

# Communicator

A Quarterly Newsletter for Cooperative Customers



A big crowd turned out at East Hardy High for our 2011 Annual Meeting of Members.

## Hardy 2012 Annual Meeting Set For October 5 At East Hardy High

## Youth Board Views Video Equipment For OneNet

At its last regular meeting for the 2011-12 school year, Hardy's Youth Advisory Board toured Hardy's South Fork office and learned more about OneNet, Hardy County's first fiber-to-the-home network that will offer high-definition digital television, much faster Internet speeds and digital voice service. Hardy Telecommunications is in the process of finalizing channel lineups and pricing and getting government approval for the first construction phases of the project.



(Left to right) Hardy Telecommunications Youth Advisory Board members Rebecca Merrill, Jared Beard, Brooke Shockey, Parker Baranowski, Brandon Benjamin, and Miranda Cook and Hardy Marketing/Human Resource Director Derek Barr watch as Hardy Video/Internet Technician Philip Miller displays some of the equipment that will be used to deliver high-definition digital television through Hardy OneNet.

Hardy Project Engineer Steve Poling and Hardy Video/Internet Technician Philip Miller explained how OneNet's television will be distributed to customers over an Internet Protocol-based system. Fiber-optic cables will be connected directly to residents' homes, enabling data transmission speeds that easily can deliver TV, Internet and phone over one connection.

Hardy Marketing/Human Resource Director Derek Barr said it's practically impossible to describe the difference between the capabilities of fiber versus any other technology in the telecommunications industry, like wireless and copper cable.

"Because Hardy OneNet will transmit the signal to you through a fiber-optic cable, the quality of the picture is incredible," Derek told the students. "Wireless signals can't come close to carrying the amount of data that fiber can, or at the same speeds. With copper, Internet speeds fall off dramatically over distance. With fiber-optics, you don't have those problems."

The fiber network will allow OneNet to offer a standard Internet connection speed of 5 Mbps, with packages available up to 15 Mbps and 25 Mbps.

"Streaming and downloading video is a much better experience on fiber," Derek said. "If you're downloading a 2 GB movie, it will take almost three hours with a 1.5 Mbps connection. At 25 Mbps, that same download is about 10 minutes."

### What's Inside

- Hardy Seeking WDTV For OneNet Channel Lineup
- Students Thank Hardy For FRS Youth Tour
- Hardy Supports Child Care Center, Heritage Weekend
- Youth Board Views Video Equipment At Final Meeting

### Calendar

- Aug. 21 Deadline: Resumes To Nominating Committee
- Sept. 3 Labor Day Holiday - Offices Closed
- Oct. 2 Deadline: Proxies For Annual Meeting
- Oct. 5 Annual Meeting Of Members At East Hardy High School

Hardy Telecommunications, Inc., would like to invite all of our members to attend the Annual Meeting of Members on Friday, October 5, 2012, 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 21, 2012. 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 throughout the evening.

Hardy Telecommunications members will receive a mailing that includes a reservation card and proxy for the annual meeting. If you

*Story continued inside*

# Youth Tour 'Once in a Lifetime,' Students Say

## Moorefield, East Hardy Seniors Thank Hardy For Opportunity

After a whirlwind five days visiting national landmarks, Moorefield High Senior Brooke Shockey said the Foundation for Rural Service Youth Tour in Washington, D.C., was an experience "that I will never forget."

"I was able to meet people from all over the country and make new friends," she said.

Brooke and East Hardy High Senior Parker Baranowski attended the Youth Tour June 2-6. They were sponsored by Hardy Telecommunications, who paid all expenses.

The FRS Youth Tour is designed to teach rural youth about telecommunications while also giving them an opportunity to tour our nation's capital. The trip included sightseeing as well as a visit to the Federal Communications

Commission, where four commissioners spoke and answered student questions.

Parker said the tour provided a "once-in-a-lifetime" feeling.

"Exploring the capital of our great nation with what started as strangers made it feel as if you had known those other students all of your life," he said.

About 100 students from across the United States took part in this year's tour. In addition to the FCC and U.S. Capitol, the group visited the National Cathedral; Mount Vernon; Arlington National Cemetery; the Smithsonian Museums on the National Mall; the Vietnam, Korean, and World War II war memorials; the Marine Corps Iwo Jima Memorial; and the Lincoln Memorial.



Above: (Left to right) EHHS Senior Parker Baranowski and MHS Senior Brooke Shockey tour the U.S. Capitol during the 2012 FRS Youth Tour.

Left: Parker and Brooke visit the Federal Communications Commission in D.C.

