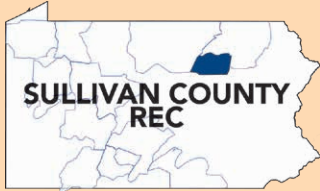


# Sullivan County Rural Electric Cooperative, Inc.

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 



One of 14 electric cooperatives serving Pennsylvania and New Jersey

## SULLIVAN COUNTY REC

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## STAFF

John Lykens, CEO  
Todd Molyneux, Manager,  
Electric Operations  
Heidi Rupp, CFO  
Diane E. White, Executive Assistant

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**Jay Lewis - CCD/BLC/Gold**

**David R. Rakestraw - CCD**

**\*Credentialed Cooperative Director**

**\*\*Board Leadership Certificate**

**\*\*\*Director Gold Certificate**

## OFFICE HOURS

Monday through Friday  
7 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

## Guest Column

# Software Conversion Completed

**IT'S BEEN A LONG TWO YEARS**, but we have finally completed our total software conversion. This project has allowed Sullivan County Rural Electric Cooperative to migrate from six completely different software platforms to a single, fully integrated system called NISC IVUE.

We started the process with research to find a better program that would help our employees work more efficiently. Our old, antiquated program proved to be unreliable and would randomly crash daily. Data was difficult to extract, and it never interacted with other moving parts. As a result, we dug in and looked at three different software programs. While one was easy to eliminate, we conducted hands-on research on the remaining two.

Once the decision was made to go with NISC, we got to work. There were years of historical data that needed to be transferred. From there, we needed to train employees and have many conversations about our processes and procedures.

Our employees had to take on more responsibilities with weekly, sometimes daily, training. They also had to complete information validations while creating data files from scratch, all while doing their usual tasks. The hard work, dedication, and blood, sweat, and tears that all of our employees have put in to make the transition a success deserves applause.

As with any project of this scope, though, we have had some bumps along the way. Our member service representatives were busy with back-to-back phone calls from December to February. NISC would not allow member bank account or credit card information to be transferred automatically to IVUE. Also, despite our best efforts to inform members of the need to re-establish ACH — or automatic credit card payments — for their accounts, many did not take this step.

As a result, past-due notices were generated in the new system and sent out accordingly. Staff worked with members to establish SmartHub accounts during this period. Also, having three consecutive months of the coldest winter weather in more than 10 years led to numerous calls and concerns coming into the office as well. As we continue to fine tune our processes and procedures, we are running the office smoother with our new software program.

In addition, we have been able to offer more payment options than ever before, including the most recent pay-by-phone option. The SmartHub site gives members the ability to report outages, email member service representatives, and monitor their daily kilowatt use.

SmartHub, in fact, is the membership's home to all things electric. You can access SmartHub at [screc.com/smarthub](http://screc.com/smarthub), or download the app directly onto your phone. If you have not signed up for SmartHub, please call the office at 570-924-3381 and a member service representative will help you get started.

On the financial side, the NISC software conversion has gone smoothly. We are doing fewer manual data entries each month as the service and billing are now fully integrated with financials. Detailed information is now at our fingertips.

*Continued on page 16D*

# Memories Last a Lifetime on Dandelion Lane

**SARAH PARRISH**, COOPERATIVE COMMUNICATOR

**VERY FEW THINGS COMPARE** to a young girl's dream wedding. This milestone event is often planned for months (if not years) with careful thought going into the wedding party, dress, seating, food, music — the list continues. While these choices certainly add to the day's luster, the venue may be the most important choice.

Nestled on a dirt road in our service territory's southeastern-most point in Lungerville, the Barn on Dandelion Lane is a hidden gem for folks from both nearby and far away.

## Purchasing the homestead

Roger and Peggy Fenstermacher, both originally from Lycoming County, live just one mile from the homestead where the Barn on Dandelion Lane is located. When the property was listed for sale, Roger was the first to jump at the idea of owning it. Peggy was fonder of a beach house, but they decided to take the plunge on the old homestead under the condition that Peggy could come up with unique and out-of-the-box ideas — and the system works great! It's a partnership of love and respect.

"We have so much fun," Roger says. "We're always laughing while we're working here."

Peggy couldn't agree more: "I love it now. I enjoy being here so much."

The couple purchased the property in 2020. Believe it or not, nearly 100 years ago, in 1919, Roger's grandfather owned the farm, and his mother was born in the house.

"We had lived right down the road for 20 years, and my mother never thought to tell me that!" Roger jokes.

These days, the couple is thrilled to give the farm a life and purpose again.

## From farm to venue

Since purchasing the property, the Fenstermachers have had no shortage of work. The house, barn, and landscaping have all required extensive attention.

**The house** underwent an entire indoor remodel. The kitchen was updated, new flooring was laid throughout the downstairs, every wall was painted, bathrooms were refurbished, windows were replaced, and the attic was converted into a large bedroom. On the outside, a dormer was added to meet safety codes, and the roof was replaced.

**The barn** had its own challenges. First, it needed a deep cleaning. Once the thickest of the dust, bat droppings, and dirt were cleared off, the team was ready to turn it into a venue. Floors were repaired and varnished, men's and women's bathrooms were built, beams were reinforced, ceiling fans, lights, and smoke detectors were installed, and French doors that open to a back deck overlooking the four-acre pond were added. Antique, hand-hewn beams and pegs were paired with modern features and an open-air layout. On the outside, a new metal roof was installed, all battens were replaced, and it was painted its signature blue.

