

Valley Rural Electric Cooperative, Inc.

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 



One of 14 electric cooperatives serving Pennsylvania and New Jersey

Valley Rural Electric Cooperative, Inc.

10700 Fairgrounds Road
P.O. Box 477
Huntingdon, PA 16652-0477
814-643-2650
1-800-432-0680
www.valleyrec.com

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Vice Chairman

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Allegheny Director

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Linda McMath
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Corporate Office Hours
Monday - Thursday
7 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Huntingdon/Martinsburg/Shade Gap Office Hours
Monday - Thursday
7 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Outages & Emergencies
1-800-432-0680

From the President & CEO



Summer planning

By Rich Bauer

SUMMER is finally here. Schools are closed for summer break, the grass is growing, and our area has turned into a green oasis. With the arrival of summer, it is important to check a few items to make sure your house is operating as efficiently as possible.

First, if you have an air conditioner or heat pump, take the time to either replace or clean its air filter. June is usually when air conditioners start running extra hours, so by keeping the air filters clean, you can save up to 35% off your electric use with clean filters.

Next, check your lightbulbs. An LED lightbulb will use about 10 times less electricity than a conventional incandescent bulb, so remind yourself to change a few out each week until you have them all replaced. Using LED bulbs will pay for themselves in under a year.

While we are on checklists, please make sure you have a demand response unit (DRU) installed on your water heater. Currently, we have about 25% of our members taking advantage of these units. I would love to see even more taking advantage of this. The DRU doesn't cost you a penny. We will even give you a \$100 bill credit for allowing us to install one on your water heater. When power consumption is at its highest and the costs are the most expensive, these little units will shut down your water heater elements for a short time until the use and cost drop. Your water heater is well insulated, and you will still have hot water during this peak time, yet you won't be using any electricity.

By doing this, our members are conserving energy at the peak times, which keeps costs down for the entire cooperative. It is the perfect cooperative example showing what we cannot do individually, we can accomplish together. The capacity cost of power, which equates to about 50% of our cost, is set during the five highest consumption hours in June, July, August and September. This month will help establish almost 50% of next year's power costs, so please consider allowing us to install one of these DRUs at your home. If you are interested, please contact any of our offices, and we will get you in touch with the correct person.

The last checklist item is our "electric shift" ads on TV and radio. These are to let you know it is a high peak day and we are asking you to shift your electric use to a later time. This gives you a great opportunity to fire up that grill out back. You can also adjust your thermostat up and close blinds or shades to keep the sun from heating up your home, use ceiling fans to circulate the air, and put off doing any laundry until later in the evening. Every little bit helps, so when you hear these announcements, please try to do your part to keep your electric costs down for this year and many years to come.

Enjoy your summer, and go out and enjoy our beautiful little slice of the country. As always, if you have any questions, comments or concerns, please don't hesitate to give me a call. I would love to hear from you. Take care, and God bless. ☀

Is there money looking for you?

Co-op asking for help locating members for capital credits return



Late last year, more than \$1,860,000 in capital credits refunds were distributed to eligible members and former members of the co-op.

Since that time, nearly 300 of those checks have been returned by the post office because of incorrect address information.

We are making every effort to return this money to its rightful owners.

Listed on the following pages are the names of the consumers whose checks have not been able to be delivered.

If you recognize a name and can provide an up-to-date address (or information about the executor of the estate or nearest relative if the member is deceased), please call us at 814-643-2650 or toll-free 800-432-0680.

You can also write to the Capital Credits Department, Valley REC, P.O. Box 477, Huntingdon, PA 16652-0477.

Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.

LEON C ADAMS, 607 CLARK ST
HOLLIDAYSBURG, PA 16648
WILLIAM W ALBUS, 259 ELCONA ST,
DUNCANVILLE, PA 16635
DENNIS J ANDERS, 552 CAMERER
LN, MARTINSBURG, PA 16662
VIRGINIA M ANDERSON, c/o
VIRGINIA ANDERSON SANDIF,
1737 DOUBLE POND RD,
BLACKVILLE, SC 29817
CALVIN L BAKER, PO BOX 872,
BELLEVILLE, PA 17004
CAREY S BAKER, 1911 12TH AVE,
ALTOONA, PA 16601
KIM BAKER, 110 MONARCH DR,
DUNCANVILLE, PA 16635
ROBERT BAKER, 300 BASSLER ST,
MARTINSBURG, PA 16662
MONICA K BALL, 3539 HYNDMAN
RD, HYNDMAN, PA 15545
ELEANOR BARRETT,
55 CORIANDER LN,
MANCHESTER, PA 17345
GEORGE K BATHIE,
105 HAWTHORNE ST,
HOLLIDAYSBURG, PA 16648
BRADLEY L BAUMGARDNER,
8817 ROUTE 35 S,
HONEY GROVE, PA 17035
MELINDA BEACH, 644 ROUTE 22
HOLLIDAYSBURG, PA 16648
RICHARD BEDDOE, 108 FAUST ST,
MERCERSBURG, PA 17236
JAMES A BENNETT, 2903 SOLAR DR,
DOVER, PA 17315
MERLE C BERNHARDT JR,
901 STONE HILL RD,
CONESTOGA, PA 17516
JAMES D BERRIER, PO BOX 147
ROCKHILL FURNACE, PA 17249

