Valley Rural Electric Cooperative, Inc.

Volume 71 | Issue 2

March | April 2014

2014 Annual Meeting celebrates co-op's 75th anniversary

PSU's Adam Taliaferro to deliver message of hope PAGES 4-5

www.valleyrec.com

It's hard to go wrong with a neatly-trimmed right-of-way

All those dreams over the seed catalogs this winter are about to come true. Longer daylight hours and warmer temperatures have many of us getting ready for spring cleaning, yard work, gardening and even some tree planting. As enjoyable as spring is, the changing of the seasons does bring some concerns for the coop.

Severe weather can be triggered by rapidly warming air temperatures. Thunderstorms can snap limbs from trees. To protect our lines from those falling limbs and keep power flowing safely to your home, Valley Rural Electric Cooperative employs an aggressive right-of-way (ROW) maintenance program. Think of it as spring cleaning for power lines, even though the effort continues all year.

Maintaining ROWs is our largest operations expense. But it's a critical part of the service we provide to you for three reasons: safety, reliability and cost.

If severe spring weather blows through, having a well-maintained ROW leads to fewer outages and faster response time, increasing overall reliability. Right-of-way maintenance keeps tree limbs and other vegetation away from high-voltage power lines, lessening the chance that vegetation will come into contact with lines during a storm or until the next maintenance cycle. Past data shows the highest percentage of power outages for the cooperative is caused by unhealthy or dead trees that fall into the right of way. As part of our ROW maintenance, structurally unsound and dead trees are identified and removed to prevent them from contacting the facilities should they fail.

When trees and limbs do reach our lines, crews are able to restore service more quickly in well-maintained areas because they are easier to access.

Our primary concern is the safety of our workers and members. A properly maintained ROW helps keep our crews safe when they are restoring service and maintaining our system. Keeping vegetation clear of power lines also keeps your family safe. From ensuring limbs near a child's tree house don't hit power lines to creating a safe environment while doing yard work, a wellmaintained ROW helps



Kevin Detwiler Valley REC Utility Forester/Arborist

avoid tragedy. As a not-for-profit company, Valley strives to keep costs affordable for members. Aggressive maintenance helps control costs because fewer and shorter outages saves money for everyone. When crews work in those wellmaintained areas and risks for employees and equipment are reduced, costs are kept lower too.

Power lines are a constant part of our landscape; it's easy to forget they are around. We work hard to keep the area around our lines clear, but we need your help. Don't plant trees or tall vegetation under power lines, and keep an eye out for power lines when working in your yard. If you see vegetation closing in on co-op lines, let us know.

Safety, reliability and cost: This is why we believe in doing our "spring" cleaning. If we compromise on one of these areas, it impacts the others. At Valley REC, we aren't willing to compromise. Maintaining our ROW is a priority — for your safety, your comfort, and your pocketbook.

Cooperatively yours,

Kevin Detwiler VREC Utility Forester/Arborist



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Your Touchstone Energy®Cooperative

On the cover ...

Former Penn State University cornerback Adam Taliaferro will be the guest speaker at Valley Rural Electric Cooperative's 2014 Annual Meeting. Taliaferro was paralyzed while making a tackle for Penn State in a game at Ohio State in 2000. After spinal-fusion surgery, doctors said he would probably never walk again. Three months later he walked out of a Philadelphia hospital.

He now works with the Adam Taliaferro Foundation, which provides emotional, financial and educational support to student-athletes who suffer catastrophic head or spinal injuries.

The 2014 Annual Meeting celebrates the co-op's 75th year. The event is set for 7 p.m. Friday, April 11 at Mount Union Area High School. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. with a presentation of scenic slides at 6:30 p.m. The business meeting begins at 7 p.m.

Co-op board candidates chosen for ...

Districts 1, 3, 5

IN FEBRUARY, more than 200 co-op consumers gathered at nominating meetings held to select board candidates for Valley Rural Electric Cooperative districts 1, 3 and 5.

Since 1975, Valley has been holding open nominating meetings where co-op members can choose candidates for the co-op's board of directors rather than relying on a nominating committee appointed by the board.

In 1989, those open meetings started to include full-course meals, offered to all participating consumers.

