

FOCUS Broadband Hosts 65th Annual Meeting

FOCUS Broadband held its 65th Annual Meeting of Members on Friday, October 7th. Directors Julia F. Tripp (District 2), Justin Milliken (District 4), and H. Conrad Bryant III (Eastern Region) were each re-elected for three-year terms to the cooperative board. John W. "Buster" Dowless (Western Region) was elected to serve as Vice President and H. Conrad Bryant III (Eastern Region) was elected to serve as Secretary/Treasurer for FOCUS Broadband's Board of Directors.

During the meeting, CEO and General Manager Keith Holden spoke about the cooperative's achievements over the last year and what's on the horizon for FOCUS Broadband. "We are working now to build the foundation that will sustain this cooperative for the next sixty-five years. We are thankful for the growth our company is experiencing and excited about what the future holds for our members and for FOCUS Broadband. Moving forward, we plan to continue to seek out new opportunities that will allow us to grow our cooperative. By growing our cooperative, we are strengthening our cooperative."

More than 2,000 customers registered either online or by mail prior to this year's meeting and \$3,000 in cash prizes were awarded. Mrs. Thurman Skipper was the grand prize winner of \$750.



Mrs. Thurman Skipper, Grand Prize Winner

Town of Belville Receives Connect Grant

The Town of Belville was awarded a \$25,000 Connect Grant from FOCUS Broadband to enhance Wi-Fi and security at the Belville Riverwalk Park. These enhancements will have a tremendous impact for visitors. By providing Wi-Fi throughout the park, it will expand opportunities for education, commerce, and community engagement efforts for the Town of Belville.



FOCUS Broadband Presents \$25,000 to the Town of Belville

The grant will also increase security measures by adding phone line, radio, and license plate recognition technology for entrance and exit gates, as well as adding additional security cameras throughout the park.

"We are pleased to be able to offer this grant to the Town of Belville for their park enhancements," stated Keith Holden, FOCUS Broadband CEO. "This grant program gives us an opportunity to enhance technology and increase access to broadband for organizations that serve Brunswick County."

FOCUS Broadband allocates \$25,000 annually to the Connect Grant program. To find out if your project qualifies for FOCUS Broadband's Connect Grant Program, visit focusbroadband.com/connect-grants.

FOCUS Broadband Connects First Duplin Customer

FOCUS Broadband now has service available for many customers living in rural areas of southern Duplin County. Residents and businesses near Rose Hill, Duff Creek, Brices Crossroads, Wallace and Teachey can now sign up for high-speed internet from FOCUS Broadband.

Willie Fennell, a resident of Rose Hill, was the first customer to sign up for FOCUS Broadband's high-speed internet, "I was very excited to hear that FOCUS Broadband was coming to my community," commented Fennell.

Using grant funds awarded through a NC GREAT Grant won in 2019, FOCUS broadband is able to bring high-speed internet to areas where fast internet was not previously available. FOCUS Broadband has since won additional funding through the state to serve more rural areas of Duplin County. To find out more about where service is available, visit getfocusbroadband.com.



Willie Fennell, first Duplin County customer

Follow Us on Social Media for Holiday Giveaways



The holidays are just around the corner, so be sure to follow us on our social media pages for chances to win lots of great prizes during our 25 Days of Christmas Giveaway! By following us on Facebook and Instagram, you'll be the first to know about prize drawings, the newest products and programming, live streamed high school sports and loads of local content about the communities we serve. Like and follow us today and stay tuned for our exciting holiday giveaways!

Happy Thanksgiving

All FOCUS Broadband locations will be closed on Thursday, November 24th in observance of Thanksgiving.
Happy Thanksgiving from our family to yours.

Reminder Scholarship Applications Being Accepted

The deadline is approaching to submit scholarship applications! If you are the parent of a graduating senior, be sure to check out FOCUS Broadband's scholarship program. FOCUS Broadband will award ten \$2,000 scholarships to deserving seniors in our service areas. Scholarships will be awarded based on the merit of academics, school-sponsored activities and community involvement. Applicants and/or their legal guardians must be a customer of FOCUS Broadband or one of its subsidiaries for internet, telephone, cable TV, or security to be eligible.

Applications are due by 5:00 p.m. on December 9th, 2022 and are available at area school guidance offices or can be downloaded online from focusbroadband.com/scholarships.