MARLIN O BETTS, PO BOX 337,
PETERSBURG, PA 16669
CHALMER BEWARD, 405 W 5TH ST,
LEWISTOWN, PA 17044
DAVID S BLACK, c/o BARBARA J
ROBB, 329 VINEYARD LN,
HUNTINGDON, PA 16652
TINA BLAIR, 4353 GARY WAY,
CHAMBERSBURG, PA 17202
BLAIR COUNTY HISTORICAL
SOCIETY, PO BOX 1083,
ALTOONA, PA 16603
LARRY A BLATTENBERGER,
601 W ALLEGHENY ST,
MARTINSBURG, PA 16662
LEROY BONSELL JR, 12431
STONE CREEK RIDGE RD,
HUNTINGDON, PA 16652
TINA M BOUGHER,
406 W ALLEGHENY ST,
MARTINSBURG, PA 16662
EDWIN BRIDENBAUGH,
399 ORCHARD LN,
MARTINSBURG, PA 16662
HAZEL BRIGGS, 435 SAND RIDGE RD,
LEWISTOWN, PA 17044
DEBRA F BROWN, 129 DINSMORE
AVE, PITTSBURGH, PA 15205
RANDALL BRUMBAUGH,
1220 GORDON HALL RD,
OSTERBURG, PA 16667
ROBERT E BRUNELL,
812 NOXONTOWN RD,
TOWNSEND, DE 19734
JONATHAN J BUCK, 825 S 4TH ST,
CLEARFIELD, PA 16830
ROBERT A BULICK, ROBERT A/
CANDACE J, 5280 MOUNT
PISGAH RD, YORK, PA 17406
JOANN BURDA, 285 ALBATROSS ST,

FORT MYERS BEACH, FL 33931
LISA A BURKET, 305 60TH ST APT D,
ALTOONA, PA 16602
VICTOR BURKET, 260 HAZELETTE ST,
EVERETT, PA 15537
BRUCE BYERS, 208 W SHIRLEY ST,
MOUNT UNION, PA 17066
LINN CAMPBELL, PO BOX 81,
SPRING RUN, PA 17262
TAMMY J CAMPBELL, 3123 JUNIATA
GAP RD, ALTOONA, PA 16601
ROBERT L CHARLES, 3733 JUNIATA
GAP RD, ALTOONA, PA 16601
SANDRA LEE CHARLES, 2703
FAIRWAY DR, APT B,
ALTOONA, PA 16602
RUTH CHESNEY, 403 W 3RD ST, APT
203, WILLIAMSBURG, PA 16693
KENNETH D CLAAR, 142 LAURIE LN,
LITITZ, PA 17543
JAMES MCLIPPINGER,
223 S MULBERRY ST,
MARTINSBURG, PA 16662
LOIS CLOWSON, 204 PINE AVE,
ALTOONA, PA 16601
COMMUNICATION CONSTRUCTION
GROUP, 460 LIMESTONE RD,
OXFORD, PA 19363
VICTOR G COPESTAKE,
13507 HANOVER PIKE,
REISTERSTOWN, MD 21136
ALFRED F CORBO ESTATE OR
CINDY CORBO EXECUTRIX, 2525
BELL AVE, ALTOONA, PA 16602
EDGAR S CORNELIUS, RR 1 BOX 561,
THREE SPRINGS, PA 17264
COLT M CORNELL,
16686 SUGAR RUN RD,
SHIRLEYSBURG, PA 17260
CALVIN L COX, 2735 ASTORIA AVE,