Each year Valley holds nominating meetings in three of its nine director districts. Members residing in those particular districts are invited to attend. Next year, members will nominate board candidates for districts 2, 4 and 6.

For more information on the candidates nominated this year, see Page 4.

Below: Valley members Buck and Kim Butler (center) of Martinsburg, and their daughter, Faith Brooks and granddaughter Rylie Brooks, 5, register for the Distric 1 nominating meeting in Martinsburg Monday, Feb. 3. Greeting them at the Morrisons Cove Memorial Park building is Valley REC executive secretary Kim Kane.







Above: Members in District 1 enjoy a chicken dinner before the business meeting. Left: Members in District 3 learn more about the co-op's demand response program which helps stabilize wholesale power rates.

Top: Gerald Slick (right) speaks with Valley President & CEO Rich Bauer while serving as the District 1 nominating meeting chairman.Roger Shaffer (middle photo at podium) served as nominating chairman in District 3, at the Marklesburg Fire Hall. After the nominations were closed, Bauer gave a presentation on co-op events in the past year. Above: Bauer and Valley REC executive secretary Kim Kane work with nominating chairman Glenn Metz at the District 5 meeting at Shaver's Creek Community Buildina.



EXIT

Focal Points

March | April 2014

VALLEY REC held nominating meetings in February in co-op districts 1, 3 and 5. The members featured on this page and Page 5 were nominated for positions on the board of di-



rectors. Their names will be placed on a ballot and members attending the annual meeting (Friday, April 11 at 7 p.m. at Mount Union Area High School) can vote for the candidates of their choice.

Entertainment for this year's annual meeting will feature former Penn State University cornerback turned motivational speaker Adam Taliaferro. He was paralyzed while making a tackle for Penn State in a game at Ohio State in 2000. Remarkably he was able to walk again three months later. His foundation now works with injured student-athletes.

Children may also attend the meeting. They will enjoy a big-screen showing of Disney's "Planes" snacks and a dairy promotion presentation.

Each member who attends will receive a \$10 credit on his/her electric bill and and a commemorative coaster set. Those registered will also be eligible to win one \$250 or one of three \$100 co-op gift certificates. In addition, attendees may bring to the meeting any spent compact fluorescent lightbulbs (compact spirals only, please). Co-op staff will properly dispose of them.

Please plan to attend — April 11, 7 p.m., Mount Union Area High School.

DISTRICT 1

Timothy A. Knepp 275 Knepp Road Martinsburg, PA 16662

Timothy Knepp is the owner of Cove Lumber in Martinsburg. He purchased the business in January after working there for several years as manager.

Prior to that, Tim worked for five years as a financial controller for J.C.

Orr & Son, Inc., a construction firm based in Altoona. Additionally, he spent 20 years as a controller for McLanahan Corporation, a local design and manufacturing company that specializes in aggregate, mineral and agricultural equipment.

A native of Martinsburg, Blair County, Tim graduated Central High School in 1980. He went on to earn a Bachelor of Science degree in Accounting in 1985 from Penn State University. While earning his degree, he worked for two summers on a right-of-way clearing crew in Valley REC's Martinsburg district.

Tim is a member of the Memorial Church of the Brethren in Martinsburg and the Martinsburg Booster Association.

Tim and his wife, Christine, have two children. In his free time, he enjoys camping, boating, fishing, hunting and assisting with his son's sporting events.

Tim is 51 years old. He has been a member of Valley REC for 14 years. He was a member of New Enterprise Rural Electric Cooperative for 10 years prior to that. Tim's name will be listed second on the ballot for District 1.

DISTRICT 1

Mervin G. Brumbaugh 265 Mill Hill Road Williamsburg, PA 16693

Mervin Brumbaugh has served on the Valley REC board of directors since 1972. He has held the office of vice chairman of the board two times for a total of five years.

The owner of a 190-acre farm, Merv rents out 100 acres and farms 40. He

raises 20 head of beef cattle and 550 laying hens, delivering eggs to 30 customers. In addition, he has operated a cattle-hauling business for the past 18 years.

A 1954 graduate of Williamsburg High School, Merv is a member of the Heritage Baptist Church in Martinsburg. Formerly, he was a director of the Williamsburg Farm Show Association and a member of the Williamsburg Young Farmers Association. Since 1995, the Brumbaugh property has been the site of a hymn sing, open to the public during the last weekend in July.

