai served in various counsel positions for the Senate Judiciary Committee and the Department of Justice. He also spent two years as associate general counsel for Verizon Communications Inc.

The son of immigrants from India, Pai grew up in Parsons, Kansas. To read more about Chairman Pai and his position on issues impacting telecommunications, visit https://www.fcc.gov/about/leadership/ajit-pai.
Changing times

At exactly noon on Nov. 18, 1883, the United States made a change that would affect all citizens. The change worried people so much that panicked editorials lamented its effects, entire towns stopped all activity to brace for the moment it would occur, and one mayor even threatened to jail anyone who went through with it. But in the end, absolutely nothing happened — and I think we can learn a lot from that.

You see, back in 1883, technology was changing things in ways not dissimilar from today. The telegraph and the railroad had made an unimaginably vast country seem much smaller. Before trains and telegraphs, the time of day in a certain community was essentially whatever the clock in the town square said it was. In all, there were at least 50 time zones across the U.S., and often, even neighboring towns would be 5 to 15 minutes apart. It’s easy to see why a train schedule or information relayed along telegraph lines would need a common, standardized time.

So in 1883, the heads of all of the major railroads decided to make it so. It was declared that at noon on Nov. 18, all clocks would be moved up or wound back to make sure the country was in sync under four time zones.

The notion of changing the time did not sit well with everyone. Many feared what would happen if people tried to interfere with something as elemental as time. The mayor of Bangor, Maine, even went so far as to threaten to jail anyone who moved the hands on the clock. Many townspeople reportedly gathered around their local telegraph offices to wait for the official notice as to when the “new” noon would be. When the message came in, the clocks were set — and nothing else really happened. The fears were misguided, and the change has created the reliable standard we all use today.

While this example seems almost laughable today, how often do we find ourselves caught up in worrying about change? It’s so easy for us to spend hours of our time and countless amounts of energy fearing what might happen because of a change. And then, after the change occurs, there’s always the danger of getting pulled into wishing for the past.

Of course, any successful change — whether it’s a new job, new house or new color of paint on a wall — needs a degree of planning and preparation to make the transition successful. But fear of change shouldn’t stop you from doing something you know is right.

That’s been our approach at PRTC. We have embraced change by not letting fears interfere with what we know we need to do. With the way our industry has changed, we’ve had to be ready to evolve with it. What was once a company offering one product (local telephone service) became a long-distance phone company. Then we became a dial-up internet service provider. Now we’ve become a company that provides broadband, television and voice service.

Through all of those changes, there were certainly concerns and a little worrying here and there. But we’ve always done our homework and made the changes that were needed to make life better for our customers.

President John F. Kennedy once said, “Change is the law of life. And those who look only to the past or present are certain to miss the future.” I believe that is the right attitude we should all strive for as we look ahead to whatever changes are in store for us in the years to come.
A multitalented new addition

Please welcome PRTC's newest employee, Jason Cook. He is a multimedia specialist in PRTC's Premiere Enterprises subsidiary. Cook shoots many of the videos on your local channels, including the high school football games, “Cooking with PRTC” and "Press Box with Cindy Crosby." Cook will create promotional media content for Channel 57 in addition to other PRTC productions.

EXPANDING PRTC’S FIBER FOUNDATION

PRTC crews and contractors have steadily expanded the new fiber optics network throughout the Lowcountry. New fiber builds are underway in the following areas:

- **Doctor’s Creek**: Mainline construction is complete; crews are fixing cable issues.
- **Grubers Area**: Sidneys Road, Augusta Highway, Rehoboth Road, Cannon Road, Badger Lane, Blackwater Lane, Deepwater Trail, Mendel Court, Lansdowne Lane and Missiontown Road.
- **Holly Ridge**: Augusta Highway, Huckleberry Hill Lane, Sawyer Drive, Hannibal Trail, Cardinal Lane, Daigle Lane, Meetinghouse Lane, Bittersweet Lane, Holly Ridge Lane and Happiness Lane.
- **Sniders Crossroads**: Low Country Highway, Sniders Highway, Miracle Drive, Indian Creek Drive, Cedar Creek Drive, Hudson Mill Road, Scuffletown Road, Shiloh Loop, Bunny Lane and Memory Drive.
- **Islandton**: Sniders Highway, Forks Road, Sineath Road, Rum Gully Road, Stratford Lane, Kinard Road, Adnah Church Road, Varnado Road, Jamison Court, Eldridge Lane, Medicus Lane and Alice Lane.
- **Hendersonville**: Hendersonville Highway, Yates Lane, See See Road, Great Swamp Road, Scuffletown Road, Legend Road, Low Country Highway, Paradise Road, Lucky Avenue, Winding Creek Road, Marshall Road, Long Court, Cavanaugh Road and Edward Road.

HELP US FIND OUR SMALL BUSINESS OF THE YEAR!

- Visit BroadbandBuildsBusiness.com
- Complete the online nomination form
- Share the link on Facebook and Twitter
- Encourage others to nominate their favorite small business

*Hurry, the deadline for nominations is March 10!*

Are you ready to roll with PRTC’s Premiere Enterprises?

Call Jason Cook today for help with your advertising campaign.

- video production
- commercial sound
- web development and digital media

Video on Demand
New Release Schedule

For a small rental fee, PRTC’s Video on Demand service gives you access to new releases as many as eight weeks before Netflix or Redbox (designated by an *).

To access Video on Demand, press the “VOD” or “On Demand” button on the remote or press the “Menu” button and look for “On Demand.”

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mar. 7</th>
<th>Mar. 14</th>
<th>Mar. 21</th>
<th>Mar. 28</th>
<th>Apr. 4</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Moana*</td>
<td>Passengers</td>
<td>Assassin’s Creed</td>
<td>Patriot’s Day</td>
<td>Office Christmas Party</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Collateral Beauty</td>
<td>Sing</td>
<td>Silence</td>
<td>Lucky’s Treasure</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Fences</td>
<td></td>
<td>Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Going to the beach for spring break conjures up very different ideas depending on what kind of vacation someone is looking for. There’s soft sand, playgrounds for the little ones as well as activities for the older children, delicious restaurants near the shore followed by a good night’s sleep for all. Then there’s the MTV version of spring break. In order to enjoy your spring break, it’s important to know which one you’re getting into. Here are some suggestions for beaches that are a little off the beaten path — ones that will take you away from the crowds and on to new adventures on Southeastern shores.

Gulf Shores/Orange Beach, Alabama

With a 6,000-acre state park full of educational activities and a pristine, protected beach; a zoo with lions, tigers and bears — oh my; a water park; a nature preserve; and a magnificent pier with lots of fun stuff to do, Gulf Shores/Orange Beach has everything a family could want when looking for a vacation destination.

“On and off the beach, Gulf Shores and Orange Beach offer families opportunities to explore coastal Alabama’s diverse landscapes,” says Ally Dorrough, public relations coordinator for Gulf Shores and Orange Beach Tourism.

One of the best ways to do it is to check out the fishing charters that offer a lot more than fishing, including dolphin and nature cruises. Learn more at www.OrangeBeach.com/Fishing and www.GulfShores.com/things-to-do/beach-water.aspx.

Over the years, the two beaches — Orange and Gulf Shores — have morphed into one incredibly gorgeous 32-mile-long sandbox loaded with fun for families.

» Where to eat: The Hangout, 101 E. Beach Blvd., Gulf Shores. A sudsy fun foam party every hour on the hour until 6 p.m. and a great menu make this a good place for kids. Check it out at www.TheHangout.com.

» Where to sleep: There is a full range of chain motels, but many families opt for condo living while at the beach to take advantage of laundry facilities and full kitchens to save on dining out. Condo options with on-site activities for kids include Caribe the Resort (www.Caribe-Resort.net) and The Beach Club (TheBeachClub.SpectrumResorts.com).
CINNAMON SHORE, TEXAS
With its sugar-white beaches, Mustang Island’s Cinnamon Shore is an ideal spot for little architects to build sandcastles, but older kids will consider it a great spot for boogie boarding and surfing the waves.

