

Communicator

A Semi-Annual Newsletter for Cooperative Customers



Members attend the 2024 Annual Meeting at EHHS. The EHHS Band and Band Boosters, ProStart, and EHHS cooks, staff and faculty prepared and served the meal.

2025 Annual Meeting Scheduled For Oct. 3 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 3, 2025, at the East Hardy High School gymnasium. The agenda includes the announcement of election results of three members to fill seats on the Board of Directors.



**Gerald
Smith**



**Greg
Zirk**



**Reed
Williams**

What's Inside

- Hardy Premieres Service Tiers With Broadband-Only
- MHS Student Thanks Hardy For Youth Tour Experience
- Hardy Employees Participate In Highway Clean-Up

Calendar

Aug. 5	Deadline: Resumes To Nominating Committee
Sept. 1	Labor Day Holiday - Offices Closed
Sept. 19	Deadline: Proxies For Annual Mtg.
Oct. 3	Annual Meeting Of Members At East Hardy High School

Three seats on the Board of Directors have expiring terms. 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; Moorefield serving area 2, currently held by Greg M. Zirk of Moorefield; and Director-At-Large, currently held by Reed E. Williams.

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 5, 2025. 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 4:30 p.m. October 3 with dinner to follow immediately upon registration. The meeting will begin at 6 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 25, 2025.

If a member wishes to assign a 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

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Hardy Employees Participate in Highway Clean-Up



Hardy team members gear up and prepare for a day of cleaning up Kimseys Run Road as part of the company's participation in the Adopt-a-Highway Program.

We appreciate our Hardy team members for their community service! For decades, Hardy Telecommunications has been a participant in the Adopt-a-Highway program along Kimseys

Run Road in Lost River. Several employees took to the road again recently, picking up trash and other debris. In all, the group collected almost 20 bags of garbage. Thank you!

MHS Student Calls FRS Youth Tour In D.C. Educational And “A Blast”

Moorefield High School student Josiah Whetzel had “a blast” during the Foundation for Rural Service Youth Tour in Washington, D.C., even as he developed a new appreciation for the challenges of providing broadband service in rural areas like Hardy County.

Many of today’s youth take Internet service for granted, but there still are many areas of the country and world that lack reliable service, especially at the speeds necessary to fully participate in modern society.

By visiting the Federal Communications Commission and talking with other rural youth from across the United States, Josiah realized just how different modern life would be without Internet, from maintaining contact with loved ones to public safety.

“You don’t even get to see what’s up in other countries since the news only covers so much,” he said. “That is why (rural providers) are very important, and new technology to help get alerts out there faster to help protect the people.”

Josiah, sponsored by Hardy Telecommunications, spent June 2-6 in D.C. He was one of more than 100 students from all over the country. The trip involves visiting many of the city’s historic sites as well as learning about telecommunications and the challenges faced by service providers in rural areas.

The students also heard about governmental processes and federal agencies that oversee the telecommunications industry. The students heard from FCC Chair Brendan Carr about serving rural areas.



Moorefield High School student Josiah Whetzel visits the U.S. Capitol during the 2025 Foundation for Rural Service Youth Tour.

The Youth Tour takes the students to many of the famous historical landmarks in D.C. The group toured the U.S. Capitol and visited the Lincoln Memorial, World War II Memorial, and Vietnam War Memorial during a night walking tour. During a visit to the Smithsonian Institution on the National Mall, Josiah visited the Air and Space Museum and the Natural History Museum. Students also visited congressional office buildings.

Several things made an impact on Josiah.

“I liked (the Air and Space Museum), learning how we discovered aviation,” he said.

At the Natural History Museum, he enjoyed seeing “how nature works through its history of animals on earth.”

“The monuments were one of my favorites, walking through the remembrance of those who fought” in World War II, Vietnam, and Korea, he said.

Arlington National Cemetery and the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier carried special weight.

“The Arlington National Cemetery is the best one of all, to see the sacrifice of all the (soldiers) who fought to keep our freedom,” he said.

Meeting other youth from rural areas always is a highlight for students. Josiah said he met four students from Alaska, and thinking about their home and the mountains of states like West Virginia illustrated the importance of rural Internet providers that serve areas the big companies will not serve.

“Talking with them, learning where they were from and how rural they are was cool,” he said.

The students enjoyed sharing stories of their common rural lifestyle experiences.

“They know how I feel being in a small town and the life of living in a small community,” he said.

Without modern, reliable Internet, “I would not even be able to say Hi to them again,” he said.

Overall, it was a wonderful experience.

“It was a great trip. I met lots of new people and learned many new things,” he said.

“Thank you, Hardy Telecommunications, for sponsoring me. It was a blast.”

The Foundation for Rural Service (FRS) was established in 1994 as a non-profit 501(c) (3) by NTCA - The Rural Broadband Association.

Hardy Premieres Service Tiers Featuring Broadband-Only

Hardy has released for the first time service tiers featuring only broadband service.

The new service tiers are available for both residential and business customers and include broadband service with no telephone service.

Assistant General Manager Derek Barr said there are some caveats that come with broadband-only service.

“Of course there is no landline telephone service with the broadband-only tiers,” he said. “So we recommend that you have a reliable independent mobile phone signal or an alternate electrical power source in the event of an outage.”

Hardy’s broadband-only service does not include a battery back-up, so your Internet will not operate if there is a power outage and Hardy’s customer premise equipment is not connected to an alternate power source, such as a generator.

If a customer relies solely on HardyNet’s wifi signal to make calls with a mobile phone in an area that otherwise has no reliable cellular signal, that customer should consider that



Details of HardyNet’s new Start, Boost, Turbo, and Ultra broadband-only plans, including FCC broadband labels, are available on our website and in our Hardy offices.

HardyNet’s wifi will not be operational if our equipment loses power. In turn, a mobile phone with no other cellular signal will not have service.

Hardy’s new broadband-only tiers include Basic plans titled Start and Boost and Premium plans titled Turbo and Ultra. The plans are tailored to meet the different Internet-usage needs of families and businesses large and small. Descriptions, speeds and pricing, including FCC broadband labels detailing each tier, can be

viewed on our HardyNet website and in Hardy customer service offices.

Start is perfect for light users for email, checking schoolwork and some streaming; Boost will support video calls, streaming cartoons and school projects; Turbo is built for busy families with lots of devices and big digital demands; and Ultra, our highest-speed tier, is designed for smart homes, 4K binge nights, online classes, and work-from-home offices.

2025 Annual Meeting Scheduled For October 3 At EHHS

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both your signature and the signature of a witness to be accepted. Only proxies that are received by Friday, September 19, 2025, will be accepted. No proxies will be accepted at the meeting.

If an election by mail-in voting is necessary, your mailing will include a ballot. (NOTE: Ballots by proxy for election of directors must be voted at Hardy’s Lost River or Moorefield office at a designated date and time to be communicated to each proxy.)

How To Reach Us

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Lost River, WV 26810

Phone:
304-897-9911
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Mon. - Fri. 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

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

Wardensville Office
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Wardensville, WV 26851

Phone:
304-897-2355
Hours:
Tues., Thurs. 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Capon Bridge Office
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Capon Bridge, WV 26711

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Hours:
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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.