Merv and his wife, Betty, are the parents of seven children. They also have seven grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren. The Brumbaughs have been married 60 years.

Merv is 77 years old. He has been a member of the co-op for nearly 58 years; his father was a charter member.

Merv's name will appear first on the ballot for District 1.

DISTRICT 1

Tracy Detwiler 137 Blue Hole Road Williamsburg, PA 16693

Tracy Detwiler, 33-year-old daughter of Thomas and Karen Detwiler, works as a practice manager for Primary Health Network in Altoona, a position she has held since November 2013. Previously, she worked for six years at Home Nurs-

ing Agency in Altoona as a care supervisor for the private duty home care department. She was also employed for seven years as a group leader in the document processing department at News Printing Co. in Claysburg.

Tracy, a 1998 graduate of Williamsburg High School, graduated South Hills School of Business & Technology in 2000 with an Associate in Business Technology.

A double major, she earned Bachelor of Science degrees from Saint Francis University in Organizational Leadership and Computer Systems Managemen in 2006. She earned a Master of Business Administration from Saint Francis in 2013.

Tracy is a member of Zion Lutheran Church in Williamsburg. She enjoys spending time with family, friends, her boyfriend, Sam Lyon, and their two dogs, Harley and Abby. She has been a Valley member for eight years and has lived in a Valley household all of her life.

Tracy's name will be listed third on the ballot for District 1.



DISTRICT 3

Kevin R. States 12817 Redstone Ridge Road Hesston, PA 16647

A 52-year-old native of Hesston, Huntingdon County, Kevin States works on his family's 200-acre dairy farm with 100 milking cows and another 100 head of young stock. The operation utilizes the services of



Land O' Lakes cooperative in addition to Valley Rural Electric.

Kevin is a 1979 graduate of Huntingdon Area High School. He is a member of the National Holstein Association and the Pennsylvania Farm Bureau. He was formerly involved with the Huntingdon County 4-H dairy and beef clubs and was a member of the Rural Electric Youth Tour delegation in 1978.

The States farm has received electric service from Valley REC since 1952; Kevin has been a member of the cooperative since 1982. He has served on the co-op's board of directors since 1999, and has held the office of secretary for the past nine years.

Kevin and his wife, Sarah, were married in 1996. Kevin has one son, one daughter, one stepson, one grandson and two granddaughters. In his free time, he follows NASCAR racing.

Kevin is running unopposed on the ballot for District 3.

DISTRICT 5

Robert (Bob) Holmes 4684 Cold Springs Road Huntingdon, PA 16652

Bob Holmes was principal at Huntingdon Area High School for 19 years, and was assistant principal for five years prior. From 1997 through 1999, he served as acting superintendent for the Southern Huntingdon and Huntingdon Area School Districts.



A graduate of Turtle Creek High School, Bob obtained bachelor's and master's degrees in education from Bucknell University. He also earned 40 graduate credits in educational administration at Penn State. During his tenure in the U.S. Army Reserves, Bob attained the rank of captain.

Bob is an active member of Community Chapel of Hesston. He is a past president of the Huntingdon County chapter of the Pennsylvania Association of School Retirees. Bob is 78 years old. He and his wife, Barbara, have been married 56 years. They are the parents of four children and have seven grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Bob has been a Valley member since 1969. He has served on the co-op board for six terms and held the office of secretary for one year. He has represented Valley REC on the board of Allegheny Electric Cooperative for the past 12 years.

Bob is running unopposed on the ballot for District 5.

Martinsburg toddler is beneficiary of VREC's 2014 charity golf event

The 2014 Valley Rural Electric Charity Golf Outing will benefit two-year-old Brielle Harmon of Martinsburg. She is the daughter of Matt and April Harmon.

"Bri" is fighting Leigh Syndrome, a severe neurological disorder that typically arises in the first year of life. The condition is characterized by progressive loss of mental and movement abilities. Leigh syndrome affects at least 1 in 40,000 newborns.

The Harmons have made numerous trips to Children's Hospital in Pittsburgh, Matt often staying at a boarding room while April stayed with Brielle in the hospital. The family also travels to Akron, Ohio for treatments that Brielle needs.