Brooke said the tour offered a good blend of sightseeing and educational sessions about telecommunications.

"It is hard to pick my favorite part of the trip. However, I enjoyed visiting the war memorials best," she said.

Both thanked Hardy for the experience and urged rising juniors to apply for the 2013 tour.

"I strongly encourage others to apply for this once-in-a-lifetime chance. They will not regret it," Brooke said.

## Hardy Seeking To Add WDTV To OneNet

Hardy is in final negotiations to add CBS affiliate WDTV from Weston/Clarksburg to its OneNet channel lineup.

Hardy is waiting for the written contracts to be signed, but General Manager Scott Sherman said there don't appear to be any obstacles to concluding the negotiations.

In developing a channel listing for OneNet, Hardy has sought to include local channels that are of interest to Hardy County residents. WDTV, along with Harrisonburg's ABC affiliate WHSV-TV3, fit that description.

"We had a goal from the beginning of this process to

make more West Virginia news available to viewers in Hardy County," said Hardy Marketing/Human Resource Director Derek Barr. "With the most common TV offering here, the local channels are all based in Washington, D.C. There is little to no coverage of West Virginia state news. We intend to offer those D.C. channels too, but we're seeking other stations that will allow us to keep up with what's happening in Charleston and throughout our state."

WDTV is the CBS affiliate for the Weston/Clarksburg/Fairmont media market in West Virginia. Morgantown is located just 20 miles to the north, so the station is able to

provide in-depth coverage of West Virginia University news and sports, Derek said.

The fiber-optic OneNet network will allow Hardy Telecommunications to offer high-definition digital television, faster Internet speeds and digital voice. The OneNet and AnchorRing projects are being financed through a combination of loan/grant awards from the two federal agencies - the National Telecommunications and Information Administration and the Dept. of Agriculture's Rural Utilities Service.

Visit [iwantonenet.com](http://iwantonenet.com) on the Web to sign up for the latest information on OneNet!

## Hardy Donations Benefit Child Care Center, Heritage Weekend, Wardensville Ball Field

If you want proof to the adage that one man's trash is another man's treasure, look to the children at the Hardy County Child Care Center, who are enjoying used computers donated by Hardy Telecommunications.

Hardy gave six computers to the child care center. Charlene Zirk, director of the center, said some of the computers have been set up for use by teachers, while others are in the classrooms for students to use. Students in the pre-kindergarten room now can learn through computer games, she said.



Above: (Left to right) William Waddy V, Grayson Nesbit, Paislee Sperling and Lily Jones play games at the Hardy County Child Care Center on computers donated by Hardy.



Top left: Hardy County Community Foundation President Pat Ford (center) accepts a \$250 donation from Hardy Telecommunications Marketing/Human Resource Director Derek Barr (left) and Hardy Board President Greg Zirk (right).



Bottom left: Derek presents a \$250 donation to Hardy County Tour and Crafts Association Chairperson Sherry Barb to help fund the printing of Heritage Weekend booklets.

The computers had been used for training at Hardy's Moorefield office, but they were several years old and weren't suitable for the company's current needs. The computers likely were headed to a recycling center, but then the company contacted Mrs. Zirk at the child care center to see if she wanted the computers. She enthusiastically said yes.

Hardy also has donated \$250 each to the Hardy County Community Foundation and the Hardy County Tour and Crafts Association. The Foundation donation will go into a fund set up

by the Foundation's 2012 Spirit of Hardy County honoree Les Barr to benefit the Wardensville Community

Center and ball field. The Tour and Crafts funds will help pay for the printing of Heritage Weekend booklets.

## 2012 Annual Meeting Set For October 5

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plan to attend, please return the completed reservation card in the provided postage-paid envelope by Thursday, September 27, 2012.

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 both your signature and the signature of a witness in order to be accepted.

Only proxies that are received by Tuesday, October 2, 2012, will be accepted. No proxies will be accepted at the meeting.

If you would like more information about our election process, please see our bylaws, which begin on page 28 of the 2012 Hardy Telecommunications directory.

Our bylaws can also be reviewed by visiting the Hardy Telecommunications website at [www.hardynet.com](http://www.hardynet.com).



East Hardy High's Class of 2012 celebrates at the After-Graduation Party.

## Hardy Thanks Grad Party Supporters

Hardy Telecommunications thanks all those who supported the EHHS After-Graduation Party, held May 31 at South Branch Potomac Lanes. We had a great turnout! We appreciate the generosity of area businesses and individuals in making the party a success.

## How To Reach Us

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