Valley Rural Electric Cooperative, Inc.

July |August 2013

Volume 70 | Issue 4

# Valley picker tours area for old goods, new friends PAGES 4-5

www.valleyrec.com

# **CEO Message**

# Sensors can help make sense of your lighting

Even the most energy-conscious person forgets to turn off unneeded lighting sometimes. That's why automatic lighting controls are such cost-effective and convenient devices. You can set themand forget about them but they won't forget to turn lights off, or on.

There are two types of controls to consider — timers and sensors. Each can be used with indoor or outdoor lighting and each can help you use energy wisely.

#### Indoors

Occupancy sensors are helpful indoors, as long as they're positioned to detect people in any corner of the room. They're also good as task lighting — above places like a desk or kitchen sink — so you get the extra light you need while working, but you don't forget and leave it on all night.

They are two types of occupancy sensors: ultrasonic and infrared. Ultrasonic sensors detect sound; infrared sensors detect heat and motion.

Timers make an empty home look occupied. If kids are still running in and out, however, timers aren't as effective as occupancy sensors. Plug timers into a wall outlet or install them in the wall, like a light switch or thermostat. New varieties are digital.

Photosensors are generally best outdoors, but they're also useful for LED nightlights. When an overhead light is on, the nightlight shuts off automatically.

#### **Outdoors**

If you already use or are thinking about installing an outdoor security light, consider combining it with a photosensor to keep it from burning all day. A motion sensor goes one step further, if you don't want continuous light.

Timers are commonly used for aesthetic or holiday lighting, sometimes in conjunc-

# Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

Lighting accounts for about 13 percent of the average household's electric bill—cut costs by choosing new lightbulbs that have increased output and longevity. Some cost more up front, but prices are dropping as technology advances. Options include color, brightness, and even dimming and multi-way functions. Combining lights with automatic sensors can cut costs further.

Source: Cooperative Research Network



Wayne F. Miller President & Chief Executive Officer

tion with a photosensor, so they turn on at dusk and turn off at a designated time.

Energy efficiency experts for the Cooperative Research Network (the research and development organization for the nation's electric co-ops) say it's important to remember for any lighting control to use a type of lightbulb that doesn't need to warm up. All the lightbulbs for residential use now on the market — incandescents, compact fluorescent lamps (CFLs), and light-emitting diodes (LEDs) — will work with the controls.

If you're not using any controls in your home or business, why not give it some thought. A sensor could make dollars and sense for you.

Visit the U.S. Department of Energy's website, at EnergySavers.gov, to learn more about energy efficiency in your home.

Cooperatively yours,

Wayne Friens

Wayne F. Miller President & CEO



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*Valley News* (USPS 655-940) is published bimonthly by Valley Rural Electric Cooperative, Inc., 10700 Fairgrounds Road, PO Box 477, Huntingdon, PA 16652-0477.

Periodicals postage paid at Huntingdon, PA 16652

Subscription Rate: \$3 per year

Statement of ownership, management and circulation as required by act of Oct. 23, 1963, Section 4369, Title 39

Postmaster: Please send address changes to: Valley Rural Electric Cooperative, Inc., 10700 Fairgrounds Road, PO Box 477, Huntingdon, PA 16652-0477.

Advertising: The deadline for Trading Post ads is the 25th day of the month prior to the issue months. Acceptance of advertising does not imply co-op endorsement of any product or service.

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#### Valley Rural Electric Cooperative, Inc.

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# On the cover ...



Photo by Doug Roles What do you find when you start knocking on doors asking to rummage through attics and outbuildings? Anything could turn up: A butter churn, a hand-operated sock knitter, even new friendships. For the story of one picker, Kathy Hawk of Blacklog Valley, turn to Page 4.

# JV students learn electrical safety during annual 'Valley Day'



Photo by Curt White

Students at Juniata Valley Elementary School, Huntingdon County, learned about electric safety and line work during their May 24 Valley Day school fair. Valley REC journeyman lineman Curt White(top photo) demonstrated the bucket lift and showed students the tools used by line crews. Doug Roles, director of member services (above), talked about electric safety in the home and outdoors.