CUMMING, GA 30040
 JOHN L CRAMER III, 505 TURKEY VALLEY RD, HOLLIDAYSBURG, PA 16648
 JOSEPH CRONAUER SR, 2871 BONNY BLVD, CLEVELAND, OH 44134
 JOE L CROSSMAN, 911 SCOTCH VALLEY RD, STE 1, HOLLIDAYSBURG, PA 16648
 JULIANNE G CROUSE c/o JULIANNE G UMBRELL, PO BOX 157, FANNETTSBURG, PA 17221
 STEVEN E CROWNOVER, c/o STEPHEN CROWNOVER, 1222 PENNSYLVANIA AVE, HUNTINGDON, PA 16652
 REBECCA M CUMMING, PO BOX 963, ALTOONA, PA 16603
 CHARLES W CUNNINGHAM, PO BOX 16, SHADE GAP, PA 17255
 KATHRYN DALTON, PO BOX 133, SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94104
 JOHN B DANNEKER, 209 WELLS RD, WILLIAMSPORT, PA 17702
 FRANKLIN J DASKI, PO BOX 2063, ALTOONA, PA 16603
 PHILIP A DEHAAS, PO BOX 105, STATE COLLEGE, PA 16804
 AMANDA DELL, 2647 FIRETOWER RD, BROOKVILLE, PA 15825
 WILLIAM C DETWILER, PO BOX 17, ROCKHILL FURNACE, PA 17249
 CRYSTAL DIEHL, 300 MONTGOMERY ST, HOLLIDAYSBURG, PA 16648
 THOMAS J DOYLE, 3559 RETTA ST, PHILADELPHIA, PA 19128
 DONNA K DRASS, PO BOX 625, HOLLIDAYSBURG, PA 16648
 LORI A DROBNOEK, COURT 6, RR 1 BOX 206, HUNTINGDON, PA 16652
 AUDREY ECKERT, PO BOX 1001, CONIFER, CO 80433
 JOHN G EHMANN, 18233 WOLBRETTE CIR, PORT CHARLOTTE, FL 33948
 CHARLES R ELDER, 18816 RAYSTOWN RD, JAMES CREEK, PA 16657
 JOYCE A ENTREKIN, PO BOX 231, MOUNT UNION, PA 17066
 DOREEN ESERNIO, 377 CREEK RD, NEEDMORE, PA 17238
 MONICA ESTABROOKE, 6132 TALAVERA CT, ALEXANDRIA, VA 22310
 RICHARD W EWING, 1217 HILEMAN RD, TYRONE, PA 16686
 THOMAS FEENEY, PO BOX 334, NEW BLOOMFIELD, PA 17068
 NICHOLAS C FELICE, 5212 VINEYARD LN, HUNTINGDON, PA 16652
 THOMAS R FERRY, RR 1 BOX 518, ROARING SPRING, PA 16673
 J ROBERT FIELES, 1506 LYNDON AVE, LANCASTER, PA 17602
 LEE FISHER, 11268 PENN WOODS RD, HUNTINGDON, PA 16652
 RICHARD F FISHER, 134 E 2ND ST, APT 2, WILLIAMSBURG, PA 16693
 RONALD FOREMAN, 2878 NEW GRENADA HWY, WATERFALL, PA 16689
 RONALD D FOREMAN, 2878 NEW GRENADA HWY, WATERFALL, PA 16689
 M J FOX, 10 HERSHEY LN, LAKE PLACID, FL 33852
 DEBBIE FREDERICK, 219 TOWER DR REAR, DANVILLE, PA 17821
 WILLIAM C FRYE, 112 PIN OAK LN, JEANNETTE, PA 15644
 DONALD E GARBER, 300 SPRING ST, APT 116, HOLLIDAYSBURG, PA 16648
 JOSEPH M GARLOCK JR, PO BOX 41 HARRISONVILLE, PA 17228
 OPAL J GARRETT, 208 JUNE DR, APT 200, ROARING SPRING, PA 16673
 ROBERT C GATES, PO BOX 59, HUNTINGDON, PA 16652
 CHARLES GEARHART, 180 MCGOWAN LN, PO BOX 401, HUSTONTOWN, PA 17229
 HERMAN GEBERT JR, 14091 DUTCHTOWN RD, MERCERSBURG, PA 17236
 JACKIE GILMORE, 307 10TH ST, HUNTINGDON, PA 16652
 RAY J GLASS, 1363 FOUR LEAF LN, HOLLIDAYSBURG, PA 16648
 SAMUEL J GLASS, 727 BUTLER HOLLOW RD, EAST FREEDOM, PA 16637
 ALAN K GOOD, 45 HAWSTONE RD, LOT B4, LEWISTOWN, PA 17044
 STEVEN M GRAEHLING, 6255 STANFORD CT, MECHANICSBURG, PA 17050
 JOSEPH F GRASSER, 103 LOCUST ST, WILLIAMSBURG, PA 16693
 RICHARD G GROFF JR, 23 CINDY DR, MILROY, PA 17063
 AMBER R HAMMEL, PO BOX 241, CLAYSBURG, PA 16625
 GLADYS HARLAN, 589 BUNKER HILL RD, HONEY GROVE, PA 17035
 JAMES H HARLAN, 314 VERMONT AVE, BURNHAM, PA 17009
 FRANKLIN J HARPER JR, 5812 NEHEMIAH WAY, APT 6, HUNTINGDON, PA 16652
 JOHN L HARPSTER, 3730 PINEBROOK CIR, BRADENTON, FL 34209
 WILLIAM F HARRIS, 814 POLECAT RD, EAST FREEDOM, PA 16637
 VICTOR Z HART, 304 CHERRY ST, ROARING SPRING, PA 16673
 JEROME W HAUPT III, 977 SUNSET DR, MILTON, PA 17847
 RICHARD W HAUSER, 158 SHAW RD, HOLLIDAYSBURG, PA 16648
 HORACE E HEISS c/o TODD G GROVE, 12451 HIGH POINT RD, FELTON, PA 17322
 VIRGINIA HENNEY c/o VIRGINIA STEWART, 160 ASPEN LN, APT 303, HUNTINGDON, PA 16652
 REBECCA E HENRY, 1231A OLD BOALSBURG RD, STATE COLLEGE, PA 16801
 HAROLD B HENSON, 348 COOL HOLLOW LN, NEEDMORE, PA 17238
 CHUCK HESS, 6033 BLUE JAY ACRES LN, CASSVILLE, PA 16623
 CARL F HITE, RR 01 BOX 96, NEW PARIS, PA 15554
 BRUCE HOCKENBERRY JR c/o LAVONNE HOCKENBERRY, 93 APPLE ST, APT 16, MIFFLIN, PA 17058
 SYLVIA E HONSTINE, 1104 PENNSYLVANIA AVE, HUNTINGDON, PA 16652
 JOHN HOOVER ESTATE c/o REV LANNY HOOVER, PO BOX 172, SAXTON, PA 16678
 LORIE A HORNE, 613 S WASHINGTON ST, MOUNT UNION, PA 17066
 GARY INTERDONATO, 1151 RANCK RD, NEW HOLLAND, PA 17557
 RONALD P JACKA c/o RHONDA SUNDERLAND, 50 TWIN SPRINGS LN, MCVEY TOWN, PA 17051
 KENNETH D JOHNSON, 1004 SUMMIT AVE, HARRISONBURG, VA 22802
 JAMES JOSEPH SR, 1424 OVERLAND PASS, UNIT C903, CLAYSBURG, PA 16625
 MAHESHWOR KAFLE, 8805 SPERANZA LN, HUNTINGDON, PA 16652
 ROBERT W KELLER, 8229 ORCHARD