**The landscaping** has not been left out of the property's preening. Peggy, who has not one but two green thumbs, has filled every nook and cranny of the venue with flowers, trees, and shrubs. Daffodils, cone flowers, and lilies line the road and house driveway, which is also surrounded by

SARAH PARRISH



**FROM FARM TO VENUE:** Old bones and country charm are met with cleanliness and modern amenities at the Barn on Dandelion Lane, a farm-turned-venue in Lungerville. Book the house for your next get-away, the barn for an upcoming large-scale event, or both!

dozens of trees. The barn has an old magnolia tree, along with peonies, climbing clematis, daisies, brown-eyed Susans, and tiger lilies nearby — plus, the pond's pride and glory is the cosmo field. The couple also planted trees around the parking lot to shield attendees' headlights from shining into the neighbor's home. To meet ADA and safety requirements, the driveway around the barn was graded to be wheelchair accessible.

Hard work, dedication, and persistence over five years paid off — the Fenstermachers hosted their first wedding in October 2025. Of course, the business owners are always dreaming of new projects: more flowers, a concrete driveway by the barn, giant wire spools for outdoor tables, fire pits, and more.

"The project has been very rewarding," Roger says.

The couple is extremely appreciative of the many helping hands that brought the project from dream to reality: Bill Klein for helping with construction from the very beginning (and his patience while teaching Roger and Peggy how to do it); John Snyder for the outdoor excavation and cement work (and other odds and ends); and Kristin for her help with ripping out thorny bushes (not a fun job!).

### The Barn on Dandelion Lane amenities

The Fenstermachers want their guests' experience at the venue to be as accommodating as possible.

**The house** is available year-round as a weekend get-away or a weeklong retreat. Couples, families, or multiple families are welcome. The house has four bedrooms, plus an open attic bedroom, two bathrooms, a living room, kitchen, and laundry room. Outdoor recreation is encouraged: coffee on



**HOME SWEET HOME:** Relax in the Endless Mountains with peace and quiet at the Barn on Dandelion Lane's roomy farmhouse. Bring your spouse, children, family, and friends – or just yourself! The outdoors and generous bedrooms are more than accommodating.

the porch, playing in the yard, walks on the dirt road, and sunsets on the pond dock.

**The barn** is open May 1 to Oct. 31. The Fenstermachers' main focus is weddings, but they will entertain other ideas/events. Folks looking to rent the barn have several options:

- ▶ Just the barn.
- ▶ The barn and house for one day (as a place for the wedding party to get ready).
- ▶ The barn and house for an overnight stay(s).

Whichever option customers choose, the Fenstermachers make privacy a priority and will never double-book the house and barn with two separate guest parties. Customers also have the option to hold the entire ceremony at the venue or just the reception. The ceremony can be held wherever the couple chooses: near the pond, the cosmo field — or anywhere else on the property. There is no smoking in the barn, but there is a designated smoking area across the street. Catering, photography, tables, and chairs are the responsibility of the customer.

### Book your event or stay

The Barn on Dandelion Lane is at 2391 Logue Hill Road, Unityville, PA, 17774. Anyone interested in booking the barn and/or house can contact Peggy at 570-916-6675 or Roger at 570-916-6676. The house is also listed on Airbnb.com (find the property by searching for the street address). More information and photos can be found on [thebarnondandelionlane.com](http://thebarnondandelionlane.com). Keep an eye out for the venue's upcoming Facebook page.

No more love and attention to detail goes into planning an event than a wedding. The Barn on Dandelion Lane was just as much of a labor of love for Roger and Peggy. Renovating the homestead into a venue has created memories that will last them a lifetime; now they're ready to share this experience with people who are creating their own lifetime memories on Dandelion Lane. 📍



**MADE FOR MEMORIES:** Few will forget this massive blue barn – or the memories made there.

PHOTOS BY SARAH PARRISH

SARAH PARRISH

# INTERESTED IN AN ELECTRIC VEHICLE?

Sullivan County REC has an electric vehicle rate available, and it can help members save money while charging their EV.

## Want to learn more?

- Visit [screc.com/electric-service-rates](http://screc.com/electric-service-rates) to review “Electric Vehicle Service - Rate 7.”
- Call our office at 570-924-3381 to speak with dedicated staff about all your EV questions.



## GUEST COLUMN

*Continued from page 16A*

NISC has also allowed us to create and track invoice billing, order and track inventory and material items, and produce daily balancing reports that used to happen only monthly. Our employees now have access to their personnel information to view and update, enter time worked, and see all the benefits the cooperative provides. We can also generate custom financial reports for our board of directors, auditors, and financial institutions.

The last and final piece of the puzzle was our updated outage management system. That transition was finalized a few weeks ago, and we are learning all the ways it will help our team respond to outages faster. Our lineworkers now have electronic tablets that can give them updated information in real time to pinpoint outage locations and the number of members affected.

The cooperative and all of its employees appreciated the patience and understanding of our membership through our NISC software conversion. Thank you to everyone involved. 🙏

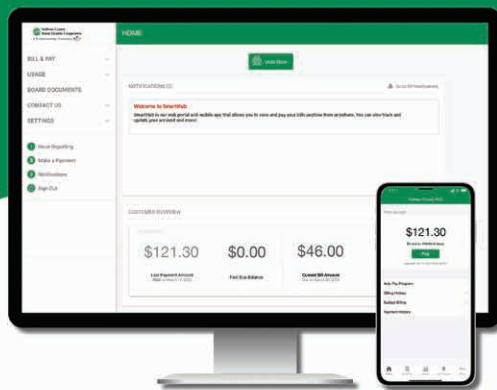
## HEIDI ROUPP



CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER



# AUTO PAY SIGN UP

Save time and money by automating your bill payments to avoid late fees and service interruptions.



 **Sullivan County Rural Electric Cooperative**  
A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

Visit [screc.com/smarthub](http://screc.com/smarthub) for more information.