The idyllic seaside village is 11 years old and has become a sought-after spot for families. “Our activities are centered around the children, and our beach is a pristine location for kiddos to get sandy and make lasting memories,” says spokeswoman Lianne Thomas.

Spring break and blistering summer days are seasons for fun at Cinnamon Shore, with KIDS Camp, surf lessons, sandcastle instruction, live music and movies on the lawn. And all ages love s’mores night, when you’ll be provided with all the things necessary to make the gooey delights — free of charge. Sunset cruises, dolphin watches and fishing excursions are available.

Where to eat: Lisabella’s Bistro, 5009 Highway 361, is in the heart of Cinnamon Shore. The laid-back, beach-chic atmosphere belies an amazing menu of fresh coastal cuisine. But not all children like seafood, so there’s a good menu for them, too. Phone: 361-749-4222.

Where to sleep: Rental homes at Cinnamon Shore are designed with families in mind, including large bunk rooms for children. But if you’re looking for a simple one-night stay, there are a number of hotels, both chains and mom-and-pop motels, in Port Aransas just five miles down the road. A good website to visit is portaransas.org. For Cinnamon Shore rentals, visit www.cinnamonshore.com.

COLONY BEACH PARK AT HILTON HEAD, SOUTH CAROLINA
Taking the less-traveled path in Hilton Head leads to daylong fun at Coligny Beach Park. While the main drag in town is always busy, the park offers a change of pace, perfect for families looking for a less-crowded option. The waters are shallow, and multiple tidal pools during low tide are ideal for your little tadpole to take a dip.

The park, according to Kayla Medina, public relations manager for Hilton Head Island Chamber of Commerce, is one of the most popular places on the island, offering direct access to the beach, a child-friendly splash zone, bike trails and a movie theater when children need to come in from the sun and surf.

Where to eat: Big Bamboo Cafe, 1 N. Forest Beach Drive (at Coligny Plaza Shopping Center). Just steps from the beach, the cafe features a wide range of options, including an awesome children’s menu. Phone: 843-686-3443.

Where to sleep: Recently renovated, The Beach House, a Holiday Inn Resort (1 S. Forest Beach Drive), caters to families with young children, offering free games by the pool and on the beach. Bunk beds are available in some rooms. Small refrigerators in all rooms keep leftovers cold for late-night snacking. For reservations, call 843-785-5126 or visit www.beachhousehhi.com.

EDISTO BEACH, SOUTH CAROLINA
Edisto is one of the few islands that hasn’t been taken over by chains and other mega-commercial enterprises, but that doesn’t mean there’s nothing to do. There’s golf at The Plantation Course at Edisto Beach Golf Club; fishing from the pier, the shore or along the river; and boat tours that will let you see a different side of the island. There’s a bike path that winds its way through most of the island, and if you can’t bring your bike, there are several bike rental companies at Edisto Beach. And if you want to “rough it,” camping (with full hook-ups and showers) at Edisto Beach State Park is an amazing experience. Listen to the ocean as you drift off to sleep — it’s that close. The island also has a lighthouse, museums and white-sand beaches. Though still recovering from Hurricane Matthew, most of Edisto is open and ready for visitors.

Where to eat: The Waterfront Restaurant, 136 Jungle Road. It’s a great place for low-country cooking with one of the best seafood menus on the island, but there’s also plenty for landlubbers — burgers, chicken dishes and steaks. There’s a children’s menu, too. Phone: 843-869-1400 or online at www.waterfrontrestaurantedisto.com.

Where to sleep: Wyndham Ocean Ridge (1 King Cotton Road) offers one- and two-bedroom suites equipped with kitchens, washers and dryers, making it ideal for families. Reservations: 843-869-4516.
4K offers nearly movie-level quality at home

When it comes to purchasing a new television, it’s easy to get lost in the sea of options, particularly if you’re interested in keeping up with the newest technology.