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Capital credits

(continued from page 14c)

RD, THOMASVILLE, PA 17364
 WENDY KELLY, 60189 BLACK
 HEATH DR, FORT MILL, SC 29708
 WILLIAM A KENNEDY, PO BOX 1246,
 BREMERTON, WA 98337
 DEBRA C KERR, PO BOX 697,
 ALEXANDRIA, MN 56308
 KEYSTONE WIRELESS LLC,
 BOYERTOWN, PA 27599
 RIVERVIEW CENTER BLVD, STE
 201, BONITA SPRINGS, FL 34134
 MARK KNABLE, PO BOX 296,
 SAINT THOMAS, PA 17252
 DAVID L KUHN, 2337 RIGHT HAND
 GAP RD, CLAYSBURG, PA 16625
 DUANE LAPP, 11246C BEMISDERFER
 RD, GREENCASTLE, PA 17225
 RICHARD B LASHLEY, 121 LAKE DR,
 BEDFORD, PA 15522
 LAST MILE INC STING
 COMMUNICATIONS c/o
 JENNIFER TOBIAS, 120 S 16TH ST,
 LEBANON, PA 17042
 DENNIS P LATINI,
 2615 MAJESTIC PRINCE DR,
 BURLINGTON, KY 41005
 RONALD J LAUDENSLAGER,
 827 CHIPPEWA CROSSING BLVD,
 CHIPPEWA FALLS, WI 54729
 ALICIA J LAUVER,
 2202 SHERMANS VALLEY RD,
 ELLIOTTSBURG, PA 17024
 DONNA J LAYTON, RR 1 BOX 381,
 NEW PARIS, PA 15554
 WILFRED LEFEVER,
 12 CREEK BANK DR,
 MECHANICSBURG, PA 17050
 JAY LEHMAN, 19315 HANDY RD,
 BRIDGEVILLE, DE 19933
 NORMAN I LEININGER, 228
 MAYBERRY DR, LITITZ, PA 17543
 ROY D LEISTER, 318 LARCH ST,
 HOLLIDAYSBURG, PA 16648
 NICOLE Y LEMASTER, 601 SKI GAP
 RD, CLAYSBURG, PA 16625
 BARRY LINGENFELTER,
 109 BUSTERS LN,
 ROARING SPRING, PA 16673
 TERRY P LINGENFELTER,
 26 N JUNIATA ST,
 HOLLIDAYSBURG, PA 16648
 DONNA J LOCKARD,
 165 BUTLER HOLLOW RD,
 EAST FREEDOM, PA 16637
 D J LOCKE, 355 S SPORTING
 HILL RD, STE 2047, BLDG 2,
 MECHANICSBURG, PA 17050
 BOYD H LOHR, PO BOX 136,