Photos by Doug Roles

ERHAR

July | August 2013

# One find, one friend, at a time

# Blacklog Valley picker sees people as area's true treasure trove

## By Doug Roles

Director of Member Services

Boxes stacked in the attic ... that pile of junk in the shed ... maybe a bunch of totes in the basement. They're common to most properties. And most folks plan to go through that stuff "one of these days." For one Valley REC member, the time to take a good look at that stuff is now.

While others try to forget about the clutter, she's poking around barns and garages hoping to pick pieces that have local historical or family value and might just be worth a few bucks too. She's not really looking for a financial windfall. If she were to score big, she'd share some of her success with the previous owner. Sometimes she comes up empty-handed but full-hearted. And those are the picks she enjoys most.

Kathy Hawk, of Blacklog Valley, Shirley Township, got started in picking (along the lines of the TV series *American Pickers*) a year ago, almost on a whim. She's used her newfound pursuit to get to know the area better and to meet local residents.

Previously from Adams County (formerly a member of Adams Electric Co-op), Kathy and her husband, Ben, had made Huntingdon County their getaway.

"We were coming up every weekend to go to the lake (Raystown) and thought it was really pretty up here," Hawk said. Kathy thought it would be nice to live in the area. She suggested putting their home on the market, just to explore options. When they quickly received an offer, the couple was on their way to taking a big step.

She and Ben sold their retail flooring business in 2006. They looked at 11 properties in this area. Hawk says she knew when she drove up the long driveway off Blacklog Valley Road that they had found their new home. Ben continued to do flooring installation while Kathy was considering her next steps.

"I saw those guys on TV one night and I thought 'If those guys can do it, why can't I?" she said. "When I started, I just started knocking on doors." Kathy had some knowledge of collectibles and years of retail experience. Getting into picking was a way to join that experience with her interests in history and people. Once she started advertising her service in *The Trading Post* – the free classified listing offered to Valley members – her phone started ringing. She tries to plan her picking trips geographically. If she is traveling a distance for one appointment, she'll knock on a few doors to drum up business.

"I introduce myself and say 'I'm a picker and do you have any stuff you want to get rid of?""

Sometimes people she has contacted have items sitting out already sorted for her, but that's

not necessary; she's done her share of climbing over piles of junk in basements and attics. Kathy says people need to be careful about prejudging their "junk." It's better for all if she has a look around because you never know what might be valuable.

Kathy, who is also an extreme couponer, says times are tough and people do well to consider parting with items that could earn them some cash instead of collecting dust and taking up space.

"If it's in the barn rotting away and the kids or grandkids don't want it, why not sell?" she says.

Since moving to the area and getting into picking, Kathy says she has begun to focus on Huntingdon County history. She enjoys those times when she is able to find an item, such as a bottle by southern Huntingdon County's former Wible Bottling in Three Springs, and get it into the hands of a Wible relative. In this area, Wible bot-

tles, postcards from the old Orbisonia hotel or items from Strickler's Dairy provide links to the past.

"I think it's neat when an item gets back to a family and can be passed down."

As a self-described "one-woman show," she's not into furniture. She's not into scrap metal. And she's especially hesitant to purchase heirlooms.

"Sometimes I say to people 'You really ought to keep that," she said. At 50, she worries that there are few youngsters who have an interest in their family history or the history of their local area. The Hawks became foster parents after their move. That led to custody of three

siblings. She has involved the children in picking to demonstrate a business model and to interest them in preserving the past by taking a closer look at artifacts that were once everyday tools. One of her favorite examples is the hand-operated butter churn. Years ago it was just a household appliance; now, it's a link to a different way of life.