You may have recently found yourself frustrated, wondering if that high-definition TV is outdated as everyone talks about 4K. You’re not alone. Technology evolves at an astounding pace, so grab some popcorn. For the best experience watching March Madness, here’s what you need to know if you’re considering a new television:

4K TVs (ULTRA-HD): If you’ve been impressed by TVs with a 1080 resolution, 4K is four times better. It’s true there is little 4K content available, but give it time — you’ll still be impressed in the interim. A 4K TV is as close to theater quality as you’ll find right now. And if you don’t want to make the leap to 4K, buy an HD 1080 TV over a 720 model.

SMART TVS: Smart TVs are worth it. They allow users to stream content directly from a provider, like Netflix, without an over-the-top box such as a Roku or Apple TV.

LED, LCD, PLASMA: LED is the best, but the biggest factor may be your budget. LED (light-emitting diode) offers the brightest and best picture quality. But, it’s the most expensive. LCD (liquid-crystal display) technology has been popular for a long time and still offers great picture quality. Plasma is the least expensive, but it has the lowest-quality picture.

CURVED SCREENS: Curved screens are great, but they’re not right for every room. While curved screens offer a wider field of view and better picture quality, they also might require the viewer to buy a larger-than-normal model to fully appreciate the new look.

INTERLACED OR PROGRESSIVE: Progressive scan displays all the lines in a frame of video at once, while interlaced, which is more common, displays every other line at one time. When you see a TV description that says 1080i or 1080p, the letters indicate how your TV reads the signal from your television provider and displays them.

REFRESH RATE: The higher the number, the better. If your TV is jumpy while you’re playing games or watching sports, it could be that your TV has a low refresh rate, such as 60Hz. Try to find a TV with a refresh rate of 120Hz or 240Hz.

BRAND: Stick with a well-known brand and pay a little more if necessary. When it comes to TVs, quality and reliability are worth a few extra bucks.

SIZE: Think about how far you’ll sit from the TV and buy what’s right for the room. While 80-inch TVs are great, you need sufficient space to watch them comfortably. There are no definitive rules, but most studies indicate that viewers should take the size of the screen, multiplied by about 1.5 times to get the distance you should sit from the screen. For example, if you’re viewing an 80-inch screen, you should sit at least 10 feet away.
Chowing down with **Fat Jack’s**

Home to grits sticks, catfish bites and more

**BY JOHN CLAYTON**

Just because a restaurant has become a Lowcountry tradition doesn’t mean it can’t change.

Fat Jack’s has been a local landmark in Walterboro for nearly two decades but has recently moved to its new location just off I-95 at 2122 Bells Highway. But that’s just one of the changes made this past year by the father-son restaurant management team of Walterboro natives Jack Jones and Wesley Jones.

The Fat Jack’s brand, which began with the original Fat Jack’s in Ridgeland in 1996, is not only moving but also growing. In addition to moving the restaurant into a sleek new building, the Jones duo also opened Fat Jack’s Barbeque about 20 miles away in Jacksonboro the day after Thanksgiving.

“It’s worked out real well for us with the newer building, brand-new equipment, everything’s nice,” Wesley Jones says of the relocation of Fat Jack’s. “We still get a lot of locals and then a lot more tourists at the same time.”

The restaurant’s menu features some Southern classics such as wings and catfish bites, as well as some new twists on regional fare including cheese and grits sticks and “shrimp jammers.” But those are just appetizers; the entrees include steaks and seafood, as well as burgers and other sandwiches.

Fat Jack’s also features catering and a full bar, but Wesley Jones says the restaurant is billed primarily as a family venue. The restaurant is open seven days a week for lunch and dinner with later hours on the weekends. In 2016, PRTC partnered with Fat Jack’s in a highly successful promotion.

