



Connecting You

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Looking Back on 2020

ATMC is grateful that through the challenges of 2020 we were able to continue to focus on serving our customers and strengthening our cooperative by expanding into new areas. Thank you to our loyal customers for another year of your support. Here are just a few of our most important accomplishments from the past year:

- Worked to keep customers connected throughout the pandemic by not disconnecting vital services from March until June and providing 60 days of free internet service to homes with students that did not have broadband.
- Increased broadband speeds for many customers by up to 100% at no additional cost to provide a better online experience for those working and studying from home.
- Awarded over \$33 million in state and federal grant funds to help bring faster internet to more than 13,000 homes and businesses in rural areas of Brunswick, Columbus, Duplin, Pender and Robeson Counties.
- Opened a new Customer Care Center in Whiteville to better serve residents and businesses in Columbus County.
- Held our 63rd Annual Meeting of Members virtually and allowed members to vote online or by mail in ballot. The meeting was streamed live to ATMC TV and Facebook. In addition, the cooperative gave back \$1.5 million in Capital Credit refunds this year.
- Launched a new corporate website that is more user-friendly and provides service information and pricing specific to the user's address.
- Named "Best Customer Service" in the Brunswick Beacon's Best of Brunswick Awards. Also named "Best Customer Service," "Best Internet Provider," and "Best Cable TV Provider" in the News Reporter's Columbus County People's Choice Awards.



Secretary Sonny Perdue at a
USDA Grant Announcement Event

ATMC Recognized in Columbus County People's Choice Awards

For the first time, ATMC has been recognized by the News Reporter's People's Choice Awards program where readers in Columbus County cast their votes for their favorites in a variety of categories. ATMC was voted Best in Customer Service, Best in Internet Service and Best in Cable TV.

"Our employees go the extra mile each day to give value to our customers and we are excited to be recognized in these three categories," said Keith Holden, ATMC CEO. "To better serve ATMC's growing customer base in Columbus County, we've opened a customer experience store on Highway 130 in Whiteville and we're working hard to expand our services to more new areas of Columbus County."

Thank you to all who voted. We look forward to continuing to serve you!



ATMC Awarded Grants to Expand Network to More Rural Areas

Governor Cooper's office along with the NC Department of Information Technology has awarded ATMC four grants, totaling \$7.8 million dollars, that will be used to help bring high speed internet service to more than 5,000 homes and businesses without access to fast internet across Brunswick, Columbus, Duplin and Robeson Counties. Funding for these grants was made possible through a Special Supplementary Round of the Growing Rural Economies through Access to Technology (GREAT) Grant Program and for the first time allowed Tier 3 counties, like Brunswick County, to be considered for funding.

Areas of Clarendon, Boardman, Cerro Gordo, Tabor City, Whiteville and Sandyfield in Columbus County as well as areas along the Columbus-Brunswick County line near the Northwest community are slated to receive access to faster speeds. The grants also provide funding needed to bring service to the communities of Marietta and Five Forks in Robeson County, and Duplin County areas near Rose Hill, Magnolia, and Teachey will also gain access to faster internet.

With these grants, ATMC will deliver vital internet service that will provide life-changing educational and economic opportunities for thousands. "Now more than ever, the need for high-speed internet is essential for online learning, telemedicine, commerce, telework and every aspect of life. These grants allow ATMC the ability to bring our services to new areas where there is a critical need for connectivity, and in turn adding new customers allows us to strengthen and sustain your cooperative," commented Keith Holden, ATMC CEO.

Applications Being Accepted for Community and Education Grants

ATMC is now accepting applications for community and education grants. Applications will be accepted from now until Friday, February 26th. ATMC will award \$35,000 in Community Connections grant funds to nonprofit organizations and \$35,000 in Smart Connections funds to educators in Brunswick County and areas of Columbus County served by ATMC. Community grant funds will be awarded in the spring and education grant funds will be awarded in the fall. Applications must be received at ATMC offices by 5:00 PM on February 26th. For more information, visit atmc.com/givingback or call 910-755-1677.

10-Digit Dialing Coming for the 910 Area Code

Get ready to begin dialing ten digits when placing a local call from any ATMC phone. The transition to ten-digit dialing will begin later this spring and is being required by the Federal Communications Commission of every landline telephone in the 910 area code to make way for the implementation of a National Suicide Prevention Lifeline. ATMC will continue to keep customers informed as changes take place, so be on the lookout for more information coming soon.

In Theaters and on HBO Max the Same Day

This year, when you subscribe to HBO Max, you'll be able to stream new Warner Bros. movies the exact same day they become available in theaters, at no extra cost. With HBO Max, you'll have a ticket to watch 2021's most popular movies like Tom & Jerry, Wonder Woman 1984, Godzilla vs Kong and many more, or epic originals and exclusive series. Movies will be available on HBO Max for 31 days following their theatrical release. Add HBO Max to your ATMC internet or digital cable subscription for only \$14.99 per month. Call 910-755-9067 to get started today!

Requires ATMC digital cable package with HBO suite or ATMC internet subscription of 50 Mbps or higher. Available only on certain devices. Movies and release dates subject to change.