# **Member feature**



Kathy Hawk of Blacklog Valley combines her love of people and history through picking. She combs through attics, basements and outbuildings to find items that have monetary or historical value and pays cash to the owners. She says the best "picks" are those where she finds a specific item for someone or can get an heirloom piece of memorabilia back in the hands of a family member. (Photos by Doug Roles)

Hawk hates to hear people tell her: "You should have seen what we burned." because it often means a little piece of history has gone up in flames. Picking often involves taking some unwanted items to get the more desired pieces. Hawk normally doesn't offer prices per piece. She prefers to bundle and make an offer for the works. She also knows what she doesn't want.

"There's a difference between stuff and junk," she says.

Hawk keeps a mental list of items people are seeking. Much of her business comes from re-selling items to a handful of folks who have asked her to be on the lookout for a certain antique or collectible.



Sometimes she finds success in networking a buyer and seller together even though there's no financial gain for her.

One of Hawk's most memorable picks led her to become friends with an older couple. At the time, she had one too many dogs at her home and this couple's dog had died several years earlier. Meeting them at their Shade Valley property she asked where the customary farm dog was. Turns out the Lab/Chow mix the couple had lost was the breed she had to give away.

Hawk's best find, money-wise, was in an elderly couple's barn. They had bought the property a few years before but hadn't sorted through the junk that came with the outbuildings. Hawk picked several items then left the property. One can turned out to contain silver coins. Knowing the owners hadn't realized what they had, Hawk sent them a check.

"I've learned not to assume you know what people have," she said.

Another outstanding find for Hawk is a booklet family history. Family histories, compiled and bound at a time when sitting for a family photo was still a rare and expensive occurrence, can be valued heirlooms. Hawk said the one she discovered is that of a progenitor of the Corbin, Curfman and Greenland families in southern Huntingdon County. Happy to provide a link to the past, she donated the book to the Huntingdon County Agriculture Association museum.

"I've met a lot of nice people," Hawk said. "I haven't had one bad experience. People have been very nice and friendly."

(Hawk can be reached at 814/542-3191)



Co-op members may submit ads via e-mail at valleynewsads@valleyrec.com; by phone at 800/432-0680; by fax at 814/643-1678; or by mail at Valley REC, PO Box 477, Huntingdon, PA 16652-0477. There is no charge for this service. If consumers wish to continue running particular ads, they are required to resubmit the information on a bimonthly basis. The deadline for submission is the 25th day of the month prior to the issue months. Submissions are viewable on the co-op's website at www.valleyrec.com. Items published are printed at the request of our members. The co-op does not endorse, recommend or assume any responsibility for the products or services advertised. The co-op also reserves the right to edit material for content and/or space as necessary.

## **REAL ESTATE**

Blue Knob Resort. Great opportunity. Studio condo, sleeps 4. KT, BA, FP, balcony. Completely furnished. \$25,600. Owner financing, no closing costs. Not a time share. Ski, swim, golf, play tennis, mountain bike, hike. 410/267-7000 g.schaaf@comcast.net

Juniata Co. 10 miles south of Port Royal in Honey Grove. Ranch house on 8 acres. 3 BDs,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  BRs, 1 car heated gar. 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-acre yard. \$149,900. 717/734-3716.

Three BR home in Cassville, located close to Raystown Lake. Lg. family room w/ FP & insert. Two car gar., 2 full BAs, KT, DR, LR, laundry on bottom level, circular driveway. On 1.6 acres on Cooks Road. All reasonable offers will be considered. Please call 412/655-7842 & ask for Dianne.

Three BR house located at 349 Water Street, Orbisonia. 304/433-0753(C) or 814/447-5572(H).

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. Unbreakable pipes, new water softener & hot water heater installed. Can be bought fully furnished, if you want. Only used 1 time. Three-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. Sleeps 8 or more people. Just 15 to 20 minutes from Lake Raystown. \$125,000 negotiable. 856/816-6968.

## **AUTOS/TRUCKS**

1983 Pontiac TransAm w/ T-top roof. V8 engine. \$500, OBO. Fixer-upper, good car project. 814/695-2455.

Hydraulic tailgate for pickup. \$900. Fiberglass compact truck cap, white, 62"x82". \$150. 814/448-2215.

