

# Valley Rural Electric Cooperative, Inc.

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 



One of 14 electric cooperatives serving Pennsylvania and New Jersey

## Valley Rural Electric Cooperative, Inc.

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## Guest Column



# Co-op Connections Card program supports local businesses

By Doug Roles, *Vice President of Member Services*

ONE OF the recurring themes to come out of the COVID-19 pandemic has been the need to support local businesses. Restaurants and retail spaces have been hit hard since March 2020, with closures, limited hours of operation, or the adoption of varying types of curbside or to-go service.

Hopefully, our country is turning a corner on the economic impact COVID-19 wrought on mom-and-pop storefronts. There seems to be some light at the end of the tunnel. The website, [smallbizdaily.com](http://smallbizdaily.com), reports that 56% of small business owners feel hopeful for the coming year, with 30% of all respondents even going so far as to say they're excited about the near-term economic outlook.

The national small business comeback makes the Touchstone Energy Co-op Connections® Card program more relevant than ever before. Your Co-op Connections Card or key fob gives you access to discounts from tens of thousands of retailers because it taps into a national business community. But it doesn't just help you save at big-box stores and chains. The card also provides discounts for businesses right here in our community. Valley Rural Electric participates in this program to help our members save on a variety of goods and services while increasing sales and traffic for local

participating businesses.

And the program consistently adds new retailers to help improve our members' experience. One of the most popular features is the prescription discount benefit. Even if you don't have insurance, the card will help you save up to 85% on your medications at more than 60,000 pharmacies across the country. To date, Valley members have saved more than \$87,000 on prescriptions.

As usual for October, we're running our list of participating businesses on Pages 16d and 17. We encourage you to take a minute to peruse the offers and keep them in mind the next time you're shopping for a particular good or service.

Also, keep an eye out for the Co-op Connections Card decals on doors or cash registers where you shop. To see an up-to-date list of participating businesses and their discounts, visit [valleyrec.com](http://valleyrec.com) and look for the Co-op Connections Card icon on the homepage.

The program is also available as an app for mobile devices. Since not all members are tech-savvy or own smartphones, we'll continue to offer the card to allow them to get in on the savings, too. If you are a Valley REC member and have not received your card, contact us at 800-432-0680, and we'll gladly get one in the mail. Thank you for supporting local businesses. 

# Farm museum supporters planning final touches on new building

By Doug Roles

*Vice President of Member Services*

FAIR and carnival season is winding down, but the folks at the Huntingdon County Farm Museum, on the Huntingdon County fairgrounds, are thinking ahead to spring. They're hoping to have the final touches put on their new building, Geisinger Hall, in time for the museum's seasonal reopening.

The museum committee is in the process of raising \$40,000 to finish pouring the final two-thirds of the concrete floor in the building, which measures 60-by-160 feet. The new hall was open to visitors at the fair, held the second week of August. Fisher Brothers Builders of Juniata County constructed the metal-sided post-and-beam structure.

"People were really happy with the new building," says Gary Eberle, a museum committee member. "We heard a lot of good comments during the fair."

Running short on space for its more than 5,500 display items, the committee in 2019 launched a capital campaign which, to date, has raised more than \$120,000. In the summer of 2020, the Geisinger Health System donated \$75,000 toward construction of the new building, and work began. Ronald McDonald House then donated \$10,000, enough to pour the first section of the floor.

"We hope to have the rest of the floor done by next spring," Eberle says.

The origins of the farm museum have a history of their own. Shirley Township dairy farmers Barbara and the late James McMath founded the museum in 1987 at the urging of Harold Lockhoff, a Penn State Extension agent and

RIGHT: The Geisinger Health System last year donated \$75,000 to the construction of Geisinger Hall on the Huntingdon County Fairgrounds. Huntingdon County Farm Museum members officially opened the building Aug. 7 and will use it to display heavy farm equipment, such as vintage tractors. The main farm museum stands behind the new structure.

former county commissioner. Barbara McMath serves as museum curator along with Betty Norris, the museum committee's secretary/treasurer.

The museum's exhibition was first housed in a Huntingdon and Broad Top Railroad (H&BTRR) building, donated to the fair in 1955 when the H&BTRR long siding to the Pennsylvania Railroad at Huntingdon closed. In 1991, the fair board built a 60-by-120-foot metal building to house the farm museum, with an addition constructed in 2003. The railroad building now houses the fair's Art Station. Geisinger Hall will house tractor and heavy equipment displays once the floor is finished.

