Holmes-Wayne Electric Cooperative, Inc.





Glenn W. Miller President/CEO

Celebrating co-op independence

July is the time we celebrate our nation's independence. In the midst of apple pies and hot dogs, fireworks shows and parades, I can't help but think about the independent trait that inspired groups of farmers and

businessmen around America's countryside to band together and improve their quality of life.

With the help of President
Franklin Roosevelt's promise of
federal aid in the form of lowinterest loans, rural Americans,
through traditional innovative spirit, started to bring
electricity to their homes and
farms. They pulled themselves up by their proverbial
bootstraps and did it themselves.

In 2013, electric cooperatives form a vast network across the country, from coast to coast. Coop lines are strung in 47 states, serving 42 million people — a different world from 1935, when much of America remained dark.

One thing has not change in the past 78 years, the independence that inspired the establishment of cooperatives. That same philosophy continues to be a guiding principle, as one of the seven Cooperative Principles — Autonomy and Independence.

Your cooperative is a thriving independent organization that each member is an owner and investor of the organization. This also means that no matter what contracts Holmes-Wayne Electric Cooperative might enter into, we will always remain an independent entity.

Just a few days ago, you the HWEC member/owners had the opportunity to join our independence celebration, our annual meeting of the members. At the annual meeting, all members are provided valuable information regarding the cooperative business and the 2013 election results for the HWEC Board of Trustees.

Probably the most telling part of our independence is each

member's right to vote for candidates on the HWEC Board of Trustees. All members received a 2013 HWEC Trustee ballot via mail at the beginning of June. As a member, you could cast your vote either by mail or on the Internet.

Annually, you the members of Holmes-Wayne Electric choose who you would like to direct and lead the cooperative. Similar to 1935, trustees — or your decision makers — are also members of the cooperative who live and work in our community and who represent your best interests.

This Fourth of July we recognize the hard-fought war that created the freedom of our country. With that freedom, I'll also tip my hat to the founders of Holmes-Wayne Electric who beat incredible odds to make life better for themselves and their neighbors.

We hope you take a few moments this special holiday to recognize all the freedoms our great country has to offer.

Board of Trustees

Randy Sprang, Chairman Dave Mann, Vice Chairman Barry Jolliff, Secretary/Treasurer Don Buren Kenneth Conrad Kenneth Bower Bill Grassbaugh Jackie McKee Ronnie Schlegel

6060 St. Rte. 83; P.O. Box 112 Millersburg, OH 44654-0112

Business hours 7:30 a.m.-4 p.m.

www.hwecoop.com

24 Hour Toll-free Phone:

866-674-1055





Wayne County students take top scholarships



Annually, Holmes-Wayne Electric Cooperative awards 6 scholarships totaling \$12,000 to members' children who are graduating from high school. Ken Keylor, left, vice president of statewide services, Ohio Rural Electric Cooperatives, Inc., congratulates Shana Strunk and Glint Gasser, who both placed at the statewide scholarship competition sponsored by Ohio Rural Electric Cooperatives, Inc., in Columbus.

Gasser placed first for a \$3,000 scholarship and Strunk placed fourth for a \$1,650 scholarship.

Strunk and Gasser were competing against the elite rural students of Ohio. The two high school seniors were sponsored by Holmes-Wayne Electric Cooperative after placing first at the HWEC competition and winning a \$2,500 scholarship from the cooperative in March.

Strunk graduated from Northwestern High School this past spring. She is the daughter of Garland and Brenda Strunk of West Salem. Strunk will be attending Cleveland State University's honors program for nursing.

Gasser graduated from Norwayne High School. He is the son of Mark and Jill Gasser of Creston. Attending The Ohio State University this fall, Gasser will be majoring in animal science.

Forty-five students representing the 24 electric cooperatives in Ohio competed for \$25,570 in scholarship awards. The state's electric cooperatives serve more than 380,000 homes and businesses in 77 of Ohio's 88 counties.



Guidelines for Cardinal Tour Participants

Must be at least 12 years of age. Please note there is considerable amount of walking including steps. This is an approximately one hour walking tour.

Deadline to register— August 15

Thank You

A special thank you to the following businesses for their **generous donations** to the 2013 Holmes-Wayne Electric Relay for Life.

American Cancer Society Relay for Life is dedicated to eliminating cancer through research, education, advocacy and service. Part of these funds remain within the county to provide services to cancer survivors.

Autoworks Collision Center, Inc.
Baker's Mobile Home Transport LLC
Barnharts Auto Body
Bromund & Byler, Inc.
Canaan Country Meats
Frosty Twins
Holmes Oil Distributing
Mac Oil Field Service, Inc.
Stinky's Septic Tank
Tate Farms
Tope Printing, Inc.
The Flip Side
WKLM Radio
The Voice of Holmes County



Gaff-N-Go Lineman Rodeo

Congratulations to Holmes-Wayne Electric Cooperative Class A Linemen *Mike Rowe, Daryl Reynolds and Darin Stefano* for placing fifth at the Gaff-n-Go Rodeo. The rodeo took place in Virginia with 25 teams competing.