1985 Ford F250 4x4, 302 w/ manual transmission. \$2,500. 814/448-2215

1996 Honda Accord LX. Auto, 4 dr., only 101K miles. Light blue, very good mechanical cond. Body above average (no rust). Asking \$2,500 or best offer. Located near McAlevey's Fort. Please call Al at 814/667-3571. This car still has a long way to go.

#### RECREATIONAL

2010 Winnebago Adventurer 35Z, 7,200 miles. Numerous features. 814/599-1343.

Jayco travel trailer. Quest Series TSL, 28.' LR/KT slide, 45 amp. converter charger, heat, AC, oak interior, elec. jacks, 20' elec. awning. Many other features. \$12,900. Call 814/239-5893 for more details.

Inflatable boat. Capacity 700 lb. Will accept 1.5 hp. motor. Never used. \$75. 814/667-3519.

# VACATION RENTALS

McConnellsburg year-round vacation rental. Crampton Manor Bed & Breakfast. The Carriage House, 2 BR w/ BA, fully equipped kitchen & great room w/wrap around deck, WiFi, satellite TV, sleeps up to 5. The Hayloft, 2-room efficiency w/ BA, kitchenette, WiFi, satellite TV, sleeps up to 3. Both are private w/separate entrances. Country breakfast served each morning of your stay at the Bed & Breakfast! For more info see www.cramptonmanor.com The Farm House is a vacation rental located ½ mile from the main house on our 100-acre property. 2 BR w/BA, fully equipped kitchen, living room, sleeps up to 7. First & second floor porches w/rocking chairs! For more info see

www.thefarmhouse1897.com Call us at 717/491-2813 for either vacation rental.

Family friendly cabin getaway on Jacks Mountain, Mifflin County. Secluded & pleasantly rustic w/ electricity, hot water & bathroom w/ shower. Spacious living room, fully equipped kitchen & sleeps 12. Deck & sizable lawn, games, outdoor fire ring & firewood. Attractive rates. 717/989-7864. www.campstonewall.com

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. \$425-\$1,000 weekly. Monthly rates available. Phone 717/263-2717.

Lake Raystown house rental. Sleeps 11. Lg. great room w/fireplace, 4 BDs, dining table for 12, central AC, 2 satellite TVs, 2 full BAs, 2 half BAs, large recreation room, fully equipped kitchen & laundry rooms, screened-in porch. 1 mile from lake (Snyders Run boat launch), lg. parking area. Linens & towels provided. For more info. see www.laurelwoodsretreat.com or call Dianne at 814/931-6562. Myrtle Beach, SC. Full view, ocean front, playground of the east coast w/ so much to see & do. Fourth floor, near elevator. One BD, sleeps 4, bright living room, balcony w/ table & 4 chairs to watch the sunrise & waves. Pool, parking on site. Sacrifice \$685. 610/742-5793 (C) or 610/358-1776 (H). Will return all calls.

# WANTED

Cheap pop-up camper. 717/734-3275.

Military collector seeks U.S. Military items. World War I, World War II & Korea. 240/367-6667 or 814/448-9977.

Rider(s) wanted. Port Royal/Thompsontown/Newport to capital complex/Harrisburg Hospital, 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Parking Chestnut St. garage. No smoking. 717/783-2551 work, 717/527-0217 after 6 p.m. or jbachman@pa.gov

Adult wooden water skis. Call 814/695-6741 and leave a msg. Will return calls.

# **TOOLS/EQUIPMENT**

955H Cat track loader. Many new parts. Farm use. Fulton Co. 717/485-3876.

Belt pulley for 8N & newer models. Also, an adapter w/ adapter block for 1" & 3/8" shaft, all steel. \$65. 814/695-5127.

674 International diesel row-crop tractor, good cond. NewIdea hay conditioner. 7-1/2 ft. 717/527-4803.

12A NewIdea manure spreader, all original & good shape for age, ground driven, solid bed, 80 bushel. Vintage piece. \$1,300, OBO. 814/685-3457. Waterfall.

