



## There is a new, free Wi-Fi hotspot in Durham

*By Andrea Macko  
Porcupine Soup*

DURHAM—The community of Durham has a new Wi-Fi hotspot.

The Durham Connect Broadband Working Group teamed with Mid-Hudson Cable to install the service with broadband speeds that will support multiple simultaneous users.

Rosemary O’Brien, Broadband Working Group convener, explained that access is free and “pandemic-safe.”

Access is available from the Town Barn parking lot on Route 81 and Dean’s Mill Road, across from Lounsbury Appliances.

“Search available networks and choose ‘Mid-Hudson Cable student wifi’ then connect,” she said. “No password, network key or SSID needed.”

Free Internet access is also available at the Durham Reading

Room and outside from its parking lot next to the East Durham Post Office on Route 145.

The Broadband Working Group, O’Brien said, “has undertaken a number of initiatives to help get a lot more broadband internet access infrastructure—wired and wireless—in Durham.”

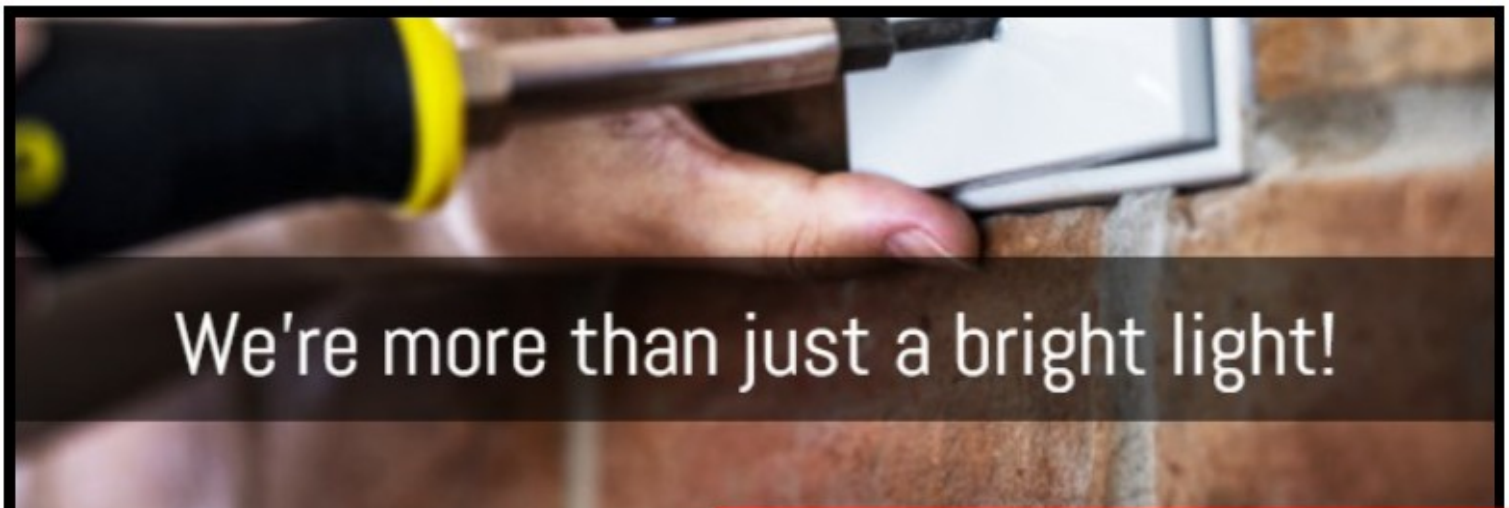
Eventually a final report will provide maps of internet access and mobile coverages, she added.

The report “will also layout initiatives aimed at getting ubiquitous service in the town over time,” O’Brien said.

Greene County Legislator Patricia Handel (R-Durham) said that “there has been a lot of interest in the county about broadband.”

Legislators are currently in discussion about hiring a consultant to determine what areas of the county lack internet access and where service can be improved.

Handel said if no state funding is available to help increase access, the county will look for federal funds.



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