MILL CREEK, PA 17060
 TRUDY E LOHSL, PO BOX 258,
 EAST FREEDOM, PA 16637
 D RONALD LONG, 111 LONG DR,
 ROARING SPRING, PA 16673
 ERIC M LONG, 1944 PULPIT RD,
 MARTINSBURG, PA 16662
 CHRISINDA LUKENS,
 15201 HARMONY CHURCH RD,
 HUNTINGDON, PA 16652
 D JAMES LYONS, 113 ARBOR DR,
 LAFAYETTE, LA 70507
 G LLOYD LYTER ESTATE c/o
 CORINNE H LYTER EXEC,
 192 VILLAGE DR,
 MIFFLINTOWN, PA 17059
 ROBERT MAI SR, 370 YARDLEY PL,
 WILLIAMSTOWN, NJ 08094
 WARREN MALONE ESTATE c/o
 MAYSIE F. MILLER, 4126 RICKLYN
 DR, CHAMBERSBURG, PA 17202
 ELIZABETH MALOT,
 1158 TRAILS END RD,
 HARRISONVILLE, PA 17228
 RONALD A MARKOVICH, VALLEY
 ST EXT, MCDONALD, PA 15057
 HAROLD E MARTZ JR, PO BOX 433,
 HUSTONTOWN, PA 17229
 JAMES L MASON, 1228 TOWNCREST
 RD, WILLIAMSPORT, PA 17701
 MARY E MATTSSON,
 152 LOWER CARDINAL DR,
 PORTAGE, PA 15946
 JOSEPH MAY, 5251 FOREST AVE,
 BEDFORD, PA 15522
 DONALD T MCCONNELL,
 820 JAMES ST, ROARING SPRING,
 PA 16673
 TAWN MCCREARY, 3810 DRISCOLL
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 CHRISTINA L MCFARLAND, PO BOX
 25, ROARING SPRING, PA 16673
 MICHAEL P MCFEELEY,
 12917 RIDGEWOOD DR,
 HESSTON, PA 16647
 HOWARD I MCGIRK,
 1031 HOPEWELL RD,
 DOWNINGTOWN, PA 19335
 CLYDE E MCKEE, 700 CAYUGA AVE,
 RM 3, ALTOONA, PA 16602
 CHARLES E MCKINNEY, 1801 GILLIS
 RD, WOODBINE, MD 21797
 BRANDON MECK,
 11261 CHANEY SPRING RD,
 HUNTINGDON, PA 16652
 R G MECK, 11686 WALNUT HILL LN,
 HESSTON, PA 16647
 DARIN K MELLOTT, 217 KERNS LN,
 WARFORDSBURG, PA 17267
 LINDA J MELLOTT,

7274 WATERFALL RD,
 HUSTONTOWN, PA 17229
 W J MENTZER, 1081 TORCHWOOD
 DR, DELAND, FL 32724
 GERALD F MERKLINGER,
 70 SNYDER LN, TRLR 1,
 EPHRATA, PA 17522
 BRUCE D MILLER c/o CHESTER L
 DEVOR, 147 ORCHARD HILLS DR,
 MIFFLIN, PA 17058
 JEFFREY MILLER, 5812 MEHENIAH
 WAY, APT 3, HUNTINGDON, PA
 16652
 RITA V MILLER, 18849 RAYSTOWN
 RD, JAMES CREEK, PA 16657
 ROBERT G MILLER, PO BOX 245,
 PETERSBURG, PA 16669
 RONALD D MILLER, 5659
 WOODBURY PIKE,
 ROARING SPRING, PA 16673
 DALE B MILLS, PO BOX 104,
 SHADE GAP, PA 17255
 BETTY J MITCHELL,
 7866 STATE ROUTE 655,
 REEDSVILLE, PA 17084
 JOHN A MONGOLD c/o LISA COUCH,
 4732 E OLD STATE ROUTE 73,
 WAYNESVILLE, OH 45068
 ROY A MORGAN, 1959 STATE ROUTE
 103 N, LEWISTOWN, PA 17044
 RICHARD H MORRIS,
 26 S BARKWAY LN, STATE
 COLLEGE, PA 16803
 DOUGLAS MOUDY, 1223 16TH AVE,
 ALTOONA, PA 16601
 DALE E MOUNTAIN, 609 W 17TH ST,
 PORTALES, NM 88130
 DEBORAH A MOYER,
 268 LAUDERMILCH RD,
 HERSHEY, PA 17033
 STEVEN P MUSSELMAN,
 486 WALTER HOLLOW RD,
 CLAYSBURG, PA 16625
 NEWTON N MYERS, 55 ROBIN RD,
 HERSHEY, PA 17033
 CRYSTAL D NELSON, 43 E SHIRLEY
 ST, MOUNT UNION, PA 17066
 JEFFREY L NOBLE, 286 HEMLOCK
 LN, COGAN STATION, PA 17728
 CHARLES W OTT, 896 SENECA LN,
 ROARING SPRING, PA 16673
 HARRY OTT, 100 BLATTENBERGER
 ST, APT 3, MARTINSBURG, PA
 16662
 PAMELA J OTT, PO BOX 324,
 DUNCANVILLE, PA 16635
 MICHAEL R PARKS, 8259 MEADOW
 GAP RD, THREE SPRINGS, PA
 17264
 DONNA M PARKS RANEY,