John Deere 350C solenoid starter. Works great. \$50. Call 814/644-3529.

Tractor chains. One 15"x60", \$200, 1 12"x48", \$100. Onan 15kw generator, 4 cyl., water-cooled, fuel LP or natural gas, continental engine. \$1,800. 814/448-2215.

Construction trailers. 8'x20' w/ heat & AC. Three to choose from. \$2,000 or \$3,000 each. 814/448-2215.

105 International combine. Grain head 10'. Good cond. 814/684-3057.

Jet cast iron jointer. 6", <sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> hp., 110 or 220 v. \$250. 814/667-3519.

# ANIMALS

We have many home-grown horses to choose from. They range from newborns to broke trail horses. Most are registered w/AQHA & have some registered w/ APHA. They are at all stages - halter broke to finished trail. There are mares & geldings to choose from, newborns to 16 yrs. We have an AQHA Papered Blue Roan stud, an AQHA Dun w/ black points stud & is the own son of "Smart Chic Olena," an APHA chestnut & white stud & a spotted jack for breeding. Many roans, duns, tobianos, overos, other colors. They have bloodlines Movin' to Music, Hancock, Blue Max, Coosa, Smart Chic Olena. Check out our website at www.delbinfarms.com or call 814/977-3616 for more info.

## **MISCELLANEOUS**

Kenmore 10K BTU air conditioner. One yr. old. Listed at \$300. Asking \$200. 814/643-5609.

Old wooden cattle racks. Canning jars. Sears 5,200 BTU window air conditioner. Old wooden filing cabinet. 814/447-3735.

ITE Pushamatic circuit breakers. \$12.50 & up. 814/695-5127.

Werner 24' aluminum ext. ladder w/ stabilizer. Brand new. 225 lb. weight limit. \$150. 814/695-4975.

73" Mitsubishi flat-screen TV 1080P, 120HZ DLP w/ base cabinet. 2 ½ yrs. old. Numerous options. 814/599-1343.

Kimball Swinger 700 player organ w/ bench seat & sheet music. \$300. 814/239-5893.

Singer sewing machine, circa 1929. Complete in cabinet, electric motor equipped. Threaded & ready to sew. Very good cond. \$100. Blueprints, complete set for a 2 story colonial style house w/garage. \$40. 814/931-6774.

Lift chair w/ heat & massage. \$900. GE automatic washing machine, HD, lg. capacity. \$200. 814/448-2215.

Tree shelters. \$1.50/ea. 814/448-2215.

Interior wooden doors from 1800s farm house. Antique drop-leaf table, one-board top 20" wide, 52" long. Old wooden barrel taps. Needmore. Fulton Co. 717/573-2805.

Basco oil-rubbed bronze shower door. New, still in box. Fits opening 35 1/4" -37". Measured incorrectly. Please call w/offer. 301/331-1344.

Country record album sets, most never used, 6-8 records in each set. \$20/set. Cassettes, old country artists. \$1.50 each. Old Zenith stereo w/speakers, works good. Was \$1,200 new, asking \$400.

# **Classified Ads**

Case w/Hank Williams, Jr. cassettes, \$30. 814/710-7547, ask for Wanda.

GE Profile air conditioner. Energy Star rated, 12,500 BTU, exc. cond. \$35 OBO. 717/381-1270.

# SERVICES

Moore Hair - Where looking good is still affordable. 814/667-2221 for appt.

Peters Excavating. Over 40 yrs. of quality service in excavating, including site preparation & clearing, foundations, septic systems, driveways, roads & ponds. Hauling, limestone, shale & fill. Free estimates. 814/667-2240.

Zimmerman's Bernina Sewing Shop. Located at 208 Flitch Road, New Enterprise. Authorized Bernina dealer for machine sales. Full line of Bernina machines w/ warranty, free guide classes, 2 yrs. free service, etc. Certified technicians for service & repair w/ a quick turnaround. We repair all brands. We offer project classes & sewing events. Full line of sewing, quilting & embroidery supplies, notions, etc. 814/766-9942.

