

# Communicator

A Semi-Annual Newsletter for Cooperative Customers



More than 400 people attended the 2017 Annual Meeting of Members at East Hardy High School and enjoyed a pork barbecue dinner.

## 2018 Annual Meeting Scheduled For Oct. 5 At East Hardy High

Hardy Telecommunications, Inc., would like to invite all of our members to attend the Annual Meeting of Members on Friday, October 5, 2018, at the East Hardy High School gymnasium. The agenda includes the election of three members to fill seats on the Board of Directors.



**Ervin Wilkins Jr.**



**Phyllis Cook**



**Harold Michael**

Three 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 4, currently held by Ervin O. Wilkins Jr. of Baker; South Fork serving area 2, currently held by Phyllis B. Cook of Moorefield; and Moorefield serving area 1, currently held by Harold K. Michael of Moorefield.

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

position. The deadline for resumes is August 14, 2018. 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 5 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.

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-paid envelope by Thursday, September 27, 2018.

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

*Story continues inside*

## Hardy Helps Moorefield High Chemistry Dept.

Moorefield High Teacher Justin Campbell wants his chemistry students to enjoy the same equipment and experiences as students in bigger schools, and Hardy Telecommunications is assisting with that effort.

Derek Barr, Hardy director of customer service and sales, marketing and human resources, presented a \$250 donation to Mr. Campbell to help with buying a spectrophotometer and related equipment. A spectrophotometer is an instrument used to measure how much light a chemical substance absorbs. It measures the intensity of the light as it passes through the substance.

"This helps a lot," Mr. Campbell said. "We really appreciate Hardy's dedication to improving the learning of MHS students."

Few high schools in West Virginia have spectrophotometers, and most of those are either in the schools with the highest number of students or schools located close to larger medical facilities, he said. Moorefield High students will have the same opportunities as those in bigger schools to do experiments with the spectrophotometer.

The device helps students to learn about solubility, equilibria, kinetics, calorimetry and biology. Students can take a liquid



Hardy Telecommunications Director of Customer Service and Sales, Marketing and Human Resources Derek Barr (right) presents a \$250 donation to MHS Chemistry Teacher Justin Campbell to help with the purchase of scientific equipment.

of unknown concentration, which might appear to be only one substance, and discover with the spectrophotometer that the liquid actually consists of several substances, all by measuring how light passes through the liquid, Mr. Campbell said.

The money also will go toward buying special test tubes that fit in the spectrophotometer.

### What's Inside

- WV Senator, FCC Chair Praise Hardy Telecom
- Students Recall Experience At FRS Youth Tour In D.C.
- Hardy Helps Moorefield High Chemistry Dept.
- Hardy Thanks Supporters Of EHHS Graduation Party

### Calendar

- Aug. 14 Deadline: Resumes To Nominating Committee
- Sept. 3 Labor Day Holiday - Offices Closed
- Oct. 2 Deadline: Proxies For Annual Mtg.
- Oct. 5 Annual Meeting Of Members At East Hardy High School

# Students Describe FRS Youth Tour As 'Amazing,' 'Awesome Opportunity'

Moorefield High Seniors Marissa Ratliff and Olivia Davis described their experience at the 2018 Foundation for Rural Service Youth Tour in Washington, D.C., as an "amazing" and "awesome opportunity."

Marissa and Olivia visited D.C. from June 2-6 as part of the tour, which brought more than 100 students, all sponsored by rural telecommunications companies, to our nation's capital. Hardy paid all expenses for the pair.

The tour is arranged by the Foundation for Rural Service, a non-profit established in 1994 by NTCA - The Rural Broadband Association to support rural telecom companies, consumers and policy-makers with educational information, products and programming. The goal of the Youth Tour is to give rural students the chance to see Washington, D.C., while also learning about the challenges of providing broadband in rural areas. The tour includes visits to Capitol Hill and the Federal Communications Commission.

Because the tour brings together students from all over the country, it's also an opportunity to make new friends and discover what it's like to live in different places in the United States.

Marissa said the first evening was a little intimidating because she was meeting so many new people.

"We immediately began meeting students from across the United States as soon as we arrived, followed by a group

dinner and break-out sessions in our assigned small groups. The meet and greet was a little scary for me to go outside of my comfort zone, yet fun to meet lots of new people and learn their backgrounds," she said.

