

# Communicator

A Biannual Newsletter for Cooperative Customers



Hardy Telecommunications employees adopted a patriotic theme at the 2014 Annual Meeting, wearing a mix of red, white and blue shirts.

## Two Directors Re-Elected In Annual Meeting Held At EHEMS

Two directors were re-elected to new three-year terms at Hardy Telecommunications' Annual Meeting of Members on October 3 at East Hardy Early Middle School.



**Loring Barr**



**Victoria Dyer**

Those directors re-elected were Loring E. Barr, representing South Fork serving area 1; and Victoria O. Dyer, representing Lost River serving area 3. Both were unopposed in their bids for re-election.

Senior Accountant Don Whetzel gave a presentation on the finances of Hardy Telecommunications, Inc., and HardyNet LLC for 2013. General Manager Scott Sherman reported on various company projects in the past year, including Hardy's OneNet Fiber-to-the-Home project. The company

recently celebrated its 500th customer signing up for OneNet, and Scott said installations were nearing 600 at the time of the meeting.

The meeting was held at the East Hardy Early Middle School gymnasium because of the ongoing construction at the high school. About 500 people attended the meeting and enjoyed a meal featuring

barbecue pork, prepared and served by the East Hardy High Band Boosters and FFA, with help from some National Honor Society members.

We sincerely appreciate their help in making our annual meeting a success. We also send a special thanks to the administration at EHEMS and to Bob Thompson. Thanks to all who attended!

*From our family to yours, best wishes for a joyous holiday season and happy new year!*



### What's Inside

- Hardy Celebrates 500th OneNet Customer
- Hardy Accepting 2015 FRS Youth Tour Applications
- Hardy Hangs Christmas Lights for Wardensville

### Calendar

- |               |   |
|---------------|---|
| Dec. 24       | Christmas Eve Holiday - Offices Close At Noon                                     |
| Dec. 25-26    | Christmas Holiday - Offices Closed  |
| Jan. 1, 2015  | New Year's Day Holiday - Offices Closed   |
| Feb. 13, 2015 | Deadline for Foundation for Rural Service Youth Tour and Scholarship Applications |

# Hardy Celebrates 500th OneNet Customer; New Areas Open

Beth Dolan already enjoyed the benefits of Hardy OneNet's faster Internet speeds at her job as executive director of the Hardy County Convention and Visitors Bureau. So when the service became available at her home, she immediately signed up.

"It's lightning-fast," she said recently. "I was missing the speed from my office whenever I was at home."

The Dolans signed up for Internet and telephone at their Duke Lane home outside Moorefield and became the 500th customer to have OneNet installed. Mrs. Dolan and her husband Tony have three children living in the home. OneNet offers standard Internet packages ranging from 5 megabytes per second download and 2 Mbps upload, 15 Mbps download and 7 Mbps upload, and 25 Mbps download and 10 Mbps upload. Customers can choose among Internet and telephone service, television and telephone service, or all three.

"The speed of the Internet is so much better and so much faster," she said. "There is no lull in the speed at all."

Her family is active on the Internet and all five household members can be on the web at the same time, she said. Lauren, 20, does schoolwork through Eastern West Virginia Community and Technical College online; 11-year-old Gavin is an online gaming enthusiast on Xbox; and even 2-year-old Jacob plays games or watches shows for younger children. All of this goes on while Mrs. Dolan and her husband might be watching movies through Netflix.



Beth Dolan, who already enjoyed Hardy OneNet's faster Internet speeds through her job as executive director of the Hardy County Convention and Visitors Bureau, became OneNet's 500th customer when she had the service installed in her home.

Hardy OneNet is a network that provides fiber-optic cable connections directly to residents' homes. Hardy is building the network throughout Hardy County with the help of a \$32.7 loan-grant combination through the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Rural Utilities Service broadband stimulus program. Hardy was awarded the project funds in 2010.

The capabilities of fiber-optics in the telecommunications industry makes it possible for Hardy OneNet to offer much faster Internet speeds and high-definition digital television in addition to voice service. Derek Barr, director of customer services and sales,

marketing and human resources at Hardy, said the focus of the project is to show that a rural area like Hardy County, which is costly to serve, can still have a modern telecommunications network like those in metropolitan areas.

"While the OneNet fiber network makes it possible for us to offer television for the first time, the most stunning thing to me is the Internet speed," he said. "You really can't describe it in speeds or download times. You have to experience it and see how much faster it is to stream or download a movie through Netflix, Amazon Prime or Hulu Plus."

Since the Dolans had OneNet installed, Hardy has opened several new areas for OneNet. Installations have shot past the 600 and 700 marks and continue to climb. Updates are posted on Hardy's website at hardynet.com whenever OneNet is available in a new area.

"We plan to complete our federal project in late 2015, so we have several contractor crews working in different areas of the county," Derek said. "OneNet will be available in many new areas early next year into the spring."

After the federal project is completed, Hardy hopes to expand OneNet into areas not included in the federal program as income allows.

## Season of Light



Hardy Telecommunications employees hang Christmas lights for the town of Wardensville. Hardy also will assist with placing the town of Moorefield's Community Christmas Tree.

## Hardy Sponsoring FRS Youth Tour

Hardy Telecommunications will send two local students on a four-day trip to our nation's capital, giving them the chance to see our country's historic sites and meet students from all over the United States.

One student each from Moorefield and East Hardy high schools will be selected to attend the 2015 Foundation for Rural Service Youth Tour in Washington, D.C., May 30-June 3. The trip includes sightseeing to D.C.'s famous landmarks as well as educational sessions to teach today's youth about the telecommunications industry. Hardy will pay all basic expenses, including travel.

The Youth Tour provides students from rural areas with a first-hand look at the telecommunications industry and educates students about the legislative and governmental processes. Students will visit

the U.S. Capitol Building and hear presentations from representatives of Capitol Hill and the Federal Communications Commission.

Hardy sponsored current East Hardy High Senior Madalynn Payne and Moorefield High Senior Ben Shirk for the 2014 Youth Tour. Both said they loved the experience.

"The (FRS Youth Tour) was a trip that I will never forget," Madalynn wrote. "The trip also gave me the chance to see memorials and museums that I would not have been able to see otherwise. I felt like I was walking through history, and I realized that I am a small part of our history to come."

"It allowed me to meet new people such as another student from my county, my roommate from Kansas, and

a new friend from Texas... Thank you, Hardy."

Applications for the tour may be picked up in late December from the guidance counselors at both East Hardy and Moorefield high schools or by contacting Derek Barr at Hardy's offices. To be eligible for the trip, students must be either 16 or 17 years old at the time of the tour and receive telephone, Internet or television service from Hardy Telecommunications.

The FRS will not accept any student age 18 or older. No exceptions will be made. Preference also will be given to students from the 2016 graduating class.

The deadline to return applications is February 13, 2015. Applications may be returned to either the high school guidance counselors or to Derek at Hardy's offices.

## 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-CELL (2355)

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