Pine Ridge Kennels. Dog boarding in spacious heated & air conditioned kennels. We also offer all breed obedience training & gun dog training. www.prkennel.com 814/259-3381 or 717/816-3049.

S&M custom painting. Serving Huntingdon & State College areas. We do interior & exterior. Decks & staining. Over 20 yrs. experience. Reasonable rates & excellent work. Free estimates. See our web site at www.sandmcustompainting.com Phone Shane McGhee at 814/667-2430 or 814/883-0622.

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Roll-off containers. 10, 15 & 25 yd. containers available. Great for cleanups, remodeling projects, shingles & more. Roll-off service area includes Huntingdon Co. & parts of Mifflin & Fulton Counties. Querry's Sanitation Service, Mount Union. 814/542-9547 or 814/542-2570. Family owned & operated since 1979.

Miss Mollies Soft Serve, etc., 2027 Pioneer Family Lane. Rt. 26 & 994 in James Creek. Open Wed-Sun, 11:30 a.m.-9:30 p.m. Soft serve ice cream, huge banana splits, hot food & more. Come see Miss Mollie. Valley Rural Electric Cooperative, Inc.



(USPS 655-940)

Periodicals postage paid at Huntingdon, PA 16652

Bimonthly publication of Valley Rural Electric Cooperative, Inc. PO Box 477, Huntingdon, PA 16652-0477

Yard work wanted. 814/259-3634.

Aches & pains? Feeling stressed out? Poor circulation or nervous system? Pamper yourself & improve your health naturally with a one-hour Reflexology session. Call Gwen Bish, N.D., Certified Therapeutic Reflexologist. Orbisonia. 814/447-3057.

Custom stained glass - large or small. If you DREAM of an idea in glass, let Leah create it for you! Just call 814/251-4408 or email: grapenutty@verizon.net Vintage Art Glass ... Creating magic in stained glass for 35 years.

Cresswell Heating & Air Conditioning. We install & service all types of heating & air conditioning equipment. Specializing in geothermal & solar hot water systems. For free estimates or service phone 814/448-3654 or 814/644-9913.

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

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Get your feet ready for summer with a manicure/pedicure package from Bee Unique Hair Boutique located on 17759 Beavertown Road, Todd. 814/448-4914. It's only \$35! Also, try the Detox Foot Soak. A 15 min. soak w/ massage for \$25. Your feet will thank you!!! Make your appt. now.

#### **EVENTS**

Auction every Friday at 6 p.m. Need to clean out that attic, garage or basement? Paying to store items you don't need anymore? We can sell those items for you. You bring it, we'll sell it!! We're always looking for good sellable items for our auctions. If you would like us to sell items for you, give us a call or stop by our store. Gene's Variety & Auctions, Fairgrounds Road, Huntingdon. 814/643-2734.

Huntingdon Farmers' Market every Thursday, noon to 5 p.m., through the end of October in Portstown Park pavilion (across from Laney's Feed Mill). Locallygrown fruits & vegetables, meats, eggs, cheeses, handmade pasta, baked goods, goat milk soaps & lotions, hand-dyed wool and honey. Cash, checks, EBT and credit cards accepted.

Cruise-In for a Cause. Sept. 21, 3-6 p.m. Thomas All Things Automotive, 21518 Great Cove Rd., McConnellsburg. \$10 donation per registered car. All proceeds to benefit the 2013 Fight Like a Girl Recipients of Fulton Co. Food available for purchase from Sipes Smokehouse BBQ. Bring cars, trucks, motorcycles or any vehicle you want to show! For more information call 717/485-5492.

National Alpaca Farm Days at Terrace Mountain Alpacas on Sept. 28 & 29, 10 a.m.- 4 p.m., near Calvin. Come meet the newest crias on the farm, pull up a chair & stay awhile. Check out the newest items in the farm store, some items made in USA & PA. Farm open most days; for your convenience, please call first. 814/643-2854. Visit us on our website: http://www.terracemountainalpacas.com Open House will be Nov. 2 & 3, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.