1210 MIFFLIN ST, HUNTINGDON,
PA 16652

SHERRY L PECK, 5600 CALIFORNIA
AVE, ALTOONA, PA 16602

SIDNEY J PECK, PO BOX 110,
NEWTON HAMILTON, PA 17075

JACOB B PEIGHT, 280 SNOOKS HILL
RD, LEWISTOWN, PA 17044

MICHAEL A PERRIN, 9777 CHARGER
HWY, DUNCANSVILLE, PA 16635

KENNETH A PERRY JR, PO BOX 434,
HOLLIDAYSBURG, PA 16648

RUSS PERSON, 315 W BEAVER AVE,
STE B, STATE COLLEGE, PA 16801

CATHERINE PETERSON, 214 E 5TH
ST, PORT ROYAL, PA 17082

LOUIS J PONDER,
276 DUMB HUNDRED RD,
ROARING SPRING, PA 16673

ROBERT L PORT JR,
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ALTOONA, PA 16602

NANCY PORTER, c/o NANCY
WALTERS, 3341 LAFAYETTE RD,
ROARING SPRING, PA 16673

ELAINE PYDA, 2048 FAIRWOOD LN,
STATE COLLEGE, PA 16803

JEFFREY L RACHAEL,
451 BREEZEWOOD DR, STATE
COLLEGE, PA 16801

KARL J RANCK c/o ESTATE
OF CHERIE RANCK, 2818
W CHESTNUT AVE REAR,
ALTOONA, PA 16601

KATHY E RENTZ, RR 1 BOX 86,
ROARING SPRING, PA 16673

PAT RHODES or PAT BARNHART,
PO BOX 275,
MC CONNELLSBURG, PA 17233

PHOEBE A RICHARDSON, RR 1 BOX
177A, WILLIAMSBURG, PA 16693

AARON C RITCHEY,
1008 EDGEWOOD DR,
DUNCANSVILLE, PA 16635

ROBERT W ROHRER,
216 WINDING OAK DR,
HAGERSTOWN, MD 21740

PAMELA S ROSENBERRY,
15655 MOUNTAIN RD, FORT
LOUDON, PA 17224

HALLARD A ROSSMAN,
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MILLS, PA 16875

MICHAEL RUNK, PO BOX 172,
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ALTOONA, PA 16601

RAYMOND RUSSO JR,
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HOLLIDAYSBURG, PA 16648

JILL A RUTLEDGE, 262 REIBOLD RD,
RENFREW, PA 16053

ELMER G RUTT, 478 N RAILROAD
AVE, NEW HOLLAND, PA 17557

ROBERT L SALYARDS, RR 1 BOX
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MARTIN R SCHMIDT JR, PO BOX
171, SMITHMILL, PA 16680