Rainy weather didn't dampen the students' enthusiasm, as the tour included visits to Arlington National Cemetery, the Smithsonian Museums, the World War II, Vietnam and Korean War Memorials, the Lincoln Monument, the U.S. Capitol, the Library of Congress, the U.S. Supreme Court, the Newseum, Mount Vernon, and the F.D.R. and Martin Luther King Memorials. The students also were able to view the outside of the White House.

Marissa said she was particularly moved by watching the Changing of the Guard at Arlington. She said it was "a ritual that is simply amazing."

As part of the educational sessions, the students heard from FCC Chairman Ajit Pai, where they had the chance to ask questions about what the FCC is doing to support the expansion of broadband in rural America.

"I found it interesting that the security to enter the FCC building was greater than that of the United States Capitol," Marissa said.

The students also learned from one another. FRS leaders had the students break out into six groups, each group discussing a topic or current concern in rural America and how broadband can help with that issue. Marissa talked with



(Left to right) Moorefield High Seniors Marissa Ratliff and Olivia Davis stand outside the U.S. Capitol during the 2018 Foundation for Rural Service Youth Tour in Washington D.C.

other students about substance abuse in rural America, and how broadband can be used to educate parents, caregivers, and others about the signs and symptoms of substance abuse, then provide help numbers or online assistance.

Both Marissa and Olivia said they will continue the friendships they made.

"I met so many new and different people and made friendships that will last a lifetime," Olivia said. "I discovered new things at D.C.

even though I have been there a million times."

Marissa said she'll use broadband to stay in touch with the students she met.

"Thanks to broadband and social media, we will be able to stay in contact and not only share pictures, but also videos of our hometowns, schools, and rural areas in general," she said.

Both students thanked Hardy Telecommunications for the wonderful opportunity.

# Senator Capito, FCC Chair Praise Hardy Telecommunications

West Virginia Republican Senator Shelley Moore Capito and Federal Communications Commission Chairman Ajit Pai both praised Hardy Telecommunications recently for its part in a project funded by Capon Springs and Farms to bring broadband internet to the resort.

"Broadband deployment is absolutely necessary for our rural communities to thrive, and Capon Springs and Farms is a perfect example of this," the senator said. "Connecting Capon Springs ... will help drive tourism and strengthen our local economy. Today is an exciting day for the resort, and it is a great example of

local business initiative and partnerships."

Sen. Capito complimented Hardy Telecommunications for its "creative mechanisms" used to get broadband service to the resort.

FCC Chair Pai also cited the project's benefit for West Virginia.

"My visit to Capon Springs with Senator Capito has long stuck in my mind. Hearing firsthand about how the lack of broadband holds back West Virginia residents and businesses has motivated me to help close the digital divide. I'm thrilled to hear that

this partnership will bring Capon Springs Resort much-needed broadband access," he said.

The broadband capability is being delivered via an extensive fixed wireless connection. Capon Springs paid for the project, and the connection is specific to the resort, said Derek Barr, Hardy's director of customer service and sales, marketing and human resources.

"The project was designed specifically to serve Capon Springs resort," he said. "It doesn't allow us to serve any other residents in Hampshire County through this method."

# Hardy Thanks Supporters Of East Hardy High After-Graduation Party

Hardy Telecommunications thanks everyone who donated items or otherwise supported the EHHS After-Graduation Party, held May 25 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 2018 graduates, faculty and guests enjoy the After-Graduation Party at South Branch Potomac Lanes. Hardy Telecommunications sponsors the party each year with the support of local businesses and residents.

# 2018 Annual Meeting Scheduled For October 5 At EHHS

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both your signature and the signature of a witness to be accepted. Only proxies that are received by Tuesday,

October 2, 2018, 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 2018 directory. Our bylaws also can be viewed by visiting our website at [www.hardynet.com](http://www.hardynet.com).

# How To Reach Us

**Lost River Office**  
2255 Kimseys Run Road  
Lost River, WV 26810

Phone:  
304-897-9911

Fax:  
304-897-6585

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

**Moorefield Office**  
121 South Main Street  
Moorefield, WV 26836

Phone:  
304-530-5000

Fax:  
304-530-5100

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

**Wardensville Office**  
345 East Main St., Suite A  
Wardensville, WV 26851

Phone:  
304-897-2355

Hours:  
Mon. - 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](http://www.hardynet.com)

**Emergency After Hours**  
Lost River:  
304-897-9913

Moorefield:  
304-530-HELP (4357)

**24-Hour Internet Technical Support**  
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