The museum committee members and volunteers bring their own passion for history and varied agriculture backgrounds to the effort to preserve central Pennsylvania's farming heritage. Eberle, a member of the Gettysburg-based Adams Electric Cooperative, grew up on Eberle Brothers' Farm near Shaver's Creek in West Township, Huntingdon County. During his career, he worked for Agway and Pennfield Feeds.

One of the newest volunteers is Penn Township resident Colby Grubb, a 2020 Huntingdon Area High School graduate and history enthusiast. Grubb participated in Valley REC's 2019 Youth Tour

trip to Washington, D.C. He's a walk-on to the museum family.

"I just showed up here one day, and they had to take me, whether they wanted me or not," Grubb jokes.

He is a student at Penn Highlands College, Huntingdon, and plans to earn a bachelor's degree in social studies at Shippensburg University. He would like to teach history in Huntingdon or Mifflin counties.

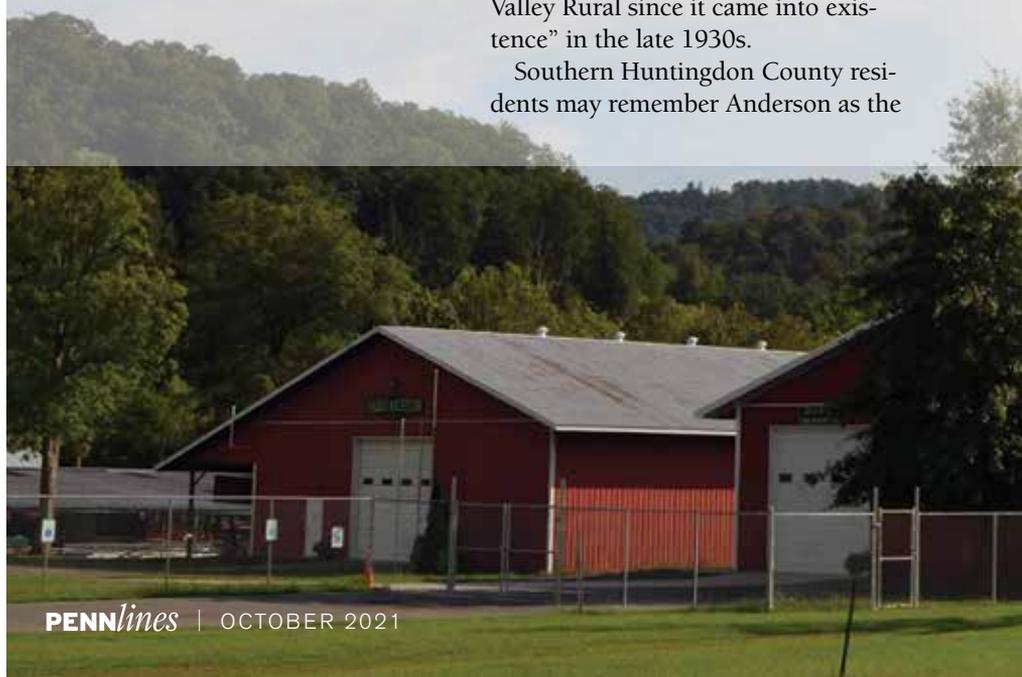
The museum committee is comprised of 10 members with an additional 10 to 15 volunteers giving time to the various tasks inherent in maintaining displays. Though the museum closes a few weeks after the August fair, tour groups are welcome by appointment.

"We're back in here in the spring as soon as the weather gets warm enough," says Barry Anderson, the committee president. "We're here every Thursday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m."

A trip through the farm museum wouldn't be complete without checking out the old "REA" (short for the federal Rural Electrification Administration) utility pole provided by Valley REC. Anderson, a Mapleton area resident and Valley REC member since 1966, has a special appreciation for the days when co-ops were referred to as "the REA." He noted that his family "has been on Valley Rural since it came into existence" in the late 1930s.

Southern Huntingdon County residents may remember Anderson as the

PHOTO BY DOUG ROLES





proprietor of Anderson's Service Center, a gas station that used to operate in Knightsville, near Saltillo.

