Antietam Expands COVID-19 Response to Support Small Businesses
Local Eats launched to help area restaurants

(Hagerstown, MD) Antietam Broadband announced they are further expanding their response to the COVID-19 pandemic in an effort to support local small businesses. This effort is an attempt to help local Washington County restaurants by encouraging residents to continue to support them by placing carry out, curbside pickup and delivery or to purchase gift cards. In accordance with Governor Hogan's recent Executive Order, local restaurants can continue with their carry out, curbside pickup and delivery of food orders. Antietam Broadband has compiled and posted on their website a directory called Local Eats https://www.wcltv.com/restaurants. Local Eats is a listing of area restaurants, including their contact information, and whether the establishment offers carry out, curbside pickup and/or delivery. The directory is updated as new establishments are added. An overview of the local eats program can be found here Local Eats.

"We are so grateful to have a community partner like Antietam Broadband", said Arik Mills and Rick Chalker, owners of Rik's Café. "If people in the community would just order out a couple times a week, that would go a long way to help restaurants like us stay open, which keeps our people employed."

"Antietam Broadband has a great idea with this Local Eats list", said Jay Zuspan, General Manager of 28 South and Bulls and Bear.   "At just a glance people can tell where/how to order, who has delivery.....it just makes life a bit easier right now when all of us could use a bit of easy."

In addition to the online directory, Local Eats is also supported with video and a mobile app:

- Local Eats is produced as a video program available on Washington County Living Television (WCL-TV) found on channels 6 and 806 which is a product of Antietam Broadband and exclusive to Antietam customers.
- Local Eats can be found on the WCL-TV On The Go App for Android and Apple, available to all residents.

Edu-Net Program expands to more households

Over the past 10 days Antietam Broadband has installed more than 100 additional households who have applied for and enrolled in the Edu-Net program. Some of these households include residents from the newly expanded program with Hagerstown Community College (HCC).

The Edu-Net Program is available to HCC students and WCPS students K-12 who:

- Are enrolled in credit classes at the College and are fully eligible for the PELL Grant Program (FAFSA completion required) or attend WCPS and meet the program criteria.

- Live in an Antietam Broadband service area and have not subscribed to high speed internet in the last 90 days.
- Eligible HCC students can apply at Edu-Net HCC program registration
- For more information Edu-Net WCPS program information or contact Antietam Broadband at 301-797-5000.

The Edu-Net Program offers students:
- 10Mbps high-speed home Internet.
- FREE professional in-home installation.
- FREE WiFi access is included.

Antietam Broadband Parental Controls

With more children at home during the day, Antietam would like to remind parents of the available parental control options on Digital TV, TiVO and Smart WiFi.

- Antietam Broadband Digital TV Parental Controls
- TiVo Powered by Antietam Broadband Parental Controls
- Antietam Broadband Smart WiFi Parental Controls
  - Download from Google Play or the Apple Store

Operational Update

Antietam Broadband is creating new Community Spirit messages to air on digital, cable television and social media. Community Spirit messages capture the best of Washington County and highlight local heroes who are playing an instrumental role during this crisis. A sample of a Community Spirit message can be found at Community Spirit - Bowman Trucking.

With broadband access so critical during this crisis, Antietam Broadband has seen a 25% increase in broadband usage during the day and a 10% usage increase during the evening. "Our network is performing well", said Brian Lynch, President, Antietam Broadband. "It continues to be resilient and strong. By all measures we are operating well under our managed capacity threshold. We can and will add capacity quickly if and when we see it is needed. Our entire team is committed to meeting the demands of Washington County", said Lynch. "We are in this pandemic together and I believe as a community we will stand together, support each other, and be stronger when we come out the other side."

About Antietam Broadband:
Antietam Broadband was founded in 1966 and was purchased by Schurz Communications, Inc. in 1968. It is a full-service telecommunications company offering a complete range of residential and business-class technology solutions including digital television, high-speed Internet and digital phone services in Washington County, MD. Antietam introduced Flight Gigabit Internet service in 2016 and made Hagerstown the 75th gigabit city in the USA. The company is focused on enhancing the lives of its customers by providing the latest telecommunication services and maintaining the highest standards of excellence in customer care and world class technical service. For more information: Antietam Broadband

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