

# Communicator

A Semi-Annual Newsletter for Cooperative Customers

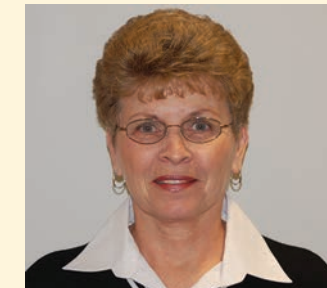


Attendees listen to presentations at the 2023 Hardy Annual Meeting of Members at East Hardy High School.

## Two Directors Re-Elected At Hardy Annual Meeting

Two directors were re-elected at Hardy Telecommunications' annual meeting on October 6 at East Hardy High School. They will serve new three-year terms.

The two directors were re-elected by acclamation. They are Victoria Dyer for Lost River serving area 3 and Ward Malcolm for South Fork serving area 1. Both were unopposed in their bids for re-election.



**Victoria Dyer**



**Ward Malcolm**

successful financially for the cooperative, but challenges did impact the pace and scope of the company's ability to expand construction. Chief among these challenges was being able to get fiber-optic cable spliced in a timely manner. Hardy's OneNet network relies on fiber-optic connections, and those glass cables must be burned together through fusion splicing. The company has beefed up its in-house capacity to splice fiber and also uses contract splicers. With all the focus on broadband throughout the country, fiber splicers have been in huge demand, and the company has been

forced at times to wait to open new areas for service until splicing can occur.

Accountant Theresa Funk, who has announced her retirement, was recognized for her 24 years of service to the company. Earlier in the year, Fiber-Optic Technician Bobby Moomaw retired after more than 31 years of service. (See related story.)

Hardy thanks the EHHS Band and Band Boosters, FFA, ProStart, Bob Thompson, and EHHS cooks, staff and faculty, who prepared and served the meal featuring pork barbecue. We appreciate all that they do!

Hardy General Manager Scott Sherman said the previous year had been very

### What's Inside

- Bobby Moomaw, Theresa Funk Retire From Hardy Tel
- Hardy Sponsoring FRS Scholarship, Youth Tour

### Calendar

- Dec. 25-26 Holiday - Offices Closed Christmas Eve and Christmas Day
- Jan. 1, 2024 Holiday - Offices Closed For New Year's Day
- Feb. 16, 2024 Deadline for FRS Scholarship Applications
- Feb. 16, 2024 Deadline for Foundation for Rural Service Youth Tour Applications

*We send  
best wishes  
that you get  
everything  
you want  
this year!  
Happy  
Holidays!*



# Bobby Moomaw, Theresa Funk Retire After Long Careers at Hardy Tel

Two longtime employees of Hardy Telecommunications have retired in 2023, capping decades of service to the cooperative and its members.

Bobby Moomaw retired in July after 31 years with Hardy, having started his career in January 1993. He worked with the Outside Plant team as a Fiber-Optic Technician. In his tenure, Bobby saw the company form HardyNet to begin offering Internet service, expand into Moorefield and neighboring counties, and transition from DSL into a fiber-to-the-home network for broadband.

The changes that occurred with Hardy Tel during Bobby's 31 years show the continuing advancement of our industry,



Above: Theresa Funk and Bobby Moomaw

Left: Theresa is recognized at the Annual Meeting.

and the knowledge required of employees to constantly adjust to new technology and equipment.

Accountant Theresa Funk also announced her retirement in 2023. Theresa was present at the Annual Meeting of Members on October 6 at East Hardy High School. General

Manager Scott Sherman recognized Theresa at the meeting, and fellow employees and the audience gave her a round of applause.

Theresa started with Hardy in January 2000. Controller Don Whetzel said Theresa has been an incredibly steady presence throughout her

time at Hardy, never missing a deadline for the company's payroll in her 24 years.

We thank Bobby and Theresa for their service to Hardy Telecommunications, and we wish them well in their retirement. We also hope to continue to see them in the offices for regular visits!

# Hardy Offering D.C. Youth Tour For Local Students

Hardy Telecommunications will send two local students on a five-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 2024 Foundation for Rural Service Youth Tour in Washington, D.C., June 3-7. 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 Telecommunications will pay all basic expenses, including travel.

Students typically visit the U.S. Capitol Building and meet representatives of Capitol Hill and the Federal Communications Commission.

Hardy can only sponsor one student from Moorefield High and one from East Hardy High. Applications may be picked up from the high schools or by contacting Derek Barr at Hardy's Moorefield Office, telephone

304-530-5000. To be eligible for the trip, students must be 15-17 years old at the time of the tour and receive either telephone, Internet, or television service from Hardy Telecommunications. Preference for selection will be given to students from the 2025 graduating class.

The deadline to return applications is February 16, 2024. Applications may be returned to either the high school guidance counselors or directly to Derek Barr, Hardy Telecommunications, 121 South Main St., Moorefield, WV 26836.

# Hardy Sponsoring College Scholarship For Area Seniors

Hardy Telecommunications is sponsoring a \$2,500 college scholarship for graduating seniors from East Hardy and Moorefield high schools.

Members of the Class of 2024 at EHHS and MHS can apply through Hardy for the national Foundation for Rural Service Undergrad College Scholarship Program. The scholarship, open to applicants who receive local telecommunications service (either telephone, Internet, or television) from Hardy, is worth \$2,000, and Hardy Telecommunications will contribute an additional \$500 to the amount, bringing the total one-time scholarship award to \$2,500.

The application process is done online. Students can go to the FRS website at frs.org/programs/youth-programs/scholarships and click a

link to the Kaleidoscope application platform. Completed applications must be submitted online to the Foundation for Rural Service by February 16, 2024.

To apply, students will need to submit a 500-800 word essay; email addresses for two people who can provide a letter of recommendation - only one can be a teacher or educator; and seven semesters of transcripts. The transcript does not have to be an official copy. FRS urges all applicants to have all of their documents ready to upload before beginning the application. Students submit no paperwork to Hardy Telecommunications.

The FRS will award scholarships nationwide. A qualified selection committee of current educators determined by the

Foundation for Rural Service will select the winners.

Hardy Telecommunications itself has no input in the selection process and cannot guarantee that any local applicant will be selected. Hardy simply sponsors local applications and agrees to contribute \$500 of the total \$2,500 amount if the national FRS committee does pick a Hardy County student.

Local applicants must be U.S. citizens and graduating high school seniors; accepted by an accredited two- or four-year college, university or vocational-technical school; express an interest in returning to a rural community following graduation; and be sponsored by Hardy Telecommunications, a member of NTCA - The Rural Broadband Association.

## Be #CyberAware

## Hardy Donates Funds For EHHS Planners



Hardy Telecommunications' Customer Service, Sales, and Business Development Manager Heather Robbins (center) presented a \$600 donation in September to East Hardy High School Principal Derick Parks (left)

and Assistant Principal Jessica Baker (right). The money was designated to help with the purchase of EHHS Planners for students and faculty. Hardy Telecommunications is a business partner with East Hardy High School.

## How To Reach Us

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**Visit Us On The Web**  
www.hardynet.com

**Emergency After Hours**  
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Moorefield:  
304-530-HELP (4357)

**24-Hour Internet Technical Support**  
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Hardy Telecommunications is an equal opportunity provider and employer.