April recently quit her job to stay home with Brielle. Matt, a local contractor, has kept his business going, to keep his employees working, by traveling back and forth to Pittsburgh. Costs for meals, fuel and rooms have added up, not to mention the medical expenses.

Valley's wellness committee has raised more than \$20,000 for charity since its inception in 2010. Fundraising events have included a walkathon, a horseshoe tournament, a "Kickin' It For Cans" food drive, two softball tournaments and participation in Relay for Life events in 2011, 2012 and 2013.

This year's golf tourney will be held at Iron Masters Country Club in Roaring Spring, Blair County, on Thursday June 5. The event will be Valley REC's third annual charity golf outing. The



Matt and April Harmon with their daughter, Brielle, 2, and the family dog, Kofi.

tournament is the largest event planned each year by Valley's health and wellness committee, which is comprised of employees from all three district offices and the corporate office. Along with planning the event, the committee is responsibile for selecting a beneficiary.

Registration for the tournament, a 4-player scramble, is set for 11 a.m. with tee-off at 1 p.m. The tournament will follow a "best ball" format and include a putting contest and longest-drive contest. The cost is \$75 per player. That registration fee includes 18 holes of golf, a cart, lunch and a buffet-style awards dinner.

Donations of prize or food items are welcome and teams are still forming. Those wishing to enter the event or make a donation should contact Travis Kuhstos, committee chair. He can be reached by phone at (814) 386-3815 or by email at tkuhstos@valleyrec.com.



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REAL ESTATE

Apartment building located in Mapleton. 2 apts. First floor is rented. Second floor will be vacant in March. Each has 2 BDs, lg. LR, KT/DR combo, 1 BA. New roof Nov. 2013. Owner is in ill health & must sell. \$32,000 firm. Selling as is. For more info. call 814/409-9697, 9 a.m -5 p.m. No Sunday calls.

Juniata Co., 10 miles south of Port Royal in Honey Grove. Ranch house on 8 acres, 3 BD, 1-½ BA, 1 car heated garage in basement, oil forced air furnace, central air, whole house attic fan, Culligan water softener system, UV water system light, 3 storage sheds (2-8'x14' & 1-4'x5'), 5 acres wooded, 3 acres of yard. \$144,900. 717/734-3716.

Home or cabin. Huntingdon Co., 3256 Charter Oak Road, Petersburg. Borders state forest lands & Penn State University grounds. Great hunting & fishing. Only 7 miles to Penn State football. Beautiful setting on nice, level lot. 4 BD, 1- ½ BA, Ig. FR w/ fireplace, eat-in KT, LR w/ new pellet stove. New electric service, new hot water tank, new appliances, oil/hot air furnace for backup. Lg. screened-in porch. All furnishings & appliances stay. \$125,000 (offers accepted). Phone or text 717/348-5045 for additional information or pictures. Serious inquiries only.

Blue Knob Resort. Great opportunity. Studio condo, sleeps 4. Kitchen, BA, fireplace, balcony. Completely furnished. \$25,600. Owner financing, no closing costs. Not a time share! Skiing, swimming, golfing, tennis, mountain biking, hiking. 410/267-7000. g.schaaf@comcast.net 5+ wooded acres overlooking beautiful mountain stream. Sand mound already perked & designed. 4 miles east of Centre Hall off Brush Mountain Rd. (Rte 192). 15 min. to State College. Penn's Valley school district. Near state forest land. \$69,000. Contact Jean @ 814/667-2043 or jeanemailing@yahoo.com

154 acres of mountain ground & tillable acreage. Property fronts Rt. 35 near Shade Gap. Property includes 3,800 sq. ft. log & stone home w/2 stone fireplaces, 4 car log & stone garage (dry walled, running water, pellet stove) 5-bay pole bldg. (finished interior w/ wood burning stove) wood shed, picnic pavilion overlooking stocked pond. Call 814/259-0086 or 717/729-2300. Shown by appointment only.