STERLING SCOTT, 2315 GEORGIA
VILLAGE WAY, SILVER SPRING,
MD 20902

PAUL S SEIDERS, 2316 CALLOWAY
RD, RAEFORD, NC 28376

SHERWOOD W SERFASS, PO BOX
717, MCCONNELLSBURG, PA
17233

WILLIAM A SEVERA, RR 1 BOX 1487,
MOUNT UNION, PA 17066

JOHN A SHAFFER, 24 LAUREL ST,
LEWISTOWN, PA 17044

JAMES SHAW, 3780 PLUM SPRING LN,
ELLCOTT CITY, MD 21042

GRETCHEN SHEASLEY, c/o CHRIS
WEAVER, 9220 GREENWOOD RD,
PETERSBURG, PA 16669

BARRY K SHEEDER, RR 1 BOX 121B,
ROARING SPRING, PA 16673

VICKY J SHEEDER, 11318 POGUE
RD, ORBISONIA, PA 17243

TIMOTHY J SHEEHAN ESTATE or
TIMOTHY A SHEEHAN, PO BOX
775, DUNCANSVILLE, PA 16635

ERNEST C SMITH, 615 6TH ST,
HUNTINGDON, PA 16652

FRANKLIN D SMITH JR, 17473
FANNETTSBURG RD, E
FANNETTSBURG, PA 17221

JOSHUA SMITH, 704 STINE CT,
CLAYSBURG, PA 16625

KELLY P SMITH, 907 16TH AVE,
ALTOONA, PA 16601

KEVIN M SMITH, 20417 88TH AVE W,
EDMONDS, WA 98026

M C SMITH, 452 BRUMBAUGH LN,
MARTINSBURG, PA 16662

RANDY L SMITH, PO BOX 125,
NEWRY, PA 16665

DEAN M SMURO, 865 LINCOLN WAY
W, CHAMBERSBURG, PA 17202

KENNETH L SNYDER, 10932
SNYDERS RUN RD,
HUNTINGDON, PA 16652

R L SNYDER, 1486 BLOOMFIELD RD,
ROARING SPRING, PA 16673

STEVEN R SNYDER, RR 2 BOX 2142,
MOUNT PLEASANT MILLS, PA
17853

HARRY O SPECK, c/o DONNA WEST,
210 2ND ST, APT 23, BELLEVILLE,
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State agriculture secretary talks dairy trends, farm tourism during chamber luncheon

By Doug Roles

Vice President, Member Services

Pennsylvania Secretary of Agriculture Russell Redding discussed the findings of a recent study on agriculture during an April visit to Huntingdon County. He also reported that an increasing number of farmers are diversifying their income through sidelines like ag tourism.

Speaking at a Huntingdon County Chamber of Commerce luncheon Wednesday, April 10, Redding said he was encouraged to see a variety of stakeholders take the time to learn more about the importance of agriculture. The Huntingdon County Career and Technology Center in Brady Township hosted the event, and the audience included local business leaders, as well as students from two local Future Farmers of America (FFA) chapters.

“As challenging as agriculture is, I still admire the entrepreneurial spirit that’s in it, and the perseverance of families that are committed to it,” Redding said.

Redding said local school districts are fortunate to still have ag programs. He said just 150 of Pennsylvania’s 500 school districts offer such programs. He said there is a need for a better-defined educational path for young people hoping to have careers in agriculture. There are 28 in-demand jobs in agriculture, but just eight of those have defined career paths, Redding said.

In January 2018, the department released a study of the economic impact of agriculture and the food industry in the state. The study — the first comprehensive effort to define the industry and quantify its impact — showed that agriculture has a \$137.5 billion impact on Pennsylvania’s economy. That represents 18 percent of the gross state product. The industry supports nearly 580,000 jobs paying nearly \$27 billion in wages, the department reported.

The department worked with the Team Pennsylvania Foundation and Temple University’s Fox School of Business to conduct the impact study. It sought to answer the questions “What is ag in Pennsylvania?” and “Who is ag in Pennsylvania?” The study broke ag into farming, forestry, the equine industry, food processing and the green industry (horticulture).

Redding said the operating margin for Pennsylvania dairy



PHOTO BY DOUG ROLES

Pennsylvania Secretary of Agriculture Russell Redding, right, addresses a Huntingdon County Chamber of Commerce luncheon in April as Bill Hoover, left, event emcee, looks on.

farmers is razor thin with milk prices of \$14.50 per hundred-weight. He said, however, that consumption of dairy products is up and that unemployment in the agriculture sector is below the national average.

“Fluid milk is just not being consumed,” Redding said. “Total dairy (ice cream and other dairy-based products) continues to increase. I think that’s the silver lining. But consumption continues to decline on fluid milk. There’s a lot of pain in this industry at the moment.”

Redding said lifestyle changes have affected fluid milk sales. As an example, he noted that cereal bars are popular but their convenience has cut milk consumption at breakfast. He advocated making milk more mobile by packaging it in six-packs of individual serving-sized bottles, so consumers can purchase and store it in the same way they do a variety of other beverages.

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Bill Hoover, a former Huntingdon County Commissioner who serves on the United States Department of Agriculture Farm Service Agency's Pennsylvania State Committee, served as emcee for the event. Hoover, a Valley REC member who operates a family farm in Warriors Mark Township with his wife, Deb, has also served on the Huntingdon County Farm Bureau Board of Directors.

"It's a well-known fact that agriculture is a big part of the Pennsylvania and U.S. economies," Hoover said. "It's also a well-known fact that agriculture is facing difficult times. There was a time in the nation's history when 98 percent of the people were involved in agriculture. Today, 98 percent of the world is not involved in agriculture."