While the new Fat Jack’s location allows the Joneses to capitalize on the substantial traffic on I-95, Fat Jack’s Barbeque, located on Highway 17, thrives on Lowcountry locals. “We’re starting to draw some crowds not only from Walterboro but also from the Beaufort and Charleston area,” Wesley Jones says. “Highway 17 stays pretty busy. It’s really turned into a pretty good destination. People will travel for good barbecue.”

Jack Jones worked with family friends in the restaurant business before opening the original Fat Jack’s with Wesley, and the two have worked together ever since. Wesley Jones says the two have grown closer through the years, through the move and all the changes to the business, many of which have been spurred by technology and the advent of social media.

“It takes more than a billboard along I-95 to draw customers these days, and it takes more than a notepad to take an order. Now, Fat Jack’s is marketed on the internet at fatjacksofwalterboro.com and on Facebook with separate pages for the original and barbecue restaurants. “Just a few years ago we were doing the handwritten tickets and going that direction,” says Wesley Jones. “Now with the new point-of-sale systems and all the technology of getting orders to the back, some of our waitresses have handheld tablets. It really has changed over the years.”

---

Co-owner Wesley Jones, left, and General Manager David Cobb manage the daily operations at Fat Jack’s.
In my last article, I talked about how important it is for parents to take charge of their kids’ technology usage. However, that can sometimes be easier said than done. As much as I tried to manage my kids when they were using their iPads, it became apparent that I needed help.

One frustration I had was the number of “kid” apps showing up on my devices every time I installed them on my kids’ iPads. I had, like many parents, put my own Apple ID on their devices, which meant every app they downloaded also connected to my account.

FAMILY SHARING TO THE RESCUE!

Apple products have made it much easier for parents to manage the content their children see and access on their iPods, iPads and iPhones. One of the best ways to take advantage of these features is to set up a separate Apple ID for each iOS user. This includes even the littlest in your family. If they are old enough for a device, they should have their own Apple ID.

This process is simple: On your own iOS device, go to Settings/iCloud/Family/Add Family Member.

Here you will see an option to Create an Apple ID for a child. Follow the on-screen instructions to create your child’s Apple ID. Even though they will now have their own Apple ID, you can control many aspects of their iOS use.

You will need to create a username and password for them, so make sure it is something they can remember. This is important because it saves you the hassle of logging them in every time they want to download something. It also teaches them responsibility for remembering it themselves. Once they have chosen an app to download, you will get a message on your iOS device that they want to download an app and what it costs. You can either approve or deny their request.

CIRCLE BY DISNEY

The other way I manage my kids' time online is by using a device called Circle by Disney. With the Circle, I can restrict the amount of time my kids have access to the internet, turn on or off access to specific websites or apps, and set a bedtime to deactivate the internet. This will automatically turn the internet off at a set time, not turning it back on until a set time in the morning. The great thing about this is it only affects my kids’ devices, not anyone else’s in the house. However, you can restrict access to every device connected to your router if you wish. You also can “pause” the internet for the whole house at meal times or whenever you want the family to disconnect.

The ability to turn off or on specific websites and apps can be helpful when your child needs to finish homework online but tends to be sidetracked by other sites. Now you can be sure they only have access to the sites they need for schoolwork until they finish their assignment.

The internet is important for your family, but it’s also important to manage what is being accessed and how much time is spent online. Hopefully these tips will make it more manageable for you.

Parents, take control

CARRIJA SWENSON is a training and education consultant for Consortia Consulting.
If an emergency happens at your home and you reach for a phone to dial 911, your decision on whether to dial from a landline or cellular phone could greatly affect the ability of firefighters, police officers and medical personnel to find you.

“That’s the most important question: Can you find the person making that 911 call?” says Brian Fortes, CEO of the National Emergency Number Association, which studies 911 policy and technology.

For the all-important answer to that question, the 911 caller’s best option is clear. “It’s easier to track someone down using a landline phone than a cellular,” Fortes says. “That still is the gold standard for 911 location.”