Lg. 2 BD rancher sitting on 3+ acres of ground overlooking Seven Valleys. All new carpet & flooring. All new appliances - refrigerator, stove, stove-top microwave. Well & septic. Installed unbreakable pipes, new water softener & water heater. Can be bought fully furnished if you want. Only used one time. 3-yr.-old wood stove, airtight. Electric heat. Stove sits on ceramic & surrounding walls are ceramic. Very well kept. Clean. Very easy to winterize. One large garage, 2 yrs. old. One smaller garage too. Sleeps 8 or more people. 15-20 minutes from Lake Raystown. \$110,000 furnished firm offer. \$105,000 unfurnished firm offer. 856/816-6968.

AUTOS/TRUCKS

1964 Rambler Ambassador. 990 V8. Runs good, needs minor paint touch-up, approx. 84,000 miles. \$6,000 or make a reasonable offer. 814/931-1438. Aluminum running boards for a 1972-1986 Ford. Brand new. \$75. 814/643-5248.

1988 Chevy 4x4. New motor & transmission. Call to discuss. Vintage BK tube tester, \$150. 814/617-0955.

1998 Oldsmobile Silhouette GLS 4-door van. Dark blue w/ gray leather interior. 205,510 miles. 3.4L V6 engine & still runs good. Tires are like new & a new battery was installed in 2013. \$2,800 but reasonable offers will be considered. 717/485-5488.

ANIMALS

8 Black and Tan coon hound puppies, 5 male. 3 female. 4 Pug puppies. 1 fawn male, 2 black male & 1 black female. 814/386-0477 or 814/386-3153.

Miniature Black & White breeding stallion, 31", 5 yrs. old, AMHA registered, DNA tested, a little sweetheart, throws lots of color, \$200. 717/573-2233 or cakies@frontiernet.net

LOST

Cat, since November in JB Tree Farm area. Male, neutered, gray & black tabby striped w/orange undertones. 2 yrs. old, Sadly missed. If seen, please call 814/832-2526 or text 724/454-0496.

RECREATIONAL

1995 Bayliner Capri boat. 17' open bow, 120 hp Mercury Force outboard motor. Many extras, exc. cond. \$5,000. 717/653-5806 (H) or 717/629-6685 (C). 2012 RV 30 ft. Prime Time Tracer Executive Series travel trailer, two slides, electric fireplace. Includes sway control hitch. One owner, used only two weeks. \$2,100. 814/667-3117.

2001 Polaris snowmobile. 2,200 miles. A1 cond. Sport touring E/S 544CC 2 up, twin fan, reverse, heated grips, studs, mirrors, extra belt/plugs, new battery, luggage rack, saddle bags. \$2,400 OBO. 717/420-5444.

New snowmobile suit. Bib/jacket, XL, black. Boots, Baffin, sz. 11. Helmet, G-Max, full face, black, M., gloves, socks, face protector, boot liners. Used helmet, Polaris, PSU edition. 5' duffel bag. \$500. 15% off - you take all. 717/420-5444.

2000 Yamaha 650 V-Star Classic. 25k mi. Many extras, exc. cond. 50+mpg. \$3,000. 2005 Honda VLX Deluxe 600 Shadow. 12k mi. Many extras, exc. cond. 67mpg. \$3,500. Both bikes garage kept. 814/386-4189.

2006 Cedar Creek 35' 5th wheel. 2 slides w /toppers, 21' awning, heated holding tanks, 10 gal. gas/electric hot water tank, thermopane windows, oak interior, TV, AM/FM radio w/DVD player & surround sound, oven & microwave, prepped for washer & dryer, lots of storage. Optional mor-ride hitch. Asking \$23,500, new was \$47,000. Can be delivered. 814/944-0479.

VACATION RENTALS

South Myrtle Beach year-round vacation rental. 2 BR, 2 BA condo at an oceanfront resort. Fully furnished including linens, towels, cable w/ HBO, wireless internet, AC, 6 pools including a lazy river, lighted tennis courts, saunas, jacuzzis & more. \$450-\$1,000 weekly. Monthly rates available. Phone 717/263-2717.

Raystown Lake vacation house rental. Sleeps 11. Lg. great room w/ fireplace, 4 BDs, dining table for 12, central AC, 2 new flat-screen satellite TVs, 2 full BAs, 2 half BAs, lg. recreation room, fully equipped kitchen & laundry rooms, screened-in porch, lg. parking area, 1 mile from lake (Snyders Run boat launch). Linens & towels provided. For more information see www.laurelwoodsretreat.com or call Dianne at 814/931-6562.