Valley Rural Electric sponsored the luncheon along with local businesses CBT Bank, Price Motor Sales and Nationwide Insurance – Pamela Stern & Associates, LLC. The career and tech center's culinary students prepared and served the all-Pennsylvania lunch.

The Blue Juniata FFA Chapter from Juniata Valley High School conducted opening and closing ceremonies. FFA students from Southern Huntingdon County High School also attended.

"The science of turning sun, soil, and water into food, fuel, and fiber to feed the seven billion residents of our planet takes the largest workforce of any industry," Hoover said. "These FFA members are living in an exciting time to be a part of that workforce necessary to keep the science of agriculture growing."

"The face of agriculture has completely changed during my lifetime," Hoover added. "I am certain that agriculture will continue to change. I cannot imagine what changes these young people will see in their lifetimes."

Questions from the audience ranged from property tax

reform and milk marketing board pricing policies to ways the ag department can assist farmers in developing off-shoot, supplemental businesses — such as wedding and specialty event venues, dairy tours, craft breweries, and alpaca farming — to sustain their bottom line.

Redding outlined the provisions of the Pennsylvania Farm Bill, the first-ever package of such legislation that would invest more than \$24 million to address the needs of farmers. He discussed succession planning and noted the realty transfer tax exemption in the proposed Pennsylvania Farm Bill would provide an exemption for any transfer of preserved farmland to a qualified beginning farmer. He reported that 5,400 farms in Pennsylvania are "preserved" farms that will be in agriculture for perpetuity. Pennsylvania boasts 63,000 farm families who steward more than 7.7 million acres of farmland.

"I think it's one of the great moments of our time, that people are actually rediscovering agriculture; when people stop and think, agriculture wins. But they have to stop and think first," Redding said. "When you have chambers thinking about it, school districts thinking about it, FFA chapters, car dealerships, insurance agencies, then you start to see things happen."

He added, "Thank you for thinking about agriculture and its importance here and for extending the conversation to 'What do we need to do to keep it here and transition to a new generation that is going to be desperately needed?'"

Governor Tom Wolf nominated Redding to serve as the 26th Secretary of Agriculture for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in January 2015. He was confirmed by the Senate on May 14, 2015. On May 1, the Senate unanimously confirmed Redding for a second term. Redding is the former dean of the School of Agriculture and Environmental Sciences at Delaware Valley University, formerly Delaware Valley College. ☀



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Aerial patrol, pole inspection slated for summer months

Aerial patrol

Valley Rural Electric's annual aerial inspection of our distribution system will begin later this month. Getting a birds-eye view of lines and equipment allows co-op staff to better plan improvement projects and right-of-way trimming.

Todd Ross, Valley REC vice president of operations, says the helicopter fly-over enables operations personnel to quickly and efficiently find areas where maintenance is needed, especially in areas that are difficult to reach from the ground.

"The aerial patrol will cover our whole system," Ross says. "It's faster than driving and also more efficient because you get a better view of pole tops and equipment from the air than you would from the ground looking up into the sun."

The vantage point from the helicopter also makes it easier to spot dead trees that could pose a hazard.

Valley REC is again contracting with Pine Bottom Aviation Services, LLC of Martinsburg. The fly-over is low enough to allow the co-op employee accompanying the pilot to see cracked insulators and crossarms and other equipment that needs to be repaired or replaced. Members should not be impacted by the aerial inspection work.

Pole inspection

The co-op has contracted with Osmose Utilities Service, Inc. to conduct pole inspection work. Osmose crews will begin inspection and treatment work in July and it will continue into late summer.

"It's a continuation of what we have been doing," Ross says. "We're on a 10-year cycle."

Pole inspection work is scheduled for the following locations: Shade Gap District – Dublin Township, Fulton County; Metal Township, Franklin County; Cromwell, Dublin, Shirley, and Tell townships, Huntingdon County; and Lack Township, Juniata County.

Martinsburg District – Freedom, Huston, Juniata and North Woodbury townships, Blair County.

Huntingdon District – Juniata, Lincoln, Penn and Walker townships, Huntingdon County.

Extending the useful lives of utility poles through inspection and treatment is cost-effective for the co-op, since the price of a pole can range from \$130 to more than \$260. Identifying deteriorating poles can save the co-op money and spare consumers the inconvenience of an outage. ⚡



SAFETY FIRST: Valley REC provides a hot line safety demonstration to East Waterford Fire Company in Juniata County on April 23 and to Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT) employees in Hollidaysburg, Blair County, on May 7. At left: Journeyman Linemen Logan Booher, left, and Jason Wilson explain the use of an insulated hot stick. At right: Shade Gap District Manager Mark Booher shows PennDOT crews how lineworkers roll their rubber gloves to check for pin holes.



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