



