

Communicator

A Semi-Annual Newsletter for Cooperative Customers



More than 400 people enjoyed the pork barbecue dinner at our 2018 Annual Meeting.

2019 Annual Meeting Scheduled For October 4 At East Hardy High

Hardy Unveils New Online Directory

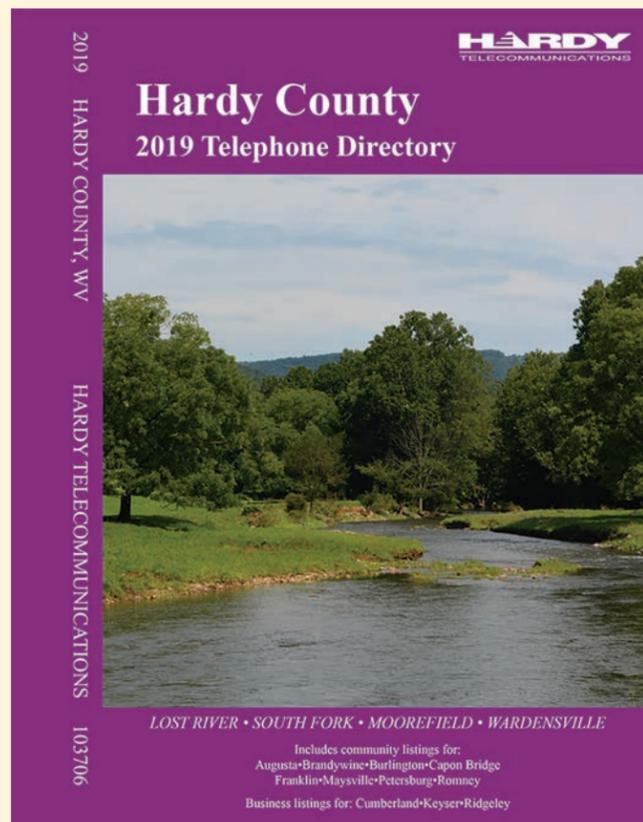
We're happy to announce that Hardy Telecommunications has launched a new online version of its telephone directory!

You can find the online directory by going to www.hardytelwvdirectory.com. You also will find links to the Hardy online directory under the "About" heading on our webpage and under our Side Menu accessed by clicking the plus sign inside the circle at the top right of our webpage.

Hardy has partnered with Yadtel Publishing to design the online directory. You can search for people, businesses, or subjects by typing in names, businesses, phone numbers, addresses, or keywords. You can tailor your search to our white pages or our yellow pages.

Once you have search results displayed, you can view the location on a map if the address is published, or you can view the result in book form, seeing the listing exactly as it appears in our white and/or yellow pages. This includes advertisements placed in our yellow pages, so business listings/ads appear the same as in our printed directory yellow pages.

We invite you to explore all of the functions of our new online directory!



What's Inside

- Hardy Unveils New Online Directory
- Students Thank Hardy For Youth Tour Experience
- Hardy Launches Webpage Offering Tech Tips

Calendar

- | | |
|----------|-----------------------------------------------------|
| Aug. 13 | Board Resumes Due To Nominating Committee |
| Sept. 2 | Labor Day Holiday - Offices Closed |
| Sept. 26 | Responses Due For Annual Meeting |
| Oct. 1 | Proxies Due For Annual Meeting |
| Oct. 4 | Annual Meeting Of Members At East Hardy High School |

Hardy Telecommunications, Inc., would like to invite all of our members to attend the Annual Meeting of Members on Friday, October 4, 2019, at the East Hardy High School gymnasium. The agenda includes the election of two members to fill seats on the Board of Directors.

Two seats on the Board of Directors have terms that expire this year. Present directors may be nominated and elected to succeed themselves. The positions expiring this year are Lost River serving area 1, currently held by Gerald W. Smith of Baker; and Moorefield serving area 2, currently held by Greg M. Zirk of Moorefield.

Any member interested in serving on the Board of Directors may submit a resume that defines the member's interest and



Gerald Smith



Greg Zirk

qualifications for the position. The deadline for resumes is August 13, 2019. The resumes should be delivered to the Nominations Committee, Hardy Telecommunications, Inc., 2255 Kimseys Run Road, Lost River, WV 26810.

Doors will open for registration at 5 p.m. October 4 with dinner to follow immediately upon registration. The meeting will begin at 6:30 p.m. Meals are free for each member and one

guest (up to two free meals per member), with additional meals costing \$10 each. Drawings for door prizes will be held throughout the evening.

Hardy Telecommunications members will receive a mailing that includes a reservation card and proxy for the annual meeting. If you plan to attend, please return the completed reservation card in the provided postage-

Story continued inside

Local Youth Tour Students Thank Hardy For 'Great Experience' In Nation's Capital

Two rising seniors at Moorefield High School both described the 2019 Foundation for Rural Service Youth Tour in Washington, D.C., as a "great experience," and they thanked Hardy for sponsoring them on the trip.

Allison Barr and Kennedie Hinger spent June 1-5 in the nation's capital with more than 100 students from rural areas around the country. All of the students were sponsored by small telecommunications companies like Hardy.

"Though I wasn't sure exactly what to expect on the trip, it turned out to be one of the greatest experiences of my life," Allison said.

"Overall, this was a once-in-a-lifetime, humbling, educational opportunity!" Kennedie said.

The Youth Tour is designed to be both fun and educational. Students tour the popular sites and landmarks of D.C., but they also visit the Federal Communications Commission and learn about the issues facing rural telecommunications and the difficulties of delivering modern telecommunications services in sparsely populated areas with often rugged terrain.