Eberle, Anderson and Grubb were among the volunteers who worked this year to construct an 8-by-22-foot wooden workshop in a rear corner of the Geisinger building. Garner Lumber of James Creek donated the lumber for the tool shed that houses a variety of items needed for maintaining displays.

Visitors to the museum will see a wide array of vintage farm equipment and other items from daily life in days

gone by. Items of particular interest include ag-related signage, early household appliances and even a wooden-frame phone booth from a time when callers still closed a hinged door

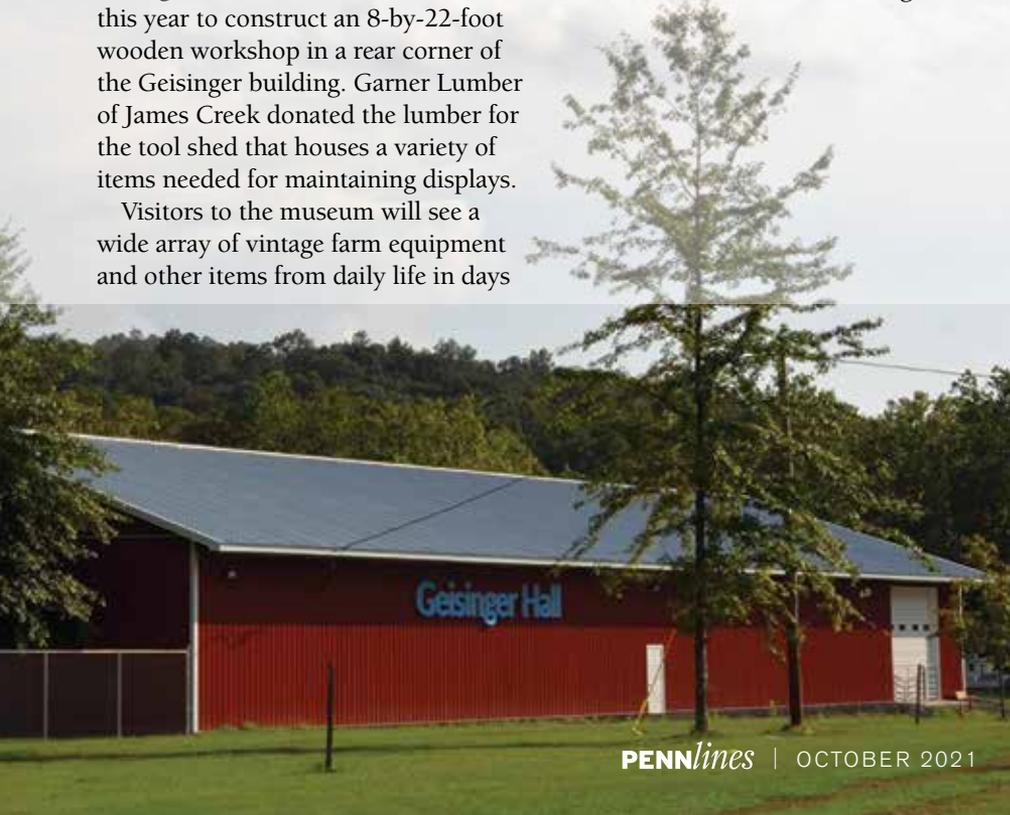


and deposited a coin into a pay phone. The museum does accept items for display and is hoping to hit its fundraising goal soon so the collection of vintage tractors can be put on permanent display in Geisinger Hall. To support the capital campaign, donate an item for display or schedule a tour, contact the farm museum at 814-643-9740. ☀

ABOVE, LEFT: Maintaining the farm museum displays requires many volunteer hours. Colby Grubb, left, a 2019 Valley REC Youth Tour student, is the museum's newest volunteer. He paused in the new Geisinger Hall for a photo with Barry Anderson, center, museum committee president, and Gary Eberle, a committee member.

TOP: Two-thirds of the Geisinger Hall floor remains unfinished. Museum volunteers hope to raise enough money to complete the concrete floor by next spring.

ABOVE, RIGHT: Items on display in the main farm museum building include everything from vintage farm machinery to bicycles and early electrical appliances. Tours are available by appointment.



# Co-op Connections Card: your link to savings

As a Valley Rural Electric Cooperative member, you can use your free Co-op Connections Card or key fob to receive valuable discounts at the local participating businesses listed on these pages, as well as at more than 90 national retailers.

Keep this directory handy to identify local participants. Also, keep an eye out for the Co-op Connections Card decals on doors or cash registers where you shop.

To see an up-to-date list of participating businesses and their discounts, visit [valleyrec.com](http://valleyrec.com) and look for the Co-op Connections Card icon on the homepage. New discounts are added all the time!



We're a participating business

## AUTOMOTIVE/MOTORCYCLE

### **Huston Ford Motor Company**

10719 William Penn Highway, Huntingdon  
Offer: 10% discount (max. discount \$50) on parts and labor; cannot be used with other specials or body shop repairs.

### **J&P Auto Mart**

1906 Pleasant Valley Blvd., Altoona  
Offer: \$1,000 off purchase of any vehicle. Limit one per vehicle. Can't be combined with any other offer/sale. Not applicable for prior purchase.

### **Pro-Trans**

2400 Commercial Blvd., State College  
Offer: 5% off transmission service and repair.

### **Steve Seltzer Honda**

433 Sabbath Rest Road, Altoona  
Offers: 50% off labor on motorcycle or scooter inspections. 15% off regularly priced parts and accessories. Free gas can with purchase of Honda power equipment (up to \$40 value). Extra year of Honda care on purchase of new motorcycle, ATV or scooter.

## CONTRACTORS/BUILDING SUPPLY

### **Adams Electric, Inc.**

870 31st St., Altoona  
Offer: 10% off electrical estimates.

### **Center Region Stone Supply**

3462 Birmingham Pike, Tyrone  
Offer: 10% off retail prices on Appleridge Stone, FireRock fireplaces and Holland grills.

### **Central Penn Patio & Awning**

321 Park Road, Mount Union  
Offer: 3% discount.

### **Dennis A. Heeter,**

#### **Heating & Air Conditioning.**

7583 Bridge St., Alexandria  
Offer: \$100 off installation of new heating or cooling unit.

### **Fink Brothers Supply**

961 Pennsylvania Ave., Tyrone  
Offer: 20% off in-stock PPG paints.

### **G.B. Wineland & Son, Inc.**

201 S. Railroad St., Martinsburg  
Offer: 5% off Polaris insulated doors and/or 5% off five or more Polaris windows.

### **Gary's Homes, Inc.**

13270 Lincoln Highway, Everett  
Offer: 10% discount on parts purchased in our parts store.

### **ImPressive Floors, Inc.**

118 S. Richard St., Bedford  
Offers: 10% off any cash-and-carry item from the store. \$20 off any ordered special materials 144 sq. ft. or more. \$20 off any two or more Hunter Douglas window treatments. These offers cannot be combined with any other offer.

### **Joseph T. Berrena Mechanicals, Inc.**

279 Standing Stone Ave., Huntingdon  
Offers: 20% off Hydroflow S38 chemical-free water treatment device. 10% off parts and service.

### **Lewistown Floor Company**

518 W. 4th St., Lewistown  
Offer: 10% off any carpet purchase over 450 square feet (50 square yards).

### **Mount Union Lumber & Supply, Inc.**

114 W. Poplar St., Mount Union  
Offer: Receive a \$200 rebate on the purchase of any one of the following Fujitsu mini-split units: 9RLS3Y, 12RLS3Y, 15RLS3Y, 18RLXFZ dual-headed unit, and 24RLXFZ triple-headed unit. Please notify MULS, Inc. at the time of purchase about the card.

### **PJs Hearth & Home Heating**

2447 Quaker Valley Road, New Paris  
Offer: 5% off anything in the store, including installations and cleanings.

### **Rick Worthy Contracting, Inc.**

10321 Sugar Grove Road, Huntingdon  
Offer: 5% discount.

### **Superior Floorcoverings & Kitchens, LLC**

254 E. King St., Chambersburg  
Offer: 7% discount; cannot be combined with other discounts.

## DINING/FOOD

### **Allegro Restaurant**

3926 Broad Ave., Altoona  
Offer: Buy one dinner entree and receive \$5 off the second dinner entree. Not applicable to alcoholic beverages, lunch menu,

family-style menu and dinner-for-two menu. Maximum value \$5. Not redeemable for cash.

### **Couch's Subs & Groceries**

13605 Greenwood Road, Huntingdon  
Offer: 5% discount on any menu item.

### **Hobo's Restaurant**

180 Hyndman Road, Hyndman  
Offer: 10% off daily special or dinner entree (dine-in only).

### **J.P. Edward's Grill and Bar**

203 S. Logan Blvd., Burnham  
Offer: 10% off, excluding alcohol and specials.

### **Jethro's, LLC**

417 Parkview Lane, Altoona  
Offer: 10% off. Not valid after 4 p.m. Fridays & Saturdays, on holidays, or with any other discount; excludes tax, alcohol & gratuity.

### **Keystone Candies & Gifts**

123 E. Pitt St., Bedford  
Offer: Free peanut butter meltaway bar with any purchase of \$15 or more.

### **Queen City Fruit & Produce**

125 E. Central Way, Bedford  
Offer: 50 cents off product not already discounted.

### **Speck's Deli & Gourmet Pizza**

12144 William Penn Highway, Huntingdon  
Offer: 10% off menu-priced items; value meals and promotions excluded.

### **Wild Annie's**

300 Lowry Drive, McConnellsburg  
Offer: 10% off your entire order.

## ENTERTAINMENT

### **Holiday Bowl**

11862 William Penn Highway, Huntingdon  
Offer: Free shoe rental for cardholder.

### **Isett Acres Museum**

11941 Stone Creek Ridge Road, Huntingdon  
Offer: \$1 off admission cost.

### **Lincoln Caverns & Whisper Rocks**

7703 William Penn Highway, Huntingdon  
Offer: \$1 off all adult tickets during regularly scheduled tours. Not valid during special events or in combination with other discounts.

### **Rockhill Trolley Museum**

430 Meadow St., Rockhill Furnace

Offer: Buy one ticket, get one ticket free. Not valid for special events.

### **HEALTH, BEAUTY & FITNESS**

#### **Angelina's Invigorating Hour**

103 E. Beaver Ave., Suite 10, State College

Offer: \$5 off any massage service and/or product order or gift card of \$35 or more.

#### **HMJ PATCH Program**

900 Bryan St., Suite 5, Huntingdon

Offer: Free quit tobacco program: free support, free resources, free nicotine patches/gum.

#### **Huntingdon Vision Center, Ltd.**

828 Washington St., Huntingdon

Offer: 5% off total bill when paid with cash/check at time of service (excludes vision plans).

#### **Modern Family Dentistry**

3195 Cold Springs Road, Huntingdon

Offer: \$75 off a new patient exam, cleaning and X-rays (must be a new patient of record).

#### **S'Hair-Eng Styling Salon**

139 Kelly Alley, State College

Offer: 10% discount on all chemical and color services.

### **HOME, GARDEN & FARM**

#### **Antietam Iron Works & Powder Coating, LLC**

201 Lincoln Way West, Suite 100,

McConnellsburg

Offers: Powder coating: 10% off order (for first-time customers). 10% off iron fence or railings (max. discount \$200). 10% off gift shop items. Must mention card when placing order.

#### **BluAcres, LLC**

1301 Allegheny St., Suite 112, Hollidaysburg

Offers: \$250 discount on pond dredging and permit plan; \$100 discount on wetland delineation.

#### **CCI Cleaning Connection, Inc.**

1107 Locust St., Chambersburg

Offers: Save 20% on initial service(s) with signed contract; save 10% on any other service. Not valid with coupon offers.

#### **Chimney Doctor**

268 Upper Snake Spring Road, Everett

Offers: \$20 off chimney sweep; \$50 off chimney repair.

#### **Envinity, Inc.**

25 Decibel Road, Suite 205, State College

Offer: \$100 toward a comprehensive home energy audit. Audit includes a blower door test, thermal imaging, a solar site assessment and a comprehensive report on all energy saving opportunities in your home.

#### **Hines Feed Store**

210 S. Juniata St., Hollidaysburg

Offer: 5% off, excluding feed and fertilizer.

### **Kelsey Springs Landscaping**

21 Buckingham Drive, Chambersburg

Offers: 5% off maintenance invoices (mowing, fertilizing, lawn service); 10% off new installations (including walkways, patios, ponds, planting beds).

#### **M&T Vacuum Systems**

515 Washington St., Huntingdon

Offers: Free estimate on vacuum tune-up or service. 10% off any new vacuum.

#### **Mid State Chimney Sweeps, LLC**

595 Calhoun Road, Everett

Offers: \$10 off any chimney cleanings; 10% off any chimney liner installed.

#### **Mill Hill Farm Supply, Inc.**

161 Mill Hill Road, Williamsburg,

and 618 Canal St., Williamsburg

Offer: \$5 off any \$25 purchase.

#### **Potted Memories Greenhouse**

5118 Piney Creek Road, Williamsburg

Offer: 10% off purchase of \$50 or more.

#### **Raystown Decorator Fabric**

7163 William Penn Highway, Alexandria

Offer: 20% off fabrics in stock.

#### **Roberts Four Season Power Equipment**

613 N. Logan Blvd., Altoona

Offer: 5% off purchase of new mower.

#### **Stoudnour Petroleum, Inc.**

8853 Raystown Road, Saxton

Offer: 1 cent per gallon discount.

### **OFFICE/PROFESSIONAL SERVICES**

#### **D-Signs**

2816 U.S. Highway 522 South, McVeytown

Offer: 10% off all purchases.

#### **Ellis Office Supply Inc.**

1640 E. Pleasant Valley Blvd., Altoona

Offer: 10% off any supply order of \$50 or more.

#### **Film Center (The)**

3415 Pleasant Valley Blvd., Altoona

Offer: 50 4x6 photo-lab quality prints from your digital camera for just \$10; next-day pickup required.

#### **Huntingdon Offset Printing Company**

1431 Oneida St., Huntingdon

Offer: Buy 500 full-color, one-sided business cards, get 500 free of the same card.

#### **Julie's K-9 Kuts**

14310 Croghan Pike, Mount Union

Offers: 10% off merchandise (except those sold on consignment) and 5% off all grooming services.

#### **Kavazea Designs**

398 School House Road, McVeytown

Offer: 10% off any new design service.

#### **Manning Photography**

560 Oak Lane, Tyrone

Offer: \$50 gift certificate (cannot be combined with other offers).

#### **MJH Services**

123 E. Pitt St., Suite 4, Bedford

Offer: \$10 discount on tax return preparation.

### **One-Stop Communications**

126 Electric Ave., Lewistown

Offers: \$10 off any wireless phone and 20% off standard phone accessories.

#### **Paul Prough Photography**

59 Lower Country Club Road, Mount Union

Offer: 10% discount off all orders.

#### **Tiny Tots Childcare and Learning Center, LLC**

22965 Croghan Pike, Shade Gap, and 55 N.

Riverside Drive, Mount Union

Offers: 5% discount to families that are enrolled Monday – Friday. \$25 per child for date-night care or “Parents Night Out.”

### **RECREATION/SPORTS**

#### **Bear Creek RV**

17481 Raystown Road, James Creek

Offer: 10% off regular-priced items.

#### **Chambersburg Skydiving Center, Inc.**

3506 Airport Road, Chambersburg

Offer: \$10 off any student training jump: tandem, static line or accelerated free-fall.

#### **Freedom RV Rentals**

360 Travelers Road, East Freedom

Offer: 15% discount.

#### **Saxton Outdoor Supply**

10520 Raystown Road, Saxton

Offers: 15% off any in-stock bait. 10% off any in-stock Carhartt item (only one item discounted per purchase).

### **RETAIL**

#### **Log Cabin Gallery Shop**

Hartslog Valley Road, Huntingdon

Offer: 10% off the item of your choice.

#### **Prospector Jewelers**

1514 Cove Lane Road, Martinsburg

Offer: 10% discount.

#### **Raystown Electronics, Inc.**

14188 Croghan Pike, Mount Union

Offer: Discount varies with product.

#### **Trough Creek Candle Co.**

17958 Cooks Road, Cassville

Offer: 10% off in-store purchase of \$25 or more.

#### **Vintage Art Glass & The Foxy Grape**

9561 Main St., Huntingdon (Mill Creek)

Offer: Friends and family 10% discount on purchases.

#### **Vintage Jewelry Chest**

8493 Woodbury Pike, Hollidaysburg

Offer: 20% discount.

### **TRAVEL**

#### **Penn Stater Conference Center Hotel (The)**

215 Innovation Blvd., State College

Offer: Complimentary guestroom upgrade (based upon availability).

#### **Riley's Bed and Breakfast**

863 Washington Ave., Tyrone

Offer: Sunday through Thursday - 15% discount.