

JULY 2026

PENNLINER



Let Freedom Ring

Local Artists Reimagine Iconic Liberty Bell in Celebration of America250PA

INSIDE!
WHAT'S YOUR FAVORITE FLAVOR?

CO-OP POWER PROVIDER LAUNCHES NEW WEBSITE



part of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania's celebrations for the 250th anniversary of the United States in 2026.

UNFIT TO BE TIED Tioga County - Where the Path Forks™
Presented in Tioga County
Artist: Randy J. Owen

LET'S GO ON A PICNIC Sponsored by America250PA to support Tioga County's commemoration of the 250th anniversary of the United States in 2026

Saving is believing.



THERE'S A TREASURE IN YOUR BACKYARD

You may not realize it, but your home is sitting on a **free and renewable** supply of energy. A WaterFurnace geothermal comfort system taps into the stored solar energy in your own backyard to provide **savings of up to 70% on heating, cooling and hot water.** That's money in the bank and a smart investment in your family's comfort. Contact our WaterFurnace Concierge Team today to learn how to **tap into your buried treasure.**

Ready to get started?

Scan the QR to connect with your Geothermal Concierge today!



visit waterfurnace.com



- 4 FIRST WORD**
An American Story
America's 250th birthday is a reminder of the powerful influence rural electric cooperatives – and their determined members – have had on our nation's history
- 6 KEEPING CURRENT**
Chips Ahoy!®, Eyes on the Road, and More
- 8 FEATURE**
Let Freedom Ring
Local artists reimagine iconic Liberty Bell in celebration of America250PA
- 14 ENERGY MATTERS**
Co-op Power Provider Launches New Website
Learn where your energy comes from and why affordability is as important to us as it is to you
- 16 COMMUNITY CORNER**
We shine a spotlight on Pennsylvania's rural electric cooperatives and the people who make them special
- 16A COOPERATIVE CONNECTION**
Information and advice from your local electric cooperative
- 18 SMART CIRCUITS**
Use Fans Most Effectively for Comfort
These guidelines make comfort a breeze

- 20 RURAL ROOTS**
The Power of Story
History without story is like steak without the sizzle
- 24 COOPERATIVE KITCHEN**
Let's Go on a Picnic
Energize classic meals with a few culinary twists
- 25 OUTDOOR ADVENTURES**
Unfit to be Tied
Knots are not the easiest part of fishing
- 26 FEATURE**
An Evening of Remembrance
Penn Lines readers bring Flight 93 issue along on meaningful evening out
- 28 CLASSIFIEDS**
- 30 PUNCH LINES**
I May Have Nicked It
People who live in glass houses shouldn't throw hoses
- 31 RURAL REFLECTIONS**
Happy Birthday, America! Let's Celebrate
Readers share their "red, white and cute" moments



ON THE COVER
Randy Owen, field service technician for Mansfield-based Tri-County Rural Electric Cooperative, rings in the nation's semiquincentennial with a Liberty Bell replica he designed.

PHOTO BY COLIN P. MCGUIRE

An American Story: The Legacy of Rural Electrification



STEVE BRAME

AS AMERICA MARKS ITS 250TH BIRTHDAY this month, we'll hear a great deal about the people, principles and events that shaped this nation. That is fitting. Milestones give us a reason to look back, not simply out of nostalgia, but to better understand the responsibility we carry forward.

For those of us who serve rural electric cooperatives, that history has a special meaning.

The American story has always been closely tied to rural places. Long before there were highways, power lines, broadband connections or modern farm equipment, the strength of the country depended on the people who worked the land, built communities and embraced self-reliance. Thomas Jefferson, one of the nation's Founding Fathers and the architect of the Declaration of Independence, once wrote that "cultivators of the earth are the most valuable citizens."

That view reflected something we should not forget today: Rural America was not separate from the nation's future. It was central to it.

And yet, for much of our history, rural communities were too often asked to wait for progress. In the 1930s, while many cities and towns were being transformed by electricity, millions of farms and rural homes remained in the dark. Private utilities generally did not see the value of serving areas where homes were miles apart and the return on investment was uncertain.

Despite this, rural people did what they have done throughout American history: They organized and solved the problem together.

Rural electric cooperatives are also marking a milestone this year: the 90th anniversary of the Rural Electrification Act. With the signing of that legislation in 1936 and the determination of local citizens, electric cooperatives began bringing power to places that had been overlooked. Neighbors signed up neighbors. Communities set poles, strung lines and built systems that changed daily life in ways that are hard to overstate. Electricity made farms more productive, homes safer, schools stronger and small businesses more viable.

That was not just an energy story. It was an American story.

Rural electric cooperatives were built on the belief that essential service should not depend solely on geography or profit potential. They were built on local control, democratic governance and responsibility to the people at the end of the line. Those principles are as relevant today as they were when the first co-op lines were energized.

At the Pennsylvania Rural Electric Association and Allegheny Electric Cooperative, Inc., we see that legacy every day. Our 14 member cooperatives serve communities that are essential to the state's — and the nation's — economy, food supply, workforce, and quality of life. We also know the challenges are different now. Reliability, affordability, energy policy, grid resilience, and new technologies all require careful decisions and steady leadership.

America's 250th birthday is a reminder that the work of building this country has never belonged to just one generation. Each generation inherits a promise and a responsibility.

For electric cooperatives, that responsibility is clear: They were created to bring power where it was needed most. Today, we carry that mission forward by keeping rural Pennsylvania connected, resilient and ready for the future. 🌱

STEVE BRAME
PRESIDENT & CEO
PENNSYLVANIA RURAL ELECTRIC ASSOCIATION/
ALLEGHENY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.

EXECUTIVE EDITOR
Peter A. Fitzgerald

EDITOR
Jill M. Ercolino

SENIOR TECHNICAL EDITOR
Michael T. Crawford

SENIOR EDITOR/WRITER
Colin P. McGuire

LAYOUT & DESIGN
Kaylin E. Aciri

ADVERTISING & PRODUCTION
COORDINATOR
Michelle M. Smith

CONTRIBUTING COLUMNISTS
James Dullej, John Kasun,
Anne M. Kirchner,
Yvonne Butts-Mitchell, Steve Piatt

Penn Lines (USPS 929-700), the newsmagazine of Pennsylvania's electric cooperatives, is published monthly by the Pennsylvania Rural Electric Association, 212 Locust Street, P.O. Box 1266, Harrisburg, PA 17108-1266. *Penn Lines* helps 168,000 households of co-op consumer-members understand issues that affect the electric cooperative program, their local co-ops, and their quality of life. Electric co-ops are not-for-profit, consumer-owned, locally directed, and taxpaying electric utilities. *Penn Lines* is not responsible for unsolicited manuscripts. The opinions expressed in *Penn Lines* do not necessarily reflect those of the editors, the Pennsylvania Rural Electric Association, or local electric distribution cooperatives.

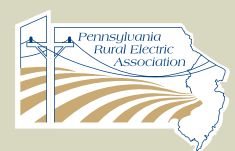
Subscriptions: Electric co-op members, \$8.52 per year through their local electric distribution cooperative. Preferred Periodicals postage paid at Harrisburg, PA 17107 and additional mailing offices. POSTMASTER: Send address changes with mailing label to *Penn Lines*, 212 Locust Street, P.O. Box 1266, Harrisburg, PA 17108-1266.

Advertising: Display ad deadline is six weeks prior to month of issue. Ad rates upon request. Acceptance of advertising by *Penn Lines* does not imply endorsement of the product or services by the publisher or any electric cooperative. If you encounter a problem with any product or service advertised in *Penn Lines*, please contact: Advertising, *Penn Lines*, P.O. Box 1266, Harrisburg, PA 17108. *Penn Lines* reserves the right to refuse any advertising.

Board officers and staff, Pennsylvania Rural Electric Association: Chairman, Leroy Walls; Vice Chairman, Tim Burkett; Secretary, Barbara Miller; Treasurer, Gene Herritt; President & CEO, Stephen M. Brame

©2026 Pennsylvania Rural Electric Association. All rights reserved. Reproduction in whole or in part without written permission is prohibited.

Visit with us at *Penn Lines Online*, located at: www.prea.com/penn-lines-magazine. *Penn Lines Online* provides an email link to *Penn Lines* editorial staff, information on advertising, and an archive of past issues.





RENEWAL
by **ANDERSEN**
FULL-SERVICE WINDOW & DOOR REPLACEMENT

Get a **FREE** consultation!
Call **844-742-1019**

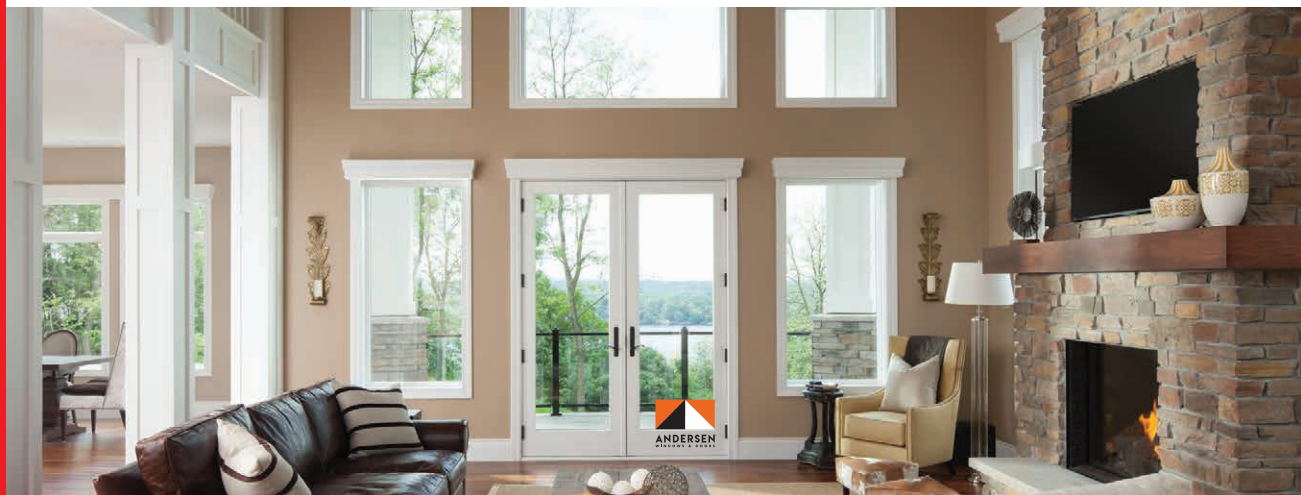
JULY FINANCING EVENT

Order now and pay nothing until January 2028!

NO Money Down
NO Monthly Payments
NO Interest for **18 MONTHS¹**



MINIMUM PURCHASE OF 6 - INTEREST ACCRUES DURING PROMOTIONAL PERIOD BUT IS WAIVED IF PAID IN FULL WITHIN 18 MONTHS



TESTED, TRUSTED, AND TOTALLY PROVEN.²



Offer Ends 7/31/2026

Call for your **FREE** consultation.

844-742-1019

FINDYOURWINDOW.COM

More 5-Star Reviews



Than Other Leading Full-Service Window Replacement Companies³

¹DETAILS OF OFFER: Offer expires 7/31/2026. Not valid with other offers or prior purchases. Get 18 months no money down, no monthly payments, no interest when you purchase six (6) or more windows or entry/patio doors between 7/1/2026 and 7/31/2026. Only valid on initial visit. Subject to credit approval. 18-month Promotional Period: when no payments are due, interest accrues but is waived if balance is paid in full before Promotional Period expires. Any unpaid balance owed after Promotional Period, plus accrued interest, will be paid in installments based on terms disclosed in the financing agreement. Financing is provided by various financial institutions without regard to age, race, color, religion, national origin, gender, or familial status. Savings comparison based on purchase of a single unit at list price. Available at participating locations and offer applies throughout the service area. See your local Renewal by Andersen location for details. License numbers available at renewalbyandersen.com/license. Some Renewal by Andersen locations are independently owned and operated. ²Based on testing of 10 double-hung units per ASTM E2068 20 years after installation. ³It is the only warranty among top selling window companies that meets all of the following requirements: easy to understand terms, unrestricted transferability, installation coverage, labor coverage, geographically unrestricted, coverage for exterior color, insect screens and hardware, and no maintenance requirement. Visit renewalbyandersen.com/nationsbest for details. ⁴Review aggregator survey of 5-star reviews among leading national full-service window replacement companies. January 2024 Reputation.com "Renewal by Andersen" and all other marks where denoted are trademarks of Andersen Corporation. ©2026 Andersen Corporation. All rights reserved. RBA14201

LEGACY OF LOCAL OWNERSHIP

On a rainy family trip to Ireland, I found myself making an unexpected connection with the country and its history. No, I did not discover a long-lost relative, though Fitzgerald is a pretty popular name on the Emerald Isle.

The connection was with electricity – or, more precisely, Ireland's history of rural electrification.

With the rain coming down outside, I picked up Niall Williams' "This is Happiness," a novel set in a small Irish village just as electricity is arriving in the countryside. Williams uses that moment to explore themes of home and community, and how the wonder of electricity represented the crossing of one way of life into another.

The story takes place in the 1950s, and I was surprised to learn that rural electrification came somewhat later to Ireland than it did here. Ireland's Electricity Supply Board set its first rural electric pole in 1946, and the last communities were not connected until 1978.

Rural residents here experienced the same wonder Williams describes, but there was a key difference. In Ireland, a centralized government program delivered power to rural areas.



In the United States, government loans helped rural communities build and own their own power companies: electric cooperatives.

This year marks the 90th anniversary of the Rural Electrification Act, which gave rural communities the means to invest in their own energy future. Instead of simply waiting for electricity to arrive, neighbors came together and built cooperatives to do it themselves.

Today, that model of community ownership lives on in the nearly 900 electric cooperatives across the country, including 13 in Pennsylvania.

Recently, I attended Somerset Rural Electric Cooperative's Annual Meeting, where that legacy was on full display. Despite a heavy downpour, members gathered as a community to conduct the business of their cooperative.

They heard financial reports, elected directors, awarded scholarships, and recognized board members and employees.

With the storm outside, members cheered the co-op employees who keep the lights on – a simple but powerful expression of appreciation and ownership.

That moment captured the heart of the cooperative story. Electricity transformed rural life – here and in Ireland. But in communities like Somerset, local ownership gave people something more lasting: a voice, a responsibility and a stake in their future. Ninety years later, that remains the real power of the cooperative model.

PETER A. FITZGERALD
EXECUTIVE EDITOR



CHOCOLATE CHIP CHAMPION: A recent study found that the most popular ice cream flavor among Pennsylvanians is chocolate chip. Nationally, strawberry came in as the No. 1 flavor.

CHIPS AHOY!*

Pennsylvanians name their favorite ice cream flavor

Yuengling, cheesesteaks and now ... chocolate chip ice cream?

Indeed, when it comes to food staples throughout the Commonwealth, this flavor recently cemented itself as the most popular among Pennsylvanians.

Nationally, chocolate chip came in at No. 2, according to a study conducted by Innerbody Research, an online health and wellness platform, while strawberry took the country's top spot. Meanwhile, Pennsylvanians voted Lancaster County's Turkey Hill as the most popular brand of ice cream in the state.

Speaking of the sweet treat, the state Department of Agriculture and Pennsylvania Tourism Office recently launched the 2026 Scooped Ice Cream Trail. Now in its ninth year, this year's program includes 59 PA Preferred creameries across the Commonwealth.

Travelers can plan their trail adventure at visitpa.com/scooped. The digital passport rewards dedicated ice cream lovers with points for every stop and purchases made from now until Sept. 7.

EYES ON THE ROAD

Law targeting distracted drivers goes into effect after one-year warning period

Distracted driving is now officially illegal in Pennsylvania.

As of June 5, a law banning handheld mobile devices while driving is now enforceable. The move comes after a one-year introduction period, during which drivers received written warnings if they were caught violating the act.

With the new law, motorists face a \$50 fine, plus court costs and fees.

Among the devices banned are handheld phones, smartphones, personal digital assistants, portable computers or similar devices used for voice communication. Also outlawed while driving is texting, emailing, browsing the internet, instant messaging, social media use and transmitting/receiving electronic data.

Because this is considered a primary offense, law enforcement officers can now stop a driver solely for holding a mobile device. Hands-free technology, GPS devices and systems integrated into the vehicle are exempt from the ban.

If a distracted driver causes a fatality, they may also face up to five years in prison. 🚫



With our 60th anniversary in full swing, we're looking to feature even more of our readers in *Penn Lines*.

► **Have you been married 50 years or more?**

Penn Lines has reached a milestone – and we want to recognize cooperative members who are celebrating similar ones. If you're a couple – or you know a couple – who's been together 50-plus years, let us know. You could be featured in an upcoming issue. Please email your name, years married, address, daytime telephone number, and the name of the cooperative serving your home, business, or seasonal residence to PennLines@prea.com by **Wednesday, July 15**.



► **Are you feeling reflective?** Answer one of the following questions – and the best responses will be featured in the magazine:

1. *Where were you and what were you doing in 1966?*
(50-100 words)
2. *What would you put in a time capsule to be shared with readers in 2086?*
3. *Write a letter to the future: What do you hope rural life looks like in 2086?*
(50-100 words)

Please email your name, response to the question, address, daytime telephone number, and the name of the cooperative serving your home, business or seasonal residence to PennLines@prea.com by **Wednesday, Aug. 19**.

TIME LINES



JULY 2016

A decade ago, *Penn Lines* traveled down historic Route 6 to give an overview of the many things people can find when they explore co-op country via one of the state's most famous roads. The attractions along Route 6 are perfect examples of how rich rural electric cooperative territories are – and how endless their influence is across the Commonwealth. (For our more recent experience along Route 6, check out the May 2026 issue of *Penn Lines*.)



SNACKTOWNSTREETFAIR.COM



SNACK TIME

Artists, authors, vendors, live music and more will be featured during the Snack Town Street Fair July 11 in Hanover, York County. Open from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at 40 York St., the one-day free festival is being hosted by the Hanover Area Chamber of Commerce. Find more information at snacktownstreetfair.com.

FLOWER FEST

July 17 is the day the Freedom Farms Wildflower Festival kicks off in Valencia, Butler County. Running through July 19 – and then again from July 24 to 26 – the event invites attendees to pick flowers to their heart's content. Admission to the first weekend is \$20, while the second weekend's ticket is \$10. For more information, visit freedomfarmspa.com.



EVENTS.ELITEFEATS.COM/26CONQUER



CONQUER THE CANYON

Runners near and far have a chance to conquer the canyon in Wellsboro, Tioga County, on July 25 when 5K, 10K, half-marathon, and full-marathon races commence along Route 6. Festivities begin at 8 a.m. with the launch of the marathon and half-marathon. Find more details, including registration fees, at marksraceschedule.com.

WOMEN ON THE WATER

A three-day paddling experience will be held July 31 to Aug. 2 at Camp Lackawanna in Tunkhannock, Wyoming County – but only for women. The Women on the Water Sojourn, hosted by the Endless Mountains Heritage Region, will feature camping, night hikes and yoga, along with conservation-related workshops. For more information, visit emheritage.org.



EMHERITAGE.ORG



LET *Freedom* RING

Local Artists Reimagine Iconic Liberty Bell in Celebration of America250PA

COLIN P. MCGUIRE

Senior Editor/Writer

When word came out that Pennsylvania would be celebrating America's 250th birthday by commissioning artists in every county to paint their own version of the state's iconic Liberty Bell, Bob Heinrich Jr. quickly threw his name in the hat.

Not only did he want to work on the bell representing Sullivan County, but he also wanted to create something that would stand the test of time through one of his lifelong passions: art.

"This was absolutely one of the biggest honors I've ever been a part of," Heinrich says. "I have been drawing since I was little, so this was something I knew I really wanted to do."

Like Heinrich, dozens of artists across Pennsylvania were thrilled to get the news that their ideas had been selected for the "Bells Across PA" art series. The project

was put in motion by America250PA, a commission established in 2018 to plan the commemoration of the country's 250th birthday here in the Keystone State, one of the 13 original colonies. Each fiberglass replica is 3-foot-tall and more than 120 are being showcased statewide.

Because rural electric cooperatives played a crucial role in American history, too, we're ringing in the nation's semiquincentennial by sharing the stories of the bells representing many of Pennsylvania's co-op territories and the artists who designed them.

"Doing this was a high point of my life in Somerset County," says 82-year-old Kathy Trexel Reed, whose bell, "Unending Spirit," pays tribute to the county and its people. "I'm so happy I was able to represent this place the way I did."

ERIE COUNTY:

Nicolas Cardell Gore, "Pursuit of Liberty"

(Served by Northwestern REC and Warren Electric Cooperative)

Erie's Nicolas Cardell Gore was thrilled when he received the call that he was selected to participate in the Bells Across PA program. There was only one problem.

"I was living in a one-bedroom apartment at the time," he says with a laugh, "so, all I could do was clear my entire living room out and work on it in there."

"I've since bought a house," he deadpans.

Gore grew up in Erie and lived there until he graduated from high school, at which point, he joined the U.S. Navy. After spending about a quarter-century away from the city, he returned in 2023 and immediately picked up a passion he had yet to explore: art. Just three years later, his work can be seen by all bell enthusiasts at the expERIENCE Children's Museum in Erie.

In designing the bell, Gore was committed to making it what he called "Erie specific," focusing on the city's naval history as well as landmarks, such as Perry Square.

"This was my first public piece of art," he says, "and this process helped build my confidence. To have the mayor and other politicians look at it, shake my hand and say it's great, it meant everything. Now, I know that I'm on the right path."



FULTON COUNTY:

Charlie Harr, "Our Town, Our Nation"

(Served by Bedford REC, New Enterprise REC and Valley REC)

At 50 years of age, Charlie Harr has spent nearly half a century with a paint brush in his hand. Just ask him.

"I can't remember a time when I wasn't creating something," he says. "I teach art. I run painting events. I'm a full-time artist."

His craft landed him a spot among the Pennsylvania artists tapped to paint a Liberty Bell replica, which is currently on display at Friends of Fulton County, 101 Lincoln Way West, McConnellsburg. Named "Our Town, Our Nation," the bell features scenes of small-town life, including images of the county's courthouse, local farmers and the area hospital.

Harr's creation came together quickly, he says, noting he had only a weekend to illustrate a design draft and present it to the program's committee members. "I really like working under pressure like that, so it was kind of cool," says the artist, who opened Charlie's Art & Soul Studio in McConnellsburg in 2014. "I had been training

for this my whole life, and it turned out pretty much like I envisioned it would."

His participation ranks high among his life's artistic achievements.

"Everybody around town seems to really enjoy it," he says, "and it's kind of cool because when I drive past it, I always see someone taking a picture with it or of it."

"Now, I get messages from people who see other bells around the state," he adds with a laugh. "It's a really neat thing; we're all like a family now."



JEFFERSON COUNTY: Monica Smatlak Liao, “Punxsutawney Seasons”

(Served by REA Energy Cooperative and United Electric Cooperative)

Some artists featured in the “Bells Across PA” program chose to use their designs to pay homage to the landscape that paints their counties. Monica Smatlak Liao chose to use her canvas to create a tourist map of Punxsutawney, the home of Punxsutawney Phil and the site of Groundhog Day celebrations.

“I wanted people to see the areas of interest around Punxsutawney,” she says, “and we needed to have Groundhog Day featured, too, so I thought, ‘Why don’t we do the different seasons of the year?’ So, as you go around the bell, you go through different parts of town and the different seasons.”

Liao, who currently lives in Allegheny County but is a former Punxsutawney resident, worked closely with borough Manager Bill Spencer to pick out the places to showcase on the bell, which can be found at the

Punxsutawney Civic Center, 301 East Mahoning St. The replica features images of Christmas trees in Barclay Square, as well as scenes from the town’s Fourth of July festival. She also consulted with members of Punxsy’s historical society.

Liao says she worked on the bell about six hours a day for a month. Her routine of waking up with her morning cup of coffee, heading down to the basement and painting became such a highlight of her day that by the time she finished working on it, she missed the bell’s presence in her home.

“Bill just told me to go for it, so I did,” Liao remembers. “It was all just so much fun. I can’t really remember a time when I wasn’t painting, so to be able to do this was such an honor.”



SOMERSET COUNTY: Kathy Trexel Reed, “Unending Spirit”

(Served by Somerset REC and Bedford REC)

While Kathy Trexel Reed had known about the statewide bell project for months, she didn't think she would actually create the one representing Somerset County.

“I asked two people who I admire and respect to submit their work,” she says. “When they chose not to and the county commissioners asked me to do it, I gave it very deep thought for a few days before agreeing.”

The 82-year-old's specialty is paper-cutting, so part of her parameters for taking on the project was the assurance that she would be able to use her specific skills to create a design that would be much different from others across the Commonwealth. The glued paper designs featured on the bell, she says, represent Somerset County as the home of businesses, families and recreational activities.

Located at the Somerset County Annex Office Building, 300 North Center Ave., the bell features Uncle Sam riding across a county map on a penny farthing bike, Somerset's famous covered bridges and the Tower of Voices at the Flight 93 National Memorial Park, a nod to 9/11 and the county's role in that part of the nation's history.

To accomplish the project, Reed, who returned to the area to retire, worked with a sign-making company that photographs art and transfers it onto vinyl material that can be wrapped around three-dimensional objects.

The result was one of Reed's most cherished accomplishments.

“I wanted the various vignettes to be a tribute to the county and its citizens,” she says, “and I wanted to represent all of my county, which I dearly love. I told the committee when the piece was unveiled that it was a high point in my life in Somerset County, and I still believe that.”



SULLIVAN COUNTY: Robert Heinrich Jr., “We the People”

(Served by Sullivan County REC and Claverack REC)

When Robert Heinrich Jr. sat down to concoct a plan to potentially design and paint Sullivan County’s Liberty Bell replica, he thought about the nation’s five founding principles: equality, rights, liberty, opportunity and democracy.

“I wanted to base so much of what I did on our Founding Fathers’ five principles,” explains Heinrich, a member of Sullivan County REC. “They said if we follow those, our country should be OK, and I wanted to replicate that and honor those same things with this bell.”

It wasn’t a quick journey to land the job as Sullivan County’s bell artist. Heinrich, who was born and raised there, initially submitted an application in 2022. When he didn’t get a response for a couple years, he began to wonder if the bell project was even going to happen.

Then, after he received a call that he had been selected to paint the bell, he faced a new challenge: the limited window of time he had to complete the project. He had three months, from October to December 2025.

“At first, I didn’t think I could do it because I had to move some stuff around to find the time,” he says. “And then, when I got the bell in October, the weather wasn’t cooperating. If I would have been able to work on it outside, it would have been a lot easier, but we got it done, and it turned out all right.”

In addition to images that pay tribute to the Founding Fathers’ principles, the bell, which can be found at the Eagles Mere Inn, 29 Mary Ave., also features a fair share of keystones, a nod to Pennsylvania’s moniker as the Keystone State. Sullivan County’s heritage also played an important role in the artist’s vision.

“In our county, we have a lot of good heritage,” he says, “and I just wanted to replicate that and those principles on this bell.”

Continued on page 22





Generational Wealth

A future for generations to come



PLACE YOUR ORDER TODAY

\$469 ea.

Minimum order of 5 coins

GENERATIONAL WEALTH is of paramount significance as it represents a beacon of financial stability. It serves as **a tangible testament to the hard work, diligence, and financial acumen** of previous generations, offering a solid foundation upon which future generations can build their dreams and aspirations.

American Gold Reserve is releasing Government issued **\$5 Gold American Eagles** completely free of dealer mark-up for only \$469 each. These beautiful \$5 Gold American Eagles are a perfect way to enter the gold market. They are set for immediate public release and **will sell out fast**.

LIMITED OFFER

Special arrangements on orders over \$50,000

Mention vault release code: **QS93-8966**



- Free of dealer markup.
- Protection against inflation and deflation.
- Gold offers financial cover during geopolitical uncertainty.
- Good portfolio diversifier.

24 hours - 7 days a week

1-866-852-3346



AMERICAN GOLD RESERVE

Strict limit of 10 per household, per lifetime. For new clients only. Prices and availability are subject to change without notice due to market conditions.

Co-op Power Provider Launches New Website

MICHAEL T. CRAWFORD, SENIOR TECHNICAL EDITOR

AFFORDABILITY IS ON THE MINDS of many families and businesses across the country.

When costs rise everywhere else, it's only natural to look more closely at your electric bill and wonder what the people behind the power are doing to keep energy affordable. Allegheny Electric Cooperative, Inc. (Allegheny), the wholesale power provider for your rural electric cooperative and the 13 others in Pennsylvania and New Jersey, takes that responsibility seriously. Recently, it launched a new website, alleghenyelectriccoop.com, to show how cooperative electricity is some of the most affordable in this region.

"An informed membership is an empowered one," says Todd Sallade, Allegheny vice president – power supply & engineering. "Cooperatives are unique in that they are controlled by the people they serve. We owe it to

our members to educate them about how their energy is produced and how it's managed so they can make informed decisions."

Information is power

The website features a breakdown of cooperative-owned energy sources, including the Susquehanna Steam Electric Station, a nuclear power plant in Luzerne County, and the Raystown Hydroelectric Plant in Huntingdon County. Allegheny also draws energy from hydroelectric facilities along the Niagara and St. Lawrence rivers in New York. Together, these resources produce nearly two-thirds of the energy used by cooperative consumer-members and help protect your cooperative from the market's volatility — a key part of the strategy to maintain affordable rates.

Visitors will also find expanded information about Allegheny's

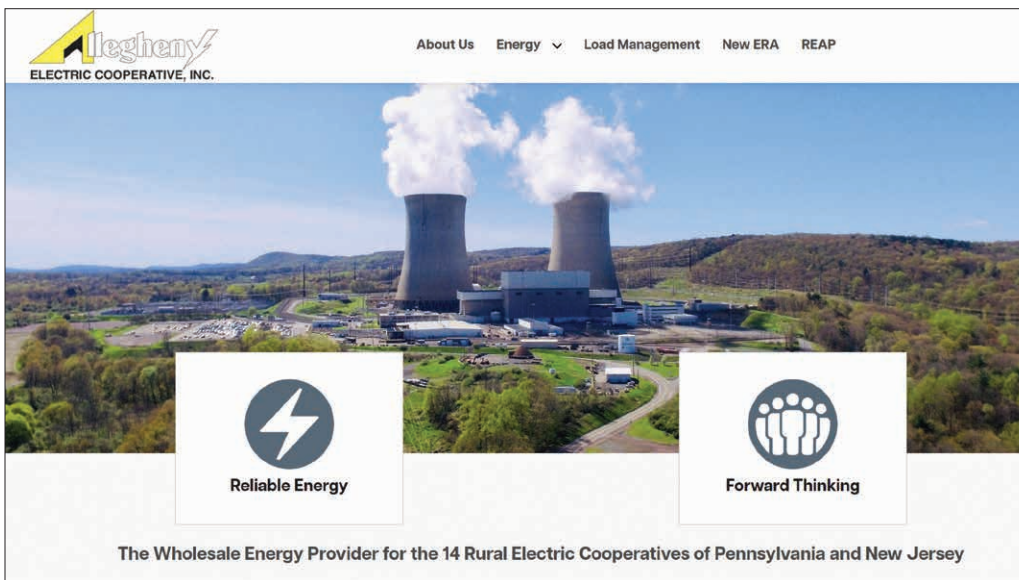
demand-response program, the Coordinated Load Management System (CLMS). This voluntary partnership with consumer-members helps keep rates in check by balancing electricity use during periods of peak demand and reducing the need for more expensive power purchases.

"CLMS is a practical example of how knowledge can lead to savings," CLMS Manager Brian Smith says. "By learning how small changes in electricity use can make a difference, members can make smarter energy choices that benefit both their household and their cooperatives as a whole."

At its core, the new website is about connection. It's an invitation to explore, learn and better understand how Allegheny works on cooperative consumer-members' behalf every day. It makes information about where energy comes from and how cooperative programs support affordability easier to find and use.

As Allegheny celebrates its 80th anniversary, technology has changed and its energy mix has evolved, but its commitment to consumer-members and affordability remains the same. Learn more at alleghenyelectriccoop.com.

ALLEGHENY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC., based in Harrisburg, Pa., is the wholesale power provider for the 14 rural electric cooperatives in Pennsylvania and New Jersey. The cooperative has a proud history of investing in sustainable energy solutions to benefit the communities it serves while providing reliable energy at an affordable price.



NEW WEBSITE: Allegheny Electric Cooperative, Inc.'s new website, alleghenyelectriccoop.com, features information about its history, its approach to power supply, its generation resources, and initiatives to reduce costs for members, such as the Coordinated Load Management System.



"They truly care about my hearing health."

– Joe Namath
Super Bowl III MVP
MDHearing Aid User



We start with **high-quality** hearing aids—and continue with **FREE** one-on-one **caring support** whenever you need it, at the **most affordable** prices.

New Low Price: ONLY \$98⁵⁰ each When you buy a pair



Sandra Porps, AuD
Head of Audiology

Get a FREE set-up appointment from home with a licensed hearing specialist

Over 2 Million Sold!

Exceptional hearing should be accessible to all. Whether you need **in-ear devices** that are **50% smaller** or **powerful** behind-the-ear models, our experts can guide you towards the perfect model for your needs.

Your hearing matters. Don't be fooled by inferior products.

- FDA Registered
- Rechargeable
- Largest Licensed US Support Team For Over-The-Counter Hearing Aids
- FREE 24/7 Lifetime Support
- Supporting Hearing Health For Over 16 Years

NEARLY INVISIBLE



Call or Go Online Today!

1-800-478-3606

GetMDNeo.com

BUY DIRECT & SAVE VERSUS CLINICS

Enter Offer Code **DY72**
for a **60-DAY RISK-FREE TRIAL!**

BUY WITH CONFIDENCE!



Local Lore

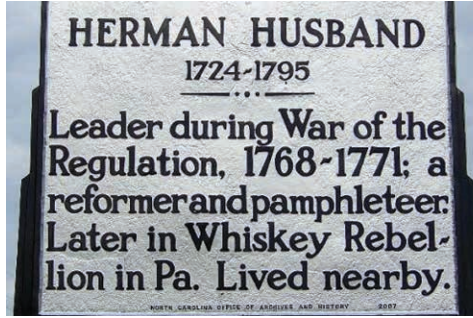
Somerset Rural Electric Cooperative

A Rebel with a Cause

To most history scholars, Herman Husband was a preacher and, more important, the leader of the Regulator Movement, a citizen uprising in North Carolina that targeted colonial officials believed to be corrupt.

Eventually, after moving to Pennsylvania, he would become known as Somerset County's first official settler. The honor is commemorated on a state historical marker at the intersection of Main Street/Glades Pike (Route 31) and Plank Road in Somerset, which today is the home base of Somerset Rural Electric Cooperative.

Labeled an insurgent in North Carolina and using the assumed name "Tuscape Death," Husband fled to the Keystone State in 1771 to evade hanging. By April 1795, however, his



life was quite different.

He had become a prominent citizen as well as a member of the Pennsylvania General Assembly, who successfully convinced his fellow lawmakers to pass the act that created Somerset County from parts of Bedford County. He also managed to befriend Benjamin Franklin.

Husband's most famous act during his time in Somerset was when he raised a liberty pole in the town square, featuring the words, "Liberty and No Excise."

Husband died in June 1795 after spending time in jail for his role in

ESCAPING DEATH: After having a bounty placed on his head for his role in the Regulator Movement, Herman Husband fled North



Carolina in 1771 and became the first official settler in what is now known as Somerset County.

the Whiskey Rebellion, a violent tax protest that started in western Pennsylvania. And so, despite owning the title as the county's first settler, it turned out that not even Husband could "escape death" for too long. 🇺🇸



Main Office: Somerset, Pa.
Consumer-members served: 13,922
Website: somersetrec.com



Big bunnies

This month's artwork comes from Daphne DeShong, age 8, the daughter of Keith and Megan DeShong, members of Huntingdon-based Valley Rural Electric Cooperative. Daphne decided to draw "a mommy and baby bunny that I see in my backyard," she says. "They come out every evening to enjoy some grass and will even hop and play together sometimes." Thank you, Daphne, for sharing your artwork and story with us!

Daphne DeShong, age 8, Valley Rural Electric Cooperative

CALLING ALL KIDS, ages 5 to 17:
Show off your artistic skills!

Each month, we'll feature the artwork of our young readers (or our readers' youngsters), inspired by something they've seen at home or read in *Penn Lines*. Paints, pencils, crayons, clay, sand – any physical medium is OK! You may send digital photos of the creation to CommunityCorner@prea.com, but please: no digital artwork.

Please include the artist's name, age and electric cooperative, plus a 25- to 50-word description of the art.



REA Energy Cooperative, Inc.

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 



Website: www.reaenergy.com
Email: reaenergy@reaenergy.com

Chad Carrick
President and CEO

STAFF

Barry Baker
Indiana Operations Manager

Erin Bauer
Manager of Consumer &
Employee Services

Shane Cribbs
Network & Systems Manager

Dave Daugherty
Safety & Right of Way Manager

Steve Malesky
Ebensburg Operations Supervisor

Lisa Gardill
Director of Finance &
Accounting Services

Nick Hartman
Manager of Engineering

Stacy Hilliard, CCC, CKA
Communications & Marketing Manager
Local Pages Editor

Chris Weller
Load Management Supervisor

OUTAGES & EMERGENCIES
844-920-3395

OFFICE HOURS
Indiana Office: 7 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.
Ebensburg Office: 7 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.
Monday, Wednesday and Friday
Closed Tuesday and Thursday

Annual Meeting Update



STACY HILLIARD

AT THE CORE OF EVERY electric cooperative are its consumer-members. Contributing to the uniqueness of a cooperative is that members are not only consumers of electricity, but they are also equity holders of the company that provides their power. One member = one vote.

Each year, REA Energy Cooperative holds an annual meeting of its membership in early fall, where attendees can learn more about their cooperative and contribute to a question-and-answer session.

Typically, we hold our annual meeting in person, but members can also participate virtually. This year, however, in an effort to manage costs and ensure the safety of attendees, the decision has been made to conduct the 2026 meeting online only. The virtual meeting is scheduled Tuesday, Sept. 22, and will be streamed live from the REA Energy headquarters in Indiana.

Following REA Energy bylaws, the meeting will be conducted as follows:

- ▶ Statement of a quorum
- ▶ Reading of the meeting notice, along with proof of mailing
- ▶ Action on 2025 minutes
- ▶ Election results
- ▶ Presentations and reports
- ▶ Unfinished business
- ▶ New business
- ▶ Adjournment

Door prize winners will be drawn that evening and awarded after the business meeting. Also, members who attend will receive a \$15 bill credit.

To register for the annual meeting, members must visit reaenergy.com and select the "Annual Meeting Registration" button before noon Sept. 22. Registration will grant access to the virtual meeting and offer members a chance to win a door prize. Registration will open after 8 a.m. Aug. 10.

REA Energy will once again be holding a Member Appreciation Month in October. From October (and through the end of November), members who are unable to participate in the online meeting may present their annual meeting member card, which can be found at the bottom of their annual meeting notice, to receive a gift packet. Gift packets will be distributed on a first-come, first-served basis and may be picked up at either REA Energy office location. Only one gift packet per membership will be provided while supplies last.

Members who participated in the online meeting and received the \$15 bill credit will not be eligible to receive a gift packet.

Thank you!

Your board of directors, management and employees extend our sincerest thanks to members for your understanding. As we move forward, we look forward to continuing to serve you with the same excellent service we have provided over the past 89 years. 🇺🇸

STACY HILLIARD, CCC, CKA
COMMUNICATIONS & MARKETING MANAGER

Powering Progress, One Neighbor at a Time

KAYLA KING, CCC, MARKETING AND BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT SPECIALIST

IN THE LATE 1930s, as America recovered from the Great Depression, life in rural Pennsylvania was still tough. Jobs were hard to find, money was short and many families struggled to get by. On top of that, rural communities faced another challenge: living without electricity.

While electricity was changing life in larger towns and cities, many rural homes still didn't have it. Private electric companies ran their lines along main roads, skipping over less populated areas where they wouldn't make much money. For families living far from town, modern comforts were still out of reach.

Among them was Earl George of Derry Township, Westmoreland County.

Like many people in the country, Earl used windmills, chemical cells, and large batteries to receive a little power. These options cost a lot and didn't always work well. Wanting something better, Earl reached out to the Pennsylvania Electric Company in spring 1939. They checked the distance to the nearest line, about 1,100 feet, and gave him a shocking estimate to connect: \$471.

Back then, a day's work might only pay \$1.50, so that price was almost impossible to afford.

Earl was living on a railroad pension after an accident left him unable to work, so he knew he couldn't pay for it by himself. He wasn't alone; families all over rural Pennsylvania faced the same tough choice: live without electricity or pay more than they could manage.

Then came a spark of hope.

Earl found out about a new way to receive electricity, one based on working together instead of making a profit. The Southwest Central Rural Electric Cooperative in Indiana County was bringing electricity to rural homes for just a \$5 membership fee. On June 3, 1939, Earl went to the cooperative's office and finally got the answer he hoped for: Yes, receiving electricity was possible.

But there was a catch.

For the cooperative to bring electricity, enough neighbors had to sign up to receive it. It wasn't just about

one house; it was about creating a system powered by the whole community.

Earl didn't hesitate.

With help from his son and nephews, Earl spent months traveling muddy back roads, knocking on doors and telling people about the chance to finally have affordable electricity. Even though he had to walk with two canes after his railroad injury, Earl kept going. His determination took him all over northern Westmoreland County, collecting signatures and support.

Earl wrote about the challenges in his journal. On June 28, 1940, while looking for new members, his car became stuck in deep mud. A neighbor named J.P. Martin helped Earl and his crew out by pulling the car free with help from a team of horses.

Momentum grew.

That summer, the Rural Electrification Administration held a meeting in New Alexandria that brought dozens of residents together. The cooperative received strong support. Neighbors stopped waiting for change and started making it happen themselves.

By November, construction had started. Crews cleared land, set up poles and built lines, often doing the work by hand without the equipment we have today. It was tough, physical work, but everyone shared the same goal of moving forward.

Then, on April 4, 1940, just a year after Earl started his quest for electricity, his journal noted a simple but important moment: "Electricity turned on."

For Earl and his neighbors, this changed their lives.

They no longer needed oil lamps or iceboxes. Now, they had electric lights, refrigerators and a sense of hope. To celebrate, Earl's family bought a new refrigerator, which amazingly worked for decades.

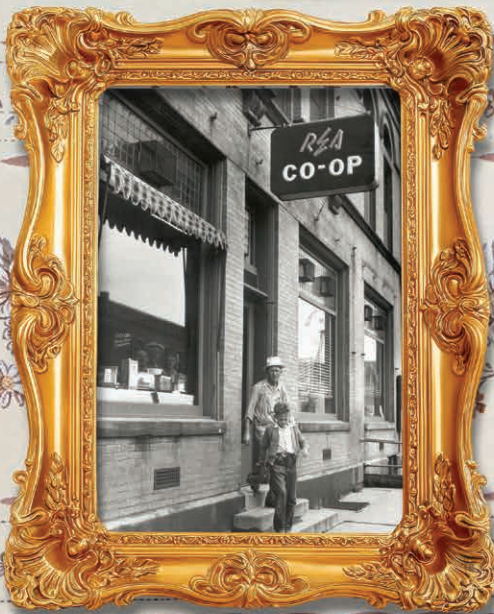
Earl's story is more than just a personal victory. It reflects what can happen when neighbors work together for the good of their community. Rural families refused to be left behind and built something for themselves; something that continues to serve generations today.

REA Energy Cooperative proudly carries on that tradition as a not-for-profit electric cooperative focused on reliability, affordability and putting our members first. Even today, our cooperative membership fee remains just \$5, a reminder that the cooperative model was built to serve people, not profit from them.

In the end, electricity didn't simply arrive in rural Pennsylvania. Instead, it was brought there by neighbors working together. 🤝

ENERGY EFFICIENCY TIP OF THE MONTH

Running multiple major appliances at the same time – like your dishwasher, laundry machine and oven – can spike energy demand and strain the grid, especially during peak hours (typically late afternoon to early evening). Instead of stacking appliance use, spread it out throughout the day or shift chores to off-peak hours when energy demand is lower. This not only helps improve overall efficiency but can also reduce your energy costs. A simple habit change, like doing laundry in the morning and running the dishwasher overnight, can make a meaningful difference for both your wallet and energy reliability.



Photographs provided by NRECA.

STAY CONNECTED

Keep your contact information up to date so you never miss outage alerts and service updates. You can update your details through SmartHub, by calling 724-349-4800, or by writing the changes on the back of your REA Energy bill and returning it with your payment.

Your phone number is especially important for reporting outages and receiving real-time updates. If it's outdated, you could miss critical information when you need it most.

Take a moment to review your information:

- Make sure your primary phone number is correct
- Use a number you can access anytime

Staying connected helps us respond faster and keep you informed when it matters most. Update your information today to be prepared for tomorrow.



**REA ENERGY OFFICES WILL BE CLOSED
FRIDAY, JULY 3, IN OBSERVANCE OF INDEPENDENCE DAY.**

**TO REPORT AN OUTAGE OR MAKE A PAYMENT,
PLEASE CALL 844-920-3395.**

Right-of-Way Management/Facility Construction News

REA Energy Cooperative contractors will be completing tree trimming work in the following areas in July: Contractor crews from Penn Line Tree Service will be trimming the rights of way of the Belsano substation, in addition to emergency maintenance areas.

Members in the areas affected will be notified. Contractors will perform all right-of-way work per REA Energy specifications. All contractor employees will carry identification cards and their vehicles will display their company name. If you have any questions, call 724-349-4800 or view the specifications at reaenergy.com.

Your Board of Directors



Michael J. Bertolino
Chairman
District 3



Wayne Farabaugh
Vice Chairman
District 8



Robert P. Neese
Secretary/Treasurer
District 5



Sandra Dill
District 9



Tom Beresnyak
District 1



Anthony Enciso
District 7



Thomas Aurandt
District 4



John R. Learn
District 6



J.R. "Rick" Shope
District 2

REA Energy is an equal opportunity provider and employer.



SWIMMING POOL SAFETY

Make sure that any lighting equipment in your pool is up to code and regularly examined by a professional. To change or repair a light, ensure the electricity to the pool is first turned off at the circuit breaker.

*If you are in the water and feel electric current, which can cause a tingling sensation, shout to let others know, try to stay upright, tuck your legs up to make yourself smaller, and swim away from anything that could be energized. **Do not use a metal ladder to exit the pool.***

*Remember, water and electricity are a dangerous mix, even outside the pool. **Never touch any electrical appliances or outlets when you are wet or standing in water.***

Learn more at

**Safe
Electricity.org®**



Use Fans Most Effectively for Comfort

JAMES DULLEY

DEAR JIM: To save money, we are going to try to use fans more and air-conditioning less. What types of fans are best for comfort and when should we use them? — *Robert B.*

DEAR ROBERT: Using fans properly for bringing in air from outdoors or moving the air within your house can make you feel cooler while reducing your air-conditioning expenses. Moving air feels many degrees cooler than still air, allowing you to set the air conditioner thermostat a few degrees higher. Also, as air flows over your skin, moisture evaporates, even if you are not noticeably sweating, making you feel cooler.

There are two types of ventilation. One moves indoor air throughout your house and the other draws outdoor air into it. Both have their places and can be effective.

Installing a ceiling paddle fan and running it at medium or high speed creates a direct breeze on your

skin. During the winter, reverse the rotation and run it on low speed. This gently circulates the warm air around the room without creating a chilly breeze.

Select the proper-size ceiling fan to avoid wasting electricity and maximize comfort. Here are some general sizing guides for lower cost four- or five-blade fans, comparing room size with a fan's diameter. For rooms up to 75 square feet, find a fan with a 36-inch diameter; from 75 to 144 square feet, a 36- to 42-inch diameter; between 144 to 225 square feet, a 44- to 50-inch diameter; and from 225 to 400 square feet, a 50- to 54-inch diameter.

Although running any electric fan can make you feel cooler, it actually raises the air temperature because the electricity used creates heat. When no one is in a room to feel the cooling breeze, switch off any electric fan, including ceiling fans. Each

kilowatt-hour of electricity used by a fan produces 3,414 Btu of heat, which your central air conditioner has to remove.

Small personal fans can be very effective to create a breeze while you sit or work in one location. If you purchase a small fan, select one that can also be used as a zoning space heater during winter.

Additionally, select a fan with a wide range of speeds. You should be able to feel a comfortable breeze from 10 feet away at high speed and slight air movement from 3 feet away at low speed. A horizontal, reversible, dual-window fan provides an even wider range of ventilation options for comfort.

Setting your central air conditioner blower to "continuous" can help to balance out room temperatures, but it will not create much of a cooling breeze. Standard blower motors are powerful and a continuously running one heats the air. Variable-speed, electronically commutated motor blowers use less electricity on continuous low speed, so running these makes more sense.

Natural outdoor ventilation is effective and free. When you open double-hung windows or an entry door with a storm/screen door, crack open both the top and bottom sashes to create a natural vertical air flow. You can also open the windows on the windward side of your home just a little and the windows much wider on the other side to create a stronger breeze. 🌬️



WIND WITHOUT WASTE: Selecting the right ceiling fan can maximize your comfort without maximizing your electric bill. Whether big or small, don't leave the fan running if no one is in the room.

HAVE A QUESTION FOR JIM? Send inquiries to James Dulley, Penn Lines, 6906 Royalgreen Drive, Cincinnati, OH 45244 or visit dulley.com.

Why have a stairlift when you can have a Homelift?

Stay in the home and neighborhood you love with a Stiltz Home Elevator

THE MODERN SOLUTION

A Stiltz Homelift is a safe, attractive, & affordable alternative to stairlifts. It requires no special machine room, and no supporting walls.

ECONOMICAL & FLEXIBLE

A Stiltz Homelift can fit just about anywhere in your house. It has a compact footprint, similar in size to a small armchair. A Stiltz Homelift plugs into a standard home electrical outlet, using less power than a coffee maker.

YOUR FOREVER HOME

Avoid the expense and distress of relocating, or the disruption of adapting

your home for downstairs living. A Stiltz Homelift helps you live safely and independently in the home you love.

IT'S NEVER TOO SOON

Some Stiltz customers need a Homelift immediately. But others want "future-proof" their homes for when the stairs become a challenge.

HOMELIFT SPECIALISTS

Stiltz is a world leading Homelift manufacturer, so you'll be in good hands. Your elevator will be installed and maintained by Stiltz trained professionals who truly care about your freedom.



Stiltz Homelifts are now backed by the Good Housekeeping Seal



"I can't imagine what we'd do without it. I wish we had installed our Stiltz Homelift several years ago!"

- Mr. James, Roanoke, VA

Why choose Stiltz?

- Small Footprint
- Full Safety Features
- Clean, Quiet Operation
- Low Power Consumption
- Freestanding Design
- Also Available in White
- Wheelchair Accessible
- Carry Laundry or Pets
- Fast Installation
- Full Warranty



For a FREE BROCHURE or no-obligation home visit

Call 1-833-912-0189 or visit StiltzLifts.com



The Power of Story

MITCHELL KYD

RAISE YOUR HAND IF ONE thing you learned about U.S. history is a story about young George Washington and a cherry tree. Now, raise your other hand if you also heard a famous tale about Alexander Graham Bell spilling acid on his pants and sending the first successful telephone call saying: “Mr. Watson, come here. I want you.” Any of that sound familiar?

By all accounts, both of those teachings are embellishments on our American roots. The story of little George hacking down his father’s cherry tree is fabricated.

It’s attributed to writer Mason Locke Weems, a traveling minister who wanted to make sure our first president was portrayed and remembered as worthy and beyond reproach. As one of Washington’s early biographers, Weems published his book seven years after the former president’s death, so who could question that anecdote?

The Bell story is mostly correct; his first transmission to collaborator Thomas Watson is well documented. But the acid dropped on his pants? Unlikely. There’s no mention of it in his detailed lab notes. I think we can all agree that if acid were burning through his pants and onto his flesh, that first call would have been more like: “Ow. Ow! OWWW! Watson! Get in here! And bring some neutralizer!”

How did Bell describe his invention in his patent? What words convinced investors that his telephone was a practical and profitable tool and not an electrical toy? How were telephone numbers first determined? What savvy marketer convinced a wary public the telephone was not only safe but necessary?

I worked in telecommunications my entire career, and I can tell you I don’t know any of that without research. The important thing is nearly all of us remember something about that first call because we learned about it through a story. It makes sense to me that we call records of the past our “history.” The word “story” is right there; it’s not “histodates” or “histevents.” Story is the integral part, and it’s

what makes the past relatable. Stories help us remember.

We are celebrating the 250th anniversary of our Declaration of Independence this year. The basic details of that event have been passed down through as many as 12 generations, all because someone committed them to writing. But where are the stories behind that story?

I hated history as a kid. All those dates and titles — too much steak, too little sizzle. My brain wasn’t wired to provide a permanent home for dates and dull facts. In fact, my son had a term for that. He called it “R-LETTT”: Remember Long

Enough to Take Test. Maybe if more stories had been sprinkled in, I would recall more of what I was taught.

My inquiring mind wants to know about those summer days in Philadelphia in 1776. Were those five framers of the Declaration extraordinary people, or were they simply ordinary people who accepted an extraordinary challenge? Was one among them prone to stomping off if things weren’t going his way? Who was the



calming mediator who could coax everyone back to the table? Which man was the truly talented wordsmith, the one who chose the exact, strong words to pack the biggest punch? And who called the timeouts when he knew what the group really needed was a break — and maybe a tankard of ale?

Who’s capturing your stories? If it isn’t you, the answer is probably no one. The celebrations of this summer will be filled with family gatherings and once-in-a-lifetime events. You can mark those moments with names and dates scribbled on the back of some photos, or you can preserve your family history through your stories. Starting now, become a storyteller. Write it down. If you want some quick tips to get you started, email me. It’s easier than you think. 📧

YVONNE BUTTS-MITCHELL celebrates the joys and poignant moments of rural living under the pen name Mitchell Kyd. Her stories from the Path Valley Hotel were hatched by encounters with contractors, critters and creepy crawlies while rehabbing the family cabin after its 17-year stint as a giant closet. She can be reached at mkydfreelancer@gmail.com.



DURABLE. VERSATILE. TRUSTED.

THE DR® TRIMMER MOWER

For over 40 years, the DR® Trimmer has delivered MORE:

- ▶ **POWER** – up to 5X more than an ordinary handheld trimmer
- ▶ **MANEUVERABILITY** – oversized wheels go everywhere a bladed mower can't
- ▶ **VERSATILITY** – mow anything with the toughest trimmer cord you can buy

Get More Power, Durability, and Selection with a DR® Trimmer Mower

Shop **DRPower.com** Today



FREE SHIPPING Options Available | Request a FREE CATALOG

PRO

FINALLY ... LIFE INSURANCE YOU CAN AFFORD

TOTAL OFFER

DETAILS

BUY \$100,000 LIFE INSURANCE

FREE INFORMATION

GLOBE LIFE AND ACCIDENT INSURANCE COMPANY

FREE INFORMATION



7460

PAY THE AMOUNT OF

One Hundred Thousand Dollars

\$100,000.00

Non-Negotiable

MONTHLY RATES AS LOW AS:

ADULTS: \$3.49
CHILDREN AND GRANDCHILDREN: \$2.17

EASY TO BUY

NO MEDICAL EXAM - SIMPLE APPLICATION
NO WAITING PERIOD
BUY DIRECT
SCAN QR CODE FOR A FREE QUOTE



SCAN TO VISIT US ONLINE

For Immediate Service Call 1-888-534-3242
Or Visit BuyGlobe4Life.com

PERSONAL OFFER CODE:

XCCX18RN

\$100,000 Adult Life Insurance

- Rate schedule is based on your current age and is guaranteed for the life of the policy.
- Monthly rates as low as \$3.49.
- Coverage is also available for your spouse and other family members.
- Benefits will NEVER be canceled or reduced for the life of the policy if premiums are paid on time.

Policy Form #5R1CV/SR1CV R13 or R17, or #5R1CV90MA in MA

\$30,000 Children's Life Insurance

- Rates are based on your children's or grandchildren's present age and never increase for any reason.
- Monthly rates as low as \$2.17.
- Benefits will NEVER be reduced or canceled if premiums are paid on time.
- Give your children a financial head start right now. Your policy builds CASH VALUE for your family's needs.

Policy Form #GWL2001 or GWLA001

(Offer may vary, \$100,000 coverage not available in all states.)

CHOOSE \$5,000, \$10,000, \$20,000, \$30,000 OR UP TO \$100,000 COVERAGE

Continued from page 12

TIOGA COUNTY: Randy Owen, “Tioga County - Where the Path Forks”

(Served by Tri-County REC and Claverack REC)

Randy Owen isn't just an artist; he's also a field service technician for Tri-County REC. And perhaps one of the biggest thrills in the process of developing and painting the Tioga County Liberty Bell replica was marrying art and his job.

“I was kind of fortunate,” he says. “Because of what I do at Tri-County, I get to explore a lot of the county, so I already had in mind the things I wanted to represent.”

Owen's bell, displayed at the Gate House at Smythe Park, 62 S. Main St., Mansfield, highlights the Grand Canyon of Pennsylvania, the county's courthouse and, uniquely, images of old postcards from the area, which encircle the bottom of the bell. The artist, who's been drawing his entire life, wanted to add more to his design, he says — he didn't want to leave any piece of local history behind — but time constraints didn't allow him to include some last-minute ideas.

Still, with the help of Joel Gregory of Modern Color Collision & Paintworks in Mansfield, who provided the clear coat of acrylic paint that makes the bell shine, Owen has received a lot of compliments on his creation.

“Everybody has been very positive overall,” he says. “I was really happy to hear that the county commissioners felt represented by it — that was really cool.”



YORK COUNTY:

Andi Simpson, "She Lays in the Valley"

(Served by Adams Electric Cooperative)

Growing up on a farm in the York County area, Andi Simpson was happy to lean into where she's from with her bell's design. And where she's from includes farms, fields, valleys and hills that she believes are some of the most beautiful in Pennsylvania.

"I was a farm kid who didn't know what I wanted to do with my life," she says. "But I had some good professors in college and went down the graphic design/fine arts path and never looked back. This project was a perfect way to combine my history with my passion."

She was required to submit three potential ideas for the bell; however, once she got started, Simpson used them only as a guide, opting instead to design and paint as she went along.

Because she couldn't fit the bell up the steps that lead

to her art studio, Simpson decided to make a sun room off the side of her house the bell's home while she worked on it. Painting it while being surrounded by her plants and the light that trickled through the glass was an experience she called "amazing."

The landscapes featured on the bell, which will eventually be located at the Brillhart Station along the York County Heritage Rail Trail, don't just speak to her family's history, but to the history of the Commonwealth, she notes. The beauty of Pennsylvania's farmland, Simpson says, was too pure to pass up as she mulled the things she wanted to showcase.

"I've worked on some pretty cool projects," she says, "but this one is very special to me." 🍷



Let's Go on a Picnic

ANNE M. KIRCHNER

PHOTOS BY ANNE M. KIRCHNER



AIR FRYER CHICKEN TENDERS

- ½ cup mayonnaise
- 2 tablespoons Dijon mustard
- 2 teaspoons garlic salt
- 2 pounds chicken tenders
- 2 cups panko breadcrumbs
- 1 cup grated Parmesan cheese
- Olive oil spray, as needed

Preheat air fryer or oven to 400 degrees. In a large bowl, combine the mayonnaise, mustard and garlic salt. Add the chicken tenders and stir to coat evenly. In another bowl, mix the breadcrumbs and Parmesan cheese. Roll the chicken tenders in the breadcrumb mixture; coat evenly. Place the tenders in a single layer in the air fryer basket or on a baking sheet. Spray with olive oil and bake 5 to 7 minutes. Turn over the chicken tenders, spray with olive oil and cook for 5 to 7 minutes more. *Makes 4 servings.*



DILL POTATO SALAD WITH CAPERS

- 1½ pounds small new potatoes
- 1 cup celery, diced
- ¼ cup capers
- ¼ cup extra virgin olive oil
- 1 tablespoon caper juice
- 1 teaspoon Dijon mustard
- 1 teaspoon dried dill
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- 1 teaspoon kosher salt
- ½ teaspoon black pepper

Wash potatoes and cut into bite-size pieces. Place potatoes in a pot and cover with water. Bring water to a boil, then reduce heat to medium-low. Cook potatoes for 12 to 15 minutes. Drain potatoes and set aside in a serving bowl. Once potatoes are cooled, add celery and capers. In a small bowl, whisk together remaining ingredients. Add mixture to potatoes and toss to coat. Serve warm or at room temperature. *Makes 6 to 8 servings.*



STRAWBERRY SHORTCAKE COOKIES

- 2 cups bread flour
- ½ cup granulated sugar
- 2 teaspoons baking powder
- 1 stick butter, grated
- ½ cup almond milk
- 1 large egg
- 1½ teaspoons almond extract, divided
- ¾ cup fresh strawberries, chopped
- 1 cup powdered sugar
- 1 tablespoon strawberry jam
- 1 tablespoon water

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Combine the flour, sugar, baking powder and grated butter in a large mixing bowl; set aside. In a small bowl, whisk the almond milk, egg and 1 teaspoon almond extract. Add the liquid mixture to the flour bowl. Using your hands, knead the ingredients together. Avoid overworking the thick and sticky dough. Fold in the strawberries with your hands. Chill dough for 1 hour. Using a medium cookie scoop, drop dough onto parchment-lined baking sheets and bake for 12 to 15 minutes. While cookies cool, whisk the powdered sugar, strawberry jam, ½ teaspoon almond extract and water. Drizzle the glaze over the cookies. *Makes 2 dozen cookies.*

Unfit to be Tied

STEVE PIATT

OVER MANY YEARS, I've flailed my way into becoming a decent fly fisher — good enough to catch most of the easy trout and occasionally a difficult one. Along the way, I've accumulated the requisite number of rods, flies and other gear to stock a small sport shop.

But it hasn't been easy.

While I consider my casting ability adequate — certainly good enough for the smaller streams I typically fish — it's always a challenge to get to that point.

The reason is simple: I am a knot-tying klutz.

Fly line backing to reel, fly line to backing, leader to fly line, tippet to leader, and (finally) fly to tippet offer up a series of challenges that at times leave me exhausted, sweating, and wondering if it's all worth it.

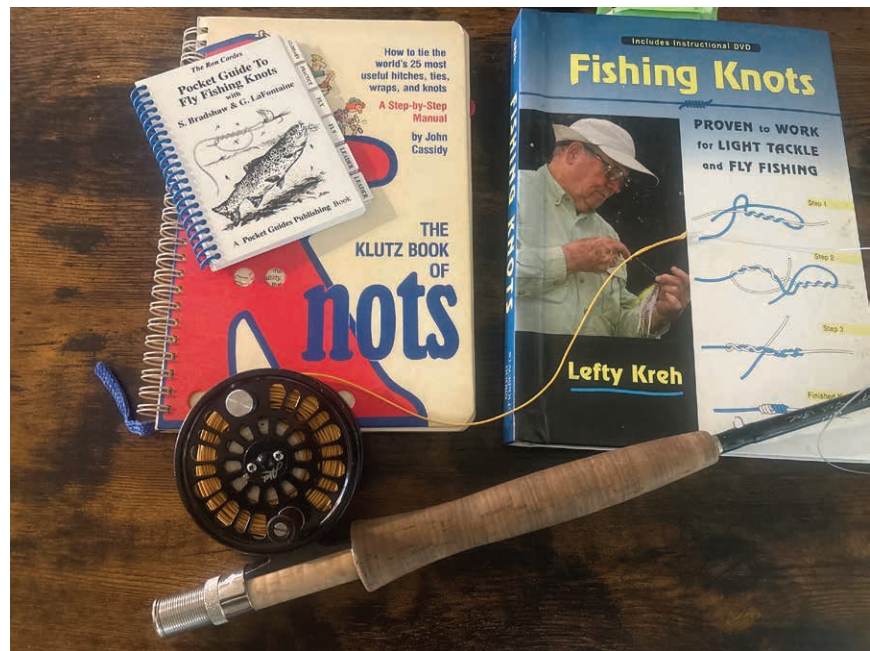
Of course it is. But there are days when my fumbling ways — often as trout rise steadily in front of me — take my frustration level to the limit and send me back to the truck to regroup.

Inexplicably, it has always been that way. My hand-eye coordination is fine. I can hit a baseball, shoot a basketball and golf with a 6 handicap. But when it comes time for my fingers to tie a knot, it's as if I am wearing boxing gloves.

For the record, I can handle tying my shoes. In fact, there are fly-fishing-related knots I tie with relative ease, including a surgeon's knot, which connects leader and tippet.

That is not to imply I could have made it as a surgeon.

Thankfully, I can type with a measure of dexterity, keeping my fingers on the home row and pounding away instinctively. I choose not to think about it, fearing if I did, I would get tied up in — well, knots.



STEVE PIATT

KNOT ENOUGH: Books and guides help fishers know their knots, but fishers cannot knot without practice.

And knots are exactly the problem, even after decades of fly-fishing.

Each winter, I practice at home in my recliner or at my desk; it's much easier tying a knot using both eyes than watching a rising trout with one. I watch helpful step-by-step videos, and I read — “The Klutz Book of Knots,” “Pocket Guide to Fly Fishing Knots,” and the legendary Lefty Kreh’s “Fishing Knots: Proven to Work for Light Tackle and Fly Fishing.”

But when the books and videos are set aside, I am left with the same fingers.

It's not a product of age, although admittedly these days I use a clip-on magnifier to assist as I grapple with an improved clinch or a Duncan loop. I try not to let my shortcomings impact my fly selection, knowing a size 14 Adams is a much easier tie than a size 18. In recent years, I have made life easier with a loop-to-loop connection of fly line to leader. It's one less knot to tackle (a difficult nail knot) and makes for more actual fishing time.

Until a few years ago, I sat at a vise and tied my own flies. That was a separate battle of its own as I wrestled with hooks, beads, dubbing and thread. I limited my patterns to basic nymphs and foam terrestrials, quickly learning not to torture myself with hackle or deer hair. My flies did catch trout and, incredibly, I was able to execute a fine whip finish to each fly, a contradiction to the steps it took to reach that stage.

I've learned to accept my limitations and vowed to continue to reach my full potential, knowing the struggles will remain.

And when I catch a trout on my favorite Pennsylvania streams — Kettle Creek, the First Fork of the Sinnemahoning, Pine Creek and so many remote waters holding wild trout — it will be worth the effort. 🎣

STEVE PIATT is a veteran newspaper editor and outdoor writer who along with his wife, Paula, has hunted and fished across North America. He is most at home on the water and in the fields of the Keystone State. He lives in Bradford County.

AN EVENING OF REMEMBRANCE

Penn Lines Readers Bring Flight 93 Issue Along on Meaningful Evening Out



KELLY M. LUVISON
PENN LINES CONTRIBUTOR

CORNING, JUST A STONE'S THROW from the Pennsylvania state line north of Lawrenceville and Mansfield, is a glossy little city in the middle of an otherwise rural expanse of New York state.

It's the home of Corning Inc., the famed glassworks company that has morphed over the decades into a multi-national powerhouse in cutting-edge science.

Older readers of *Penn Lines* will likely associate the Corning name with products like Pyrex or Correlle Ware, iconic kitchen brands that revolutionized cooking in the early and mid-1900s. Today, some might even call Corning a romantic gem, with its glass-themed tourist attractions, art galleries, history museums, trendy boutiques, Finger Lakes wines and stylish restaurants.

It was at The Cellar — one of several chic eateries on Corning's Market Street — where a copy of *Penn Lines* tagged along on a 24th anniversary dinner date with Lisa and Robert Ross last September. The pair, members of Mansfield-based Tri-County Rural Electric Cooperative (REC), call Tioga County home, and their recent adventure earned them a win in our third and final 60th anniversary contest: On a Date with *Penn Lines*.

'It was four days before our wedding'

The couple grew up in Tioga County — Lisa in Millerton and Robert on Buckwheat Hollow Road just outside of

Lawrenceville, where they have now lived for the past 19 years.

"We're about six houses up on Buckwheat Hollow from the main road," Lisa says, "so we're just rural enough, you know, that we love our neighbors and we can use our burn barrel whenever the weather's right."

Robert, who's known as Ross to most, was raised by his grandparents and, in his own words, muscled his way through the school of hard knocks. He currently works at Corning Inc.'s Sullivan Park Research and Development Center. Lisa, who studied graphic design at the Art Institute of Pittsburgh, has spent most of her working life doing layout and design for print publications, including the Elmira *Star-Gazette* and *Mansfield Penny Saver*. Today, she does freelance design and other work from home. She's also taken on a new part-time gig "away from the computer": working at an area nursery.

The couple met in the late 1990s and started dating while attending Williamson High School in Tioga. They got engaged in 1998 and eventually set a wedding date for Sept. 15, 2001. Then, like so many others, their world was knocked off its moorings by the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11 in New York, Washington, D.C., and Pennsylvania's Somerset County.

"It was four days before our wedding. It was rough because we were hurting as a country," Lisa says. "How do

we celebrate in the midst of what's going on? It was such a tragedy that we actually thought about canceling our wedding."

But friends, family and Lisa's pastor at Jackson Baptist Church ultimately convinced the pair to move ahead with their plans.

"We went through with it, and we all wore little ribbons on our dresses," Lisa says. "We made sure to have a moment of silence and a special prayer during our wedding ceremony for all the innocent lives lost because of those terrorist attacks."

A special issue of *Penn Lines*

Last fall, the Rosses marked their wedding day 24 years later at The Cellar in Corning — but not without a memento or two.

"Always remember" — in bright red type — was the lead headline on the cover of *Penn Lines* in September 2021. "Legacy of Flight 93 lives on 20 years later" read the subtext.

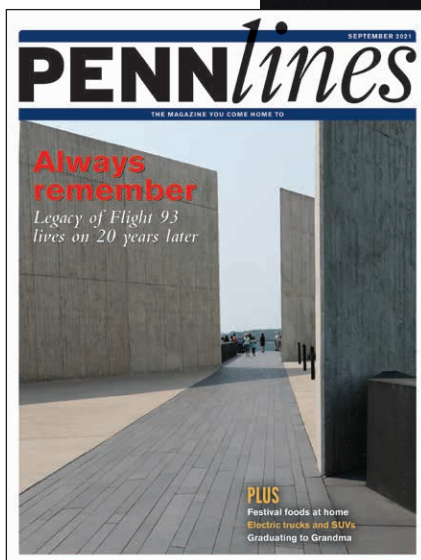
"I made sure I took that issue with us," Lisa says of their anniversary date night. She had saved it in a tote filled with other keepsakes.

"I know we're just two people among millions of Americans who remember that horrific day," she adds, "but since it happened the exact week we were planning our wedding, it weighs extra on our hearts."

Today, the Rosses are living their best rural life and have two grown children. Their eldest, Jordan, is a member of the U.S. Air Force, and Leanna is following in her mother's footsteps and studying at the Cleveland Institute of Art.

As for *Penn Lines*, Lisa says she loves the recipes, the lifestyle articles and "that funny guy in the back."

"I read some of them out loud to my husband because I just find them so comical," she says. "I can relate, and he can relate." 🍷



DATE NIGHT WINNERS: Lisa and Robert Ross, the winners of our "On a Date with *Penn Lines*" contest, took a copy of the September 2021 issue with them while celebrating their 24th wedding anniversary last year. Why that particular issue? The pair were married in 2001, just four days after the 9/11 terrorist attacks in New York, Washington and Pennsylvania. The Rosses are members of Mansfield-based Tri-County Rural Electric Cooperative.

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

ISSUE MONTH AD DEADLINE

September	July 15
October	August 14
November	September 14

Please note ads must be received by the due date to be included in requested issue month; ads received after the due date will run in next issue. Written notice of changes/cancellations must be received 30 days prior to issue month.

No ads accepted by phone/email. For more information, please call 717-233-5704.

CLASSIFIED AD SUBMISSION/RATES:

ELECTRIC CO-OP MEMBERS:

\$20 per month for 30 words or less, plus 50¢ for each additional word.

NON-MEMBERS:

\$70 per month for 30 words or less, plus \$1.50 for each additional word.

SPECIAL HEADINGS:

\$5 for co-op members, \$10 for non-members. The special heading fee applies to any heading not listed under "FREE HEADINGS," even if the heading is already appearing in *Penn Lines*. For ads running a special heading in consecutive months, the fee is a one-time fee of either \$5 (members) or \$10 (non-members) for all consecutive insertions.

PAYMENT:

Please make **CHECK/MONEY ORDER payable to: PREA/Penn Lines.** Insertion of classified ad serves as proof of publication; no proofs supplied.

SEND COMPLETED AD COPY AND PAYMENT TO:

Penn Lines Classifieds
P.O. Box 1266
Harrisburg, PA 17108-1266

PLEASE SUBMIT A CLEARLY WRITTEN OR TYPED SHEET WITH THE FOLLOWING REQUIRED INFORMATION:

- Cooperative members should please submit the mailing label from *Penn Lines* as proof of membership.
- Non-members should submit name, address, phone number, and email address, if applicable.
- Month(s) in which the ad is to run.
- Ad copy as it is to appear in the publication.
- Heading ad should appear under, or name of special heading (additional fee). See below for FREE heading options.

FREE HEADINGS:

- Around the House
- Business Opportunities
- Employment Opportunities
- Events
- Gifts & Collectibles
- Livestock & Pets
- Miscellaneous
- Motor Vehicles & Boats
- Nursery & Garden
- Real Estate
- Recipes & Food
- Tools & Equipment
- Travel & Tourism
- Wanted to Buy

AA ROOFING

EXPERTS IN HARD-TO-FIND LEAKS! Roof repairs – all types. House, barn roofs painted. Slate work, chimney repairs. Southwestern PA for over 40 years. Speedyservice! 814-445-4400.

AROUND THE HOUSE

CLOCK REPAIR: If you have an antique grandfather clock, mantel clock or old pocket watch that needs restored, we can fix any timepiece. Macks Clock Repair: 814-421-7992.

ON SALE! – CO-OP COOKBOOK GIFT PACK FOR \$12, includes shipping. "Country Cooking" and "Recipes Remembered" are collections of recipes from electric co-op members of Pennsylvania and New Jersey. Payable to: Pennsylvania Rural Electric Association, P.O. Box 1266, Harrisburg, PA 17108. Write Attention: Cookbooks.

BUILDING SUPPLIES

STEEL ROOFING AND SIDING. Over 30 years in business. Several profiles cut to length. 29- and 26-gauge best quality residential roofing – 40-year warranty. Also, seconds, heavy gauges, accessories, etc. Installation available. Located in northwestern Pennsylvania. 814-398-4052.

FACTORY SECONDS of insulation, 4 x 8 sheets, foil back. R-value 6.5 per inch. Great for pole buildings, garages, etc. Many thicknesses available. Also blue board insulation sheets. 814-442-6032.

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

DOLL RESTORATION SUPPLIES: Fabrics (cotton, wool, velvet, etc.), lace, wigs, mohair, stringing elastic, leather, doll books (for identification and restoration) and more. Call 717-642-0022 from 1-4 p.m.

CONSULTING FORESTRY SERVICES

RAYSTOWN FORESTRY CONSULTING. Timber sales, appraisals, wildlife habitat management. Dedicated to sustainable harvests for present and future generations to enjoy. 45 years experience. 814-448-0040 or 814-448-2405.

DUMPSTER RENTAL

ROLL-OFF DUMPSTER RENTAL SERVICE available in Adams, Cumberland, Franklin, and Fulton counties, Pa., and beyond. Contact us for pricing and scheduling. 717-860-6274 or heckconstruction33853@gmail.com. Heck Construction, based in Orrstown, PA 17244.

ELECTRIC/GENERATORS

GARY & SONS, INC. OFFERS ELECTRICAL SERVICES to homes within a 45-mile radius of Falls Creek, Pa. We install Generac® generators and do generator maintenance using only American-made Amsoil® synthetic oil. We also install new panels, EV-charging stations, outlets and light fixtures, and do electrical repairs. We have flexible scheduling and experienced electricians. Mention this ad to receive \$500 off a new generator installation. Call 814-204-2633 or go online to garysinc.com. PA192811.

GIFTS & COLLECTIBLES

DOLLS FOR SALE: ALL NEW IN BOXES! 2005 Spanish Marisol American Girl® doll with accessories. 1996 Barbie® Loves Elvis (two dolls). 2001 Society Hound Barbie® and two 2000 Tyler Wentworth dolls. Call 717-642-0022, 1-4 p.m.

ON SALE! – CO-OP COOKBOOK GIFT PACK FOR \$12, includes shipping. "Country Cooking" and "Recipes Remembered" are collections of recipes from electric co-op members of Pennsylvania and New Jersey. Payable to: Pennsylvania Rural Electric Association, P.O. Box 1266, Harrisburg, PA 17108. Write Attention: Cookbooks.

HEALTH INSURANCE

DO YOU HAVE THE BLUES regarding your health insurance? We cater to rural America's health insurance needs. For more information, call 800-628-7804. Call us regarding Medicare supplements, too.

HEATING & COOLING

GARY & SONS, INC. HEATING AND COOLING – It's not too late! Beat the heat this summer with new or improved air conditioning. Or be ready to save money on fuel oil, propane, or your electric bill this fall and winter without sacrificing comfort – add a heat pump! Contact Gary & Sons, Inc. of Falls Creek, Pa., for a FREE estimate: 814-204-2633 or garysinc.com. Gary & Sons installs and services heating and cooling equipment and hot water tanks, cleans air ducts and dryer vents, and does plumbing. PA192811.

LEATHER & VINYL REPAIR/RESTORATION

LEATHER DOCTOR – Professional mobile leather and vinyl repair. Furniture, autos, boats, RVs. Rips, cracks, discoloration and more. For a quote, text photos of damage to 814-423-0684.

MEATS

ANGUS FREEZER BEEF. \$3.50/LB. HANGING WEIGHT, plus processing. No antibiotics or hormones, grass-fed, grain-finished, excellent marbling. By the quarter, half or whole – discount for halves and multiple quarters. Allison Farmz, Alexandria, Pa. 814-669-4014.

MISCELLANEOUS

FOR SALE: BUCKETS, FORKS, THUMBS, grapple buckets and pallet forks for skid loaders, backhoes, and excavators. Tires for backhoes, rubber tire loaders and excavators also. Call 814-329-0118.

FOR SALE: SEA CONTAINERS for storage, 20' and 40', used or new. One-trip use, also with side doors. Delivery available! Bedford County. Cove Container Sales, 717-475-1190.

TIME TO CLEAN UP MY ACT – ALL FOR SALE: left over from 1934 Chevy restoration: 1933 and 1936 engines, transmissions, frames, parts and hi-cab ash door kit. Bridgeport® round-arm milling machine, high-speed head. Kodak® optical comparator, Bliss® 35-ton OBI punch press and other smaller presses. Cream and green cookstove warming oven, Cedarberg® 3-HP rotary phase converter, and a Pratt & Whitney® pantograph surface grinding wheel dresser. Two 1970 Ford three-quarter ton, four-wheel drive trucks. Southern Blair County. Call 814-224-4962.

NURSERY & GARDEN

TREES AND SHRUBS for all your landscaping needs. Rare, unusual, amazing. Bloomfield Nursery, 167 Sproul Mountain Road, Roaring Spring, PA 16673. 814-224-4508.

PLUMBING/WATER SYSTEMS

WATER ISSUES? IT'S TREATABLE! GARY & SONS, INC. can install a HALO® Water System to solve chlorine or hard water problems. All natural and environmentally safe, HALO systems do not require mountains of salt and allow healthy minerals to remain in place. Installed by our experienced plumbers, call 814-204-2633 for details or go online to garysinc.com. We now offer residential plumbing services within a 45-mile radius of Falls Creek, Pa. PA192811.

REAL ESTATE

VIRGINIA'S EASTERN SHORE. Fishermen and beach lover's paradise. Access Chesapeake Bay or Atlantic Ocean within minutes. Waterside Village 3/4-acre homesites Near Marina from \$21,900 with fenced and locked RV/camper storage available. Beach access nearby. Waterfront Sites available on bayside and seaside starting at \$115,000. Many free boat ramps within minutes. Low, low taxes. Kirkwoodontheshore.com. 757-678-7631.

LOOKING TO BUY OR SELL? Timberland Realty specializes in land, sporting properties, camps, cabins, farms, waterfront, exquisite second homes and timberland since 1987. Call our office at 716-962-9935 or agents by region - Western Pa.: Ron Westover, 724-422-5525. Central Pa.: John Rudy, 717-319-0082. Northern Pa.: Dave Anderson, 585-808-5696. Brian Bullard, Managing Broker, 716-499-5608. www.timberlandrealty.net.

REAL ESTATE

FOR SALE: GARLAND, PA, WARREN COUNTY, Marshianne Road hunting camp. 1,000-sq. ft., two bedrooms, completely furnished. Well, septic, electric, propane. Approximately 1 acre. Asking \$75,000. For information: mmscholtz51@gmail.com.

BUTLER COUNTY - 139-ACRE GIRL SCOUT CAMP, \$3,950,000. Clearfield County - 50 acres, cabin, utilities, timber, OGM's, \$349,000. Somerset County - 83 acres, timber, \$345,000. Bedford County - 8.1 acres, pavilion, \$95,000. Cherry Tree - 18.2 acres, gas well, \$99,000. www.timberlandrealty.net. Ron Westover: 724-422-5525, 716-962-9935.

TIMESHARE CANCELLATION

STOP BEING A TIMESHARE VICTIM! TimeShareBeGone will get your timeshare legally cancelled. 100% money-back guarantee. A+ BBB rating, 17 years in business. Low payment plans. Call 800-214-4460, timesharebegone.com.

TRACTOR PARTS - REPAIR/RESTORATION

ARTHURS TRACTORS. Specializing in vintage Ford tractors, 30 years' experience, online parts catalog/prices, Indiana, PA 15701. Contact us at 877-254-FORD(3673) or www.arthurstractors.com.

TRAVEL & TOURISM

NEW SMYRNA BEACH, FLORIDA, oceanfront condo rental. Two-bedroom, two-bath, deck overlooking beach and pool. \$995/week or \$3,600/month. No pets. Not available Jan. - Mar. Call 814-635-4332 or 814-979-8058.

PATTON, PA - FULLY FURNISHED THREE-BEDROOM HOME for rent. Located two miles from Rock Run Recreation and Prince Gallitzin State Park. Rates start at \$75 a night. 814-674-8037 or 814-656-2945.

TRAVEL & TOURISM

EAGLES WATCH CAMPGROUND - 12-site seasonal campground located on the Raystown branch of the Juniata River. Short drive to Lake Raystown. H&B Rail Trail located nearby. Approximately 300 feet of river frontage. Sewer, water and electricity included in our seasonal rate. Each site has 50- and 30-amp electricity. Call 814-212-8470.

HILTON HEAD ISLAND LIFE AWAITS! Two-bedroom, two-bath condo! Economical getaway! Complex amenities: private beach access, pools, hot tub, tennis, pickleball, golf! Beach walks. Summer! Fall! Snowbird discount! Call 814-431-5540.

WANTED TO BUY

ANTIQUe AND CLASSIC American and foreign cars, motorcycles, trucks, Broncos, Blazers and Scouts. Any condition. Will buy entire car collections. krmiller1965@yahoo.com. 717-577-8206.

ANTIQUe AND CLASSIC motorcycles wanted. All makes and sizes. BSA, Norton, Triumph, Honda, Yamaha, Suzuki, Kawasaki, etc. krmiller1965@yahoo.com. 717-577-8206.

COLLECTORS BUYING PRE-WAR AND POST-WAR Lionel® trains, accessories, Plasticville® buildings, Transformers®, etc. Buying pieces to entire collections. Call Mick, 814-656-1634, or John, 814-937-9052.

JEEP 1940s WILLYS or Ford Army-type jeep. Rusty, broken down in field - any condition considered. 215-904-2319. Email: ironrider111@yahoo.com.

GAS RIGHTS WANTED: No-obligation price quote. One of Pennsylvania's largest and most trusted OGM and mineral rights buyer! www.appalachiancleanenergy.com. 570-948-9280.

CASH FOR GOLD JEWELRY: Rings, wedding rings, bracelets, necklaces, chains, earrings, etc. Also buying sterling silver jewelry. I even buy broken jewelry! I will come to your location to buy. Call: 717-891-6493, leave message. York, Pa.

NEW PODCAST

SUBSCRIBE TODAY!

Check out **Inside the Lines**, a monthly podcast from the Pennsylvania Rural Electric Association that spotlights issues facing rural electric cooperatives in Pennsylvania and New Jersey. Look for policy updates, plus insights



from cooperative leaders and the people who make our rural communities special. Listen on Apple Music, Spotify or wherever you get your podcasts! Subscribe today at prea.com/podcast.

LISTEN NOW



Selling Land Is Our Pride And Priority!

Timberland Realty is an owner of the largest land marketing network in the U.S.



Co-Founder Of
LAND LEADER
The National Leader in Land Marketing

- ✓ Rural Properties
- ✓ Recreational
- ✓ Farms, Camps, Vacant
- ✓ Timberland, Investment

Call: (716) 962-9935
Email: info@timberlandrealty.net



Visit timberlandrealty.net, LandLeader.com
Member - MyState MLS

Have something to sell?
Place a **Penn Lines** classified ad today!

Reach more than 168,000 Pennsylvania households! Advertise in **Penn Lines**.
www.prea.com/penn-lines-magazine
or call 717.233.5704

I May Have Nicked It

JOHN KASUN

THE OTHER DAY MY WIFE, Sandy, and I planned to do some outdoor projects around the yard. Sandy was already outside, busy in her flower beds, as I sat on the patio putting on my boots. Suddenly, she was standing in front of me, dripping wet. “That new hose you bought just blew up and soaked me,” she said.

My wife had planted numerous flower beds and ornamental shrubbery around our property, and to make maintenance easier, I installed multiple outdoor faucets. I also purchased separate hoses for each faucet so she didn’t have to change or drag a hose from place to place. Full disclosure: I actually bought the extra hoses so I didn’t have to change or drag hoses from place to place.

I bought those new, lightweight hoses as seen on TV that can expand, contract and be run over by a truck without damage. I won’t disclose the cost of these hoses, but let’s just say when you buy six at once, don’t count on going to a steakhouse for dinner any time soon. Actually, don’t plan on going to a place where live servers bring you food.

As I was lacing up my boots, I kept wondering where I put the receipt for those hoses. There is no way a new hose should have exploded. I was sure I could get a replacement if I had the proper paperwork. All the while, my wife stood in front of me, dripping water into an ever-growing puddle. As I stood up, she whispered something too low for me to hear.

“What?” I asked.

As we get older, I notice we say “what” a lot in our conversations, and I didn’t think any more of what she said until she repeated it in a low voice, “I might have nicked it.”

If we had not been married for so long, I might have assumed the voice was from an 8-year-old girl who got dirt on her new dress and was afraid she might be in trouble.

I sat back down and said, “Sandy, I thought you told me the hose, ‘blew up.’ Exactly what does ‘I may have nicked it’ mean?”

“Well,” she replied, “I was using the new electric trimmer you bought me to trim some shrubs, I didn’t see the hose, and I may have nicked it.”

“OK,” I said, “Let me install a new hose, and then I will see if I can fix the one you ‘nicked.’”

A few minutes later, I stood at the scene of the crime. It was easy to find because everything within 10 feet was soaked. At first, I felt like a detective, but I soon turned into an EMT, trying to find signs of life in the hose that was in pieces to my right, left and straight ahead. A few minutes later, with the water back on, I was on the patio with what used to be a hose in my hand.

“Can you fix it?” Sandy asked with a shy smile.

“Fix it?” I said. “If I nicked myself shaving like you nicked this hose, I would have to carry my head to the office in a basket.”

With a shy smile, she used one of the best tricks offered in the “Wife’s Handbook.” She

reminded me of the time I backed the lawnmower through the closed gate in our new fence and sweetly told me not to worry because “accidents happen.” And because I have done some more dumb things she does not know about, I decided to just shut up and buy a new hose. 🍷



JOHN KASUN, a lifelong Pennsylvanian with more than 30 years of writing experience, looks for the humor in everyday life and then tells a story from that perspective. He is a member of Huntingdon-based Valley Rural Electric Cooperative.

Happy Birthday, America! Let's Celebrate

This month marks an especially memorable time in U.S. history: We're celebrating our 250th birthday. Whether you plan to celebrate with a hefty slice of watermelon, a snack between friends, a waltz through a field on a sunny day, or merely taking in a glowing sunset, get outdoors and soak up the celebrations near and far.

Also, plan to take photos while you celebrate and submit them to our Rural Reflections contest. The best photos in each of five categories (animal, artistic, human, landscape and editor's choice) will run in the January 2027 issue and receive a \$75 cash prize. Runners-up will run in the February 2027 issue and receive \$25. 📷



JENNIFER MILLER • VALLEY REC



LISÉ MILLER • ADAMS ELECTRIC



FAY SERBIAN • REA ENERGY



BARBARA COOPER • CLAVERACK REC

How to enter

TO SUBMIT ENTRIES, email your photos (no more than five digital images per person, per year) to photos@prea.com or send prints to *Penn Lines Photos*, P.O. Box 1266, Harrisburg, PA, 17108-1266. With your entries, be sure to include your name, address, daytime phone number and the name of the rural electric cooperative that serves your residence, business or seasonal home.

Remember, our publication deadlines require that we work ahead, so send your seasonal photos to us early. We need fall photos before mid-July and winter photos before mid-September. *Please note:* Hard-copy, physical photos mailed to our office will not be returned. Therefore, if you mail a photo, please make sure it's a print, not an original.

ADDRESS CHANGES:

For change of address, please contact your local electric cooperative. For cooperative contact information, please visit www.prea.com/member-cooperatives



Celebrate America's 250th anniversary with the DISH Declaration of Savings.

Get **\$250 off** and a 2-Year TV Price Guarantee.

LIMITED TIME! Offer Code: DISH250

Your Whole-Home Entertainment Solution



Satellite TV starting at

\$89.99/mo.

STARLINK

High-speed internet starting at

\$55/mo.



Price may vary in select areas.

Call us today at **888-776-4147** or visit your DISH local retailer!
Visit us online at DISH.com/penn6

Important Terms and Conditions: Requires credit qualification and 2-year commitment. Upfront activation and/or receiver upgrade fees may apply based on credit qualification. New and qualifying returning customers will receive \$10 off their bill for 25 months. America's Top 200 or America's Top 250 package required. Requires credit qualification, 2 year commitment with early termination fee and autopay. Offer ends 8/12/26. Code: DISH250. 2-year commitment: Early termination fee of \$20/mo, remaining applies if you cancel early. Included in 2-year price guarantee at \$89.99 advertised price: America's Top 120 programming package, local channels, and Hopper 3 Smart DVR for 1 TV. All packages, programming, features, and functionality and all prices and fees not included in price guarantee are subject to change without notice. Free standard professional installation only. Other restrictions apply. ©2026 DISH Network L.L.C. All rights reserved. Speeds are not guaranteed and based on U.S. P99 nationwide metric. Availability and price may vary based on location. This offer is valid for Residential service plans and new customers only. Service cancellation or failure to return kit subject to change fee. Terms apply. Review the FAQs on starlink.com to learn more. All offers, plans, and prices subject to change without notice. TV and internet billed separately. TV from DISH starting at \$89.99/mo. Internet from Starlink starting at \$55/mo.