The students heard from three FCC commissioners, including current Chairman Ajit Pai. Pai told the students that he grew up in a rural Kansas community, so he understands the importance of the federal government supporting rural telecommunications companies.

Students also were able to ask questions of the

commissioners, and they grilled them about the future of 5G technology, the problem of robocalls, and how the FCC will ensure that rural areas don't get left behind as new technology is rolled out in the United States.

The students also enjoyed the wonderful history of Washington, D.C., visiting Arlington National Cemetery, the WWII, Korean, Vietnam, and Lincoln Memorials, the Smithsonian Museums, the U.S. Capitol and surrounding area, the Newseum, Mount Vernon, and more.

"Through these visits, I gained a new appreciation for our beautiful nation," Allison said. "I also got to visit the Federal Communications Commission, and I learned about how telecommunications companies serve rural areas, and how common challenges in these areas are being solved at the congressional level."

Kennedie said she learned more about the technology that impacts the lives of youth everywhere.

"I was taught more about broadband and how it worked and some of the complications of these services," she said.

Both Allison and Kennedie said a major benefit of the trip was meeting their peers from all over the country and realizing how much they have in common.

"We all came from pretty small communities and many of them had never been to D.C. before," Kennedie said. "Touring the monuments and museums allowed me to have a better appreciation for them and what they stood for."



(Left to right) Moorefield rising seniors Kennedie Hinger and Allison Barr visit the U.S. Capitol in Washington, D.C., during the 2019 Foundation for Rural Service Youth Tour.

Allison said the experience was "life-changing."

"I went on the trip among complete strangers and came out with a group of close friends from all over the country. I will forever cherish the memories that we made this week, and I fully intend to stay in touch with the amazing people I got to meet," she said.

Derek Barr, Hardy's director of customer service and sales, marketing and human resources, urged students to apply for next year's tour. Hardy typically sends one

student each from Moorefield and East Hardy high schools, but no East Hardy students applied for this year's tour. Hardy is limited to sending two students.

Established in 1994 by NTCA – the Rural Broadband Association, the Foundation for Rural Service (FRS) is a non-profit, 501(c)(3) organization that promotes, educates and advocates rural telecom issues in order to sustain and enhance the quality of life within communities throughout rural America.

Hardy Launches 'Tech Tips' Webpage

Hardy has launched a new Tech Tips page on our website! Find helpful tips and videos about various telecommunications topics, such as how your number of wireless devices affects your bandwidth, how to avoid phishing emails, and how to place your router for maximum wireless coverage.

We will be adding to the page over time if the page proves useful to customers. You can find our Tech Tips page at www.hardynet.net/contact/tech-tips.

Here's an excerpt of a recent post, "Spring Cleaning Your Tech":

"1. **Tidy your desktop.** Just like a real desk, you'll always



HardyNet's new "Tech Tips" webpage offers videos and other educational materials like this "Spring Cleaning Your Tech" post.

feel more productive if you start with a clean slate, so delete any shortcuts or files you never use. Organize the files you do use into folders and back up everything in the cloud or on an external drive.

2. **Purge the apps.** In Settings>Apps and Features, remove any programs you no

longer use. Anything you haven't used in six months is probably safe for removal.

3. **Update protection.** This means installing or updating antivirus software and spyware to protect against malware and adware that can slow the speed of your machine (or worse).

4. **Update applications.** We often avoid taking the time to make regular or scheduled updates, but as part of your spring cleaning, click the UPDATES AVAILABLE banners that pop up on the applications that you use the most."

See this complete post on our new Tech Tips page!

Hardy Thanks Grad Party Supporters

Hardy Telecommunications thanks everyone who donated items or otherwise supported the EHHS After-Graduation Party, held May 24 at South Branch Potomac Lanes. We had a great turnout from East Hardy High graduates and faculty. We appreciate your support in giving East Hardy students a place to celebrate their accomplishments in a safe, alcohol-free environment. The party would not be successful were it not for the generosity of the community members who contribute to its success.



East Hardy High School's Class of 2019, along with EHHS faculty, gather at South Branch Potomac Lanes for bowling and pool at the After-Graduation Party sponsored by Hardy Telecommunications.

2019 Annual Meeting Set For October 4

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paid envelope by Thursday, September 26, 2019.

If a member wishes to vote by proxy, please keep in mind that only the official proxy included in your mailing will be accepted.

This proxy will include the member's name, address and account number. Your proxy must contain both your signature and the signature of a witness to be accepted.

Only proxies that are received by Tuesday, October 1, 2019, will be accepted. No

proxies will be accepted at the meeting.

For more information about our election process, please see our bylaws, which begin on page 28 of the 2019 directory, or read them on our website at www.hardynet.com.

How To Reach Us

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Hours:
Mon. - Fri. 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Moorefield Office
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304-530-5100

Hours:
Mon. - Fri. 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Wardensville Office
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Wardensville, WV 26851

Phone:
304-897-2355

Hours:
Mon., Wed., Fri. 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. (Closed for lunch from 12:30-1:30 p.m.)

Toll-Free
800-838-2497

Personal Computer Sales
304-530-PC4U (7248)

Visit Us On The Web
www.hardynet.com

Emergency After Hours
Lost River:
304-897-9913

Moorefield:
304-530-HELP (4357)

24-Hour Internet Technical Support
800-884-0778

Hardy Telecommunications is an equal opportunity provider and employer.