The landline difference, he says, is what dispatchers see on screen. On an emergency call from your home phone, dispatchers will be able to pull up the exact address of where the call originated. On a mobile call, the dispatcher gets the network’s best guess at the coordinates of the caller. The accuracy of those coordinates could be 300 yards or more away from the caller’s location. “It’s always going to be a challenge if you don’t know that address,” Fortes says.

While wireless providers and emergency officials are making strides to improve the location capabilities for the networks, the NENA CEO feels safer knowing he has a home phone. “I do have that landline connection in my home for security reasons,” Fortes says. “(In an emergency) if you have access to a wired phone, I would certainly use the wired phone.”

### Here are some things to consider:

#### 300 METERS
The current requirements for some emergency cellphone calls only require the phone to be trackable within a 300-meter area. Once emergency personnel respond to a cellular 911 call, first responders may have an area the length of three football fields to search. How many other houses are within 300 yards of your home? “Realistically, there will be 911 calls that fall out of that 150- or 300-meter range,” Fortes says. Landline phones will give the authorities a specific address to send first responders.

#### THE ELDERLY AND YOUNG
The two groups of people with the hardest time explaining to dispatchers where they are located are young children who don’t know their address and older adults who may be unable to talk or can’t remember where they are. A home phone line gives dispatchers an exact address in order to send first responders.

#### THE Z AXIS
When a wireless emergency call is placed, the signal can only be tracked to geographic area. The current 911 system can’t make any distinction for vertical location, also called the Z axis. For example, in a three-story apartment complex or in a condo above a shop or restaurant, responders may be able to find the location but will have no idea about the floor where the call originated.

#### FIVE YEARS
In 2015, the Federal Communications Commission adopted new rules requiring major improvements in cellular 911 calls. Wireless phone providers have five years to phase in these improvements. “A lot of work is currently underway to improve,” Fortes says. “The gold standard is the exact location, and we’re not there yet.”
Always a good neighbor

Kesia Brown brings a personal touch to insurance

BY JOHN CLAYTON

State Farm Insurance’s television ads aren’t about the hard sell and neither is Walterboro’s Kesia Brown.

Unlike some insurers, the company’s marketing does not focus on products or discounts. “We make it about the insured and what they’re going through,” Brown says of the company’s sometimes comical, often eclectic marketing campaigns.

Brown, a Florida native and University of Florida graduate, arrived in Walterboro and opened the Kesia L. Brown Insurance Agency seven years ago, and she continues to make her agency about those she insures. With nearly a quarter-century of experience in several aspects of insurance, Brown has spent her time in the South Carolina Lowcountry serving and building trust with her clientele.

“It’s a matter of people getting to know you and trusting that when you say you’re going to do something, you’re going to get it done,” Brown says. “It took a little while, but the people have been really supportive.”

Brown, whose office is at 270 Robertson Blvd. in Walterboro, has done more than open a business. She also served on the boards of the Walterboro Chamber of Commerce and the Colleton County Arts Council.

While some State Farm commercials, such as “Jake, from State Farm,” are funny, they also drive home a positive message about State Farm’s commitment to its customers. Brown says she has also built her company on personal service and value.

Brown says clients can potentially save money by bundling policies, creating a one-stop shop for insurance. “Every company is different, but ours is a multiline company, and the more lines you have with us, the more discounts you get,” says Brown. “We’re a company that likes to form a relationship with you, so the longer the relationship, the better it gets financially when it comes down to your auto and your homeowners and everything else.”

Brown also says potential clients, especially younger people searching for their first insurance packages, should look for personal guidance throughout the process.

“You want to deal with someone who will talk to you personally, answer all of your questions, and make sure the coverage that you’re getting is right for you,” she says. “You want someone who’s trying to build that relationship with you and helping you with the things you need to do to secure your future and your family’s future.”

Brown says aspects of the insurance business have changed with technology, particularly the interface with clients.

“Now customers can go on their phones and make changes to their policies, view their accounts and update their addresses and banking information,” she says. “In some regards it’s made it very easy. It’s made communication a lot easier, too, because you’re not just relying on a phone number. You have two or three phone numbers, and you can email. It’s streamlined things quite a bit, and it’s increased our efficiency.”
Winfield Simon was a teenager in high school when Hurricane Gracie struck in 1959, bringing both damaging winds and rain to a drought-ravaged South Carolina. “We were without power for nearly two weeks,” Simon says. “But back then, there weren’t any generators around.”

As a result, there was no way to pump gas at the Shell Station in Walterboro, where Simon worked for George McClure. But Simon realized that to operate the pump, he could connect a V-belt between the gas pump motor and an industrial chain saw owned by his father. “We cranked it up, and it worked,” Simon says. “After that, there were cars backed up on Jefferies Boulevard and probably served more than 100 cars.”

Simon’s ingenuity was the type of skill many young men developed while working at the service station owned by McClure, who at 85 remains a fixture in the community and respected by many of those he employed through the decades.

**Jumpstarting Lives**

Before gas pumps had TV screens and credit card machines, a trip to the service station meant motorists received a free maintenance check with every tank of gas. “We ran a full-service station, as they called it back then,” says Simon.

He was one of several high school-aged employees who worked over the years at the station McClure opened in 1956. “If you pulled into the station and told me to fill it up with high-test, I would start the gas pump, pop the hood, check the oil and water, clean the windshield and sweep the car out,” Simon says.

Similarly, William Snead lived near McClure’s station. “I was trying to get into fast cars, and his shop was a good place to hang out,” Snead says. “I started helping him around there, and the next thing you know, I was working for him.”

Snead started the job as a high school freshman in 1961. “George was the guy to admire,” he says. “He had a strong work ethic and was a good example for someone to follow. No one knew what a mentor was in those days.”

Snead went on to become a GS-14 civil service employee working for the U.S. Marine Corps.

**Another Venture**

While McClure and his business continue to serve people, it has changed over the years. In 1967, he made a turn toward the wrecker industry. He bought and drove his first wrecker, a short-bed Chevy, on many nighttime calls while still overseeing his gas station by day.

His mechanical ability and determination led the auto recovery business to succeed. “I just worked hard and stayed on the go,” McClure says. The family-run operation continues with two of his four children: Andy McClure is the fleet mechanic, and Sherri McClure is the office manager.

In November 2016, McClure celebrated 60 years of business, including those early service station days. “He was a go-getter and still is, even at his age,” says Jonathan Hoover, one of McClure’s previous mechanics. “George is honest and above-board, and he treated us like sons.”

------

Traveling the highway of life

George McClure finds a path to success

By Matt Ledger
A TEEN AND HER FOODIE DREAM

Adelle Pritchard, 13, loves to write, sing and play the ukulele. Like many teens her age, she also plays soccer and enjoys reading and traveling. But unlike most girls in her age group, Pritchard owns a restaurant.

“I’ve always loved to cook,” she says. “I love finding and trying new foods.”

So when it came to deciding what foods she wanted featured in her new eatery, she turned to what she knew best — crepes.

“It was the first thing we thought of,” Pritchard says. “My dad’s from England, and one of their traditions is Pancake Day. Crepes are called pancakes in England.”

When Ken Pritchard moved to Chattanooga and married his wife and Adelle Pritchard’s mom, Carla, he carried the tradition with him.

“We used to always have about 100 people over and make hundreds of crepes to celebrate Pancake Day,” Adelle Pritchard says. “I’ve always loved making them.”

During the summer of 2016, Adelle Pritchard opened Adelle’s Ice Cream Creperie, serving breakfast and lunch on Main Street in Chattanooga’s Southside. She says her friends were very supportive of the move and come by often, but her teachers and others were a bit surprised when she returned to school from summer break and were told of her business venture.

“They’re like a blank canvas; you can fill them with so many different things,” Pritchard says, adding a couple of tips:

• Chill the batter at least a couple of hours. It helps to make the batter more smooth. It’ll keep in the refrigerator for a day or two.

• The batter itself can range from very simple to more complex if you use different spices and flavors.

• You want the pan to be hot enough to set the batter, but not so hot that it smokes. The crepe is done when it turns golden brown.

Inspired by her English father, Adelle Pritchard embraced her love of crepes.
Basic Crepes
1 cup sifted flour
3/4 cup whole milk
1/2 cup water
2 eggs
1/4 teaspoon salt
3 tablespoons butter, melted
1 teaspoon vanilla (optional, use only in sweet crepes)

Place all ingredients in blender, adding melted butter last. Blend for about 10 seconds or until smooth. Chill in refrigerator for at least 30 minutes, but leaving it overnight is ideal. Heat a small nonstick pan and swirl about 1/4 cup batter evenly all over pan. Cook for about 30 seconds (or until slightly golden), then flip and cook on other side for another 15 seconds. Cook until batter is gone, stacking crepes on a plate, putting small pieces of waxed paper between each one. Fill with favorite topping, fold over and serve.

Classic Chicken Mushroom Crepe

Sauce:
1/3 cup butter
3 1/2 tablespoons flour
1 cup chicken broth

Chicken filling:
1 small carton sliced baby bella mushrooms
2 tablespoons butter
3/4 cup cooking sherry
1/2 cup chicken broth
4 teaspoons chopped onion
1 teaspoon salt
2 dashes hot sauce
2 cups cubed cooked chicken
6 tablespoons sauce

Topping:
1 cup sauce
1/2 cup heavy cream
1 egg yolk, beaten
1/4 cup butter
Parmesan cheese

For sauce: Melt butter and stir in flour, cooking until slightly golden. Gradually stir in broth until thick.

For filling: Melt butter in saute pan. Saute mushrooms until soft, and then add sherry, broth, onion, salt, hot sauce and chicken. Add sauce to moisten as needed. Season to taste with salt and pepper.

For topping: Place sauce in saucepan. Add cream and stir until smooth. Add egg yolk and butter. Heat, but do not bring to boil.

Finish: Divide chicken filling evenly onto each crepe and roll up. Place in shallow baking pan and cover with topping and sprinkle with Parmesan cheese. Broil until golden.

Pear, Brie and Jam Crepe
4 fresh pears
Thinly sliced brie cheese
2 tablespoons brown sugar
2 teaspoons lemon juice
4 tablespoons butter
Honey or jam

Peel and slice pears and toss with sugar and lemon. Saute in butter until tender. Place pears and thin slices of brie on half of the crepe. Fold the empty half of crepe over the covered half, then fold one more time. Do this with each of the crepes. Place in roasting pan and heat in 350 degree oven for 10 minutes. Remove from oven and top with drizzle of honey or your favorite jam. Strawberry is Adelle’s favorite. You can also add toasted almonds or walnuts.

IF YOU GO...
Where: Adelle’s Ice Cream and Creperie
Address: 400 E. Main St., Chattanooga, Tennessee
Phone: 423-531-2222
Hours: 7 a.m.-2 p.m. Monday-Saturday
Get 3-for-All

and receive a $100 gift certificate good at local businesses

Sign up now and receive a FREE $100 chamber of commerce gift certificate valid at over 200 locations.

You’ll also receive:

FREE Standard Installation • FREE First Month of Service • FREE Whole-Home DVR

PRTC’s 3 for All:

Digital TV
High-Speed Internet with download speeds of up to 6 Mbps
Phone Service

843-538-2020 | www.prtc.coop

"After six months of service, price will convert to the current bundle price of $139.99 per month for the "3 For All." With all PRTC services, contracts or equipment charges may be required. Applies only where services are available. Taxes and fees billed separately. For Digital TV services only: Additional fees may apply for set-top boxes, HD service, further video upgrades or additions. This promotional offer is for residential customers only. Offer expires 3/31/2017."