Massanutten Resort

(www.massresort.com), Harrisonburg, Va. Two luxury condos, July 18-25, 2014. Each has: 2 BR, 2 BA, kitchen, great room, laundry (linens & towels included), cable TV, wifi, AC, access to resort amenities. \$1,500 each w/ RCI gift certificate. Rent one or both. Contact: lwagner224@gmail.com

WANTED

2000-06 car w/ low miles, good shape & good gas mileage, reasonably priced. 717/734-3275.

TOOLS/EQUIPMENT

42" snowblade for a Cub Cadet tractor, blade #190302100. New \$700. Sell for \$350 OBO. 717/645-6401

Hand winch for boat trailer, \$25. Barrett lift jack, 8 ton capacity, \$75. Set of dash gauges for marine use, \$15. Manifold, 2 barrel, for 351 W Ford engine, \$10. Manifold, 2 barrel w/ carb, fits small block Chevy, \$25. 814/931-6774.

MISCELLANEOUS

White cookstove, \$400. 4-8" I beam columns, 8' long, \$40 ea. 2 aluminum tool boxes, side mount, \$75 ea. 3 ph. wood saw cut-off frame, \$30. 8N belt pulley, \$40. 18" exhaust fan, new, \$75. 717/987-3619.

Seed oats from certified seed. Last year. \$7/bushel (32 lbs. cleaned). 814/448-9480.

33 1/3 records. Approx. 200. All types of music. Classical, country, big band, etc. If interested please call 814/239-2570.

Mifflin County commemorative Winchester Model 94AE w/ saddle ring. 45 colt caliber. 24 karat gold-plated barrel & side plate. Carved walnut stock depicting scenes & history of the area. #6 of 10 made specially by Investment Arms. Custom leather carrying case. Must see to appreciate. \$3,500. 814/695-1484 after 1 p.m.

Mountain Arms Guns for sale. Home defense, hunting, carry gun, shooting, ammo. Fort Loudon. 717/369-2096 or email rodneybit@centurylink.net

New shotgun reloading supplies. There are too many to list; if interested call 814/658-3952 & please leave message if no answer.

2 hunting coats, size lg. Dominion brand 2-burner hot plate. 2 lg. homemade cedar chests. 45" long x 26 $\frac{1}{2}$ " deep, very good cond. 1 Lane cedar chest. 814/447-3735.

Regular mouth canning jars. 4-1/2 dozen quarts, 7-1/2 dozen pints. 90% Mason

Classified Ads

jars. \$50 takes all. Phone 814/259-3096.

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Country stone. Professional installation of precast stone veneer & thin brick. Call for free estimates. 814/695-8693.

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Will mow small & large lawns & will also do other various lawn jobs. 814/259-3634.

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Tom's Tree Service - 7 days a week, no job too big or small. Tree trimming & removal, stump grinding, bucket truck & chipper, storm damage clean-up, brush mowing, land clearing. Free est., fully insured. 814/627-0550. Backed by the Better Business Bureau. Valley Rural Electric Cooperative, Inc.



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Forestry Consultant. Timber sales, appraisals & management. B.S. Forest Management, Penn State 1964. 45 years local forestry experience. Mark Kane, consulting forester, 6118 Geisler Run Road, Huntingdon. 814/667-3620.

Book Construction – Excavation, clearing, roads, ponds, septic systems, foundations, prep sites for bldg., snow plowing, snow removal & anti-skid. Check our prices. Fully insured, free estimates. 814/448-0186 or 814/599-6262.

Get ready for prom & for the warmer months with Bee Unique Hair Boutiques tanning bed. Located on Beavertown Road in Todd. Hours to fit your schedule. Call 814/448-4914 for pricing & appointments. Get a jump start ! Call now! We've reopened - ES Ministries Thrift Shop. Now located at the Petersburg Church of the Nazarene, 7603 Shavers Creek Rd., Petersburg. Near the Juniata Valley Senior Center. Open Friday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. & Saturday 10-3 p.m. Clothing, HH, books, items for current holidays. Donations accepted during business hours.

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