

May 2006



# PEMBROKE TELEPHONE COMPANY

Volume 6 Issue 5

*Monthly Newsletter For Customers & Employees*

## **American Red Cross to Hold Blood Drive**

*Summer shortage expected as vacation season nears*

There is currently a critical blood shortage and the American Red Cross is issuing an urgent national appeal for blood donations. National blood inventory levels have dropped well below a safe and adequate supply. In order to help meet these needs, there will be a Pembroke community blood drive on Tuesday, May 23 from 2:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. at the Pembroke City Hall.

Every day, blood is needed in hospitals and emergency treatment facilities for patients with cancer and other diseases, for organ transplant recipients and to help save the lives of accident victims. Without more blood on the shelves, the Red Cross cannot ensure that hospitals will have the blood they need to treat all patients.

"Right now, patients in hospitals across the country need you to roll up your sleeve and give the gift of lifesaving blood." said Dr. Jerry Squires, Chief Medical Officer, American Red Cross Biomedical Services. "Blood must be available at a moment's notice to help patients in need. We have reached an emergency situation and the blood will not be there without the immediate response of generous, volunteer blood donors like you."

Blood donations decline in the summer due to vacations, holidays, and everyone's busy lifestyle in the warm months. The blood shortages are also caused by the absence of high school blood drives and fewer students at college blood drives. "During the school year, those drives supply anywhere from 15 to 20 percent of the overall blood supply," said Squires. "When schools are closed and college campuses are practically deserted, those blood donations go away, too."

Everyone is urged to donate. Donors to the Pembroke drive will be treated to free BBQ and will be eligible to participate in a statewide raffle for four Delta Air Lines coach round-trip tickets, a three-night stay at the Peabody Orlando Hotel and four two-day passes to Disney World! Pembroke Telephone will also have a very special thank you gift for everyone who takes part. See you on May 23rd!

### Dates & Details

**Memorial Day  
May 29th**

**Pembroke Telephone  
offices will be closed.**

### Employee Birthdays

Eula Mae Bowers 5/1  
Rebecca Bailey 5/21  
Stephanie Morrison 5/21  
Eric Anderson 5/27  
Noah Covington 5/28  
Gene Conley 5/31

### Contact Us!

Pembroke Telephone  
Company, Inc.  
185 E Bacon St.  
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Pembroke, GA 31321  
www.pentelco.com

**Business Office**  
Monday-Friday  
8:30 am- 4:30 pm

**Drive-thru Window**  
Monday-Friday  
8:30 am- 5:30 pm  
Closed Weekends

(912) 653-4389

### **Technical Support**

Monday-Saturday  
7:00 am-10:00 pm  
Sundays  
8:00 am-10:00 pm  
(912) 653-4000



Did you know that many Georgians who are deaf, hard of hearing, or have speech disabilities can now enjoy the convenience of communicating with family, friends or business contacts by telephone? They can, thanks to the Georgia Relay. Here's how the Georgia Relay works: A person who is deaf, hard of hearing, or may have a speech loss types his/her conversation using a text telephone (TDD/TTY). A specially trained Communications Assistant (CA) relays the message by reading the text message to the hearing person at the other end. The CA then relays the hearing person's spoken words by typing them back to the TDD/TTY user.

Hearing callers who wish to reach people who are deaf, hard of hearing or speech disabled may simply dial 7-1-1 or dial 1-800-255-0135. Text telephone users may also dial 7-1-1 or dial 1-800-255-0056. There is no charge for dialing 7-1-1, and all options available to Georgia Relay users through existing 800 numbers are available to 7-1-1 users. If you are experiencing trouble dialing 7-1-1 to reach the Georgia Relay, please call your local telephone company or Georgia Relay Customer Service.

Relay service is also available over the Internet. People who are deaf, hard of hearing or speech disabled can simply go to [www.hamiltonrelay.com](http://www.hamiltonrelay.com) to connect to a CA.

All services are available 24 hours a day, seven days a week and enable people to place relay calls between Georgia and other locations anywhere in the United States and internationally to English and Spanish speaking persons. By law, each conversation is handled with the strictest confidentiality. There is no charge to access Georgia Relay. To learn more about Georgia Relay, visit the website at [www.GeorgiaRelay.org](http://www.GeorgiaRelay.org).

Please note that 7-1-1 is only to be used to reach the GeorgiaRelay. For EMERGENCIES you should continue to use 9-1-1. In an emergency, call 9-1-1 or your local emergency service TTY number directly, without using the relay. The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requires that 9-1-1 centers have TTYs and be prepared to handle emergency calls placed in this manner.

A Forum for surviving spouses of military personnel killed in action or from service related injuries or illnesses will be held June 9th from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at the Pembroke City Hall. The Hon. U.S. Rep. John Barrow, 12th District GA, will be the guest speaker.

For more information please call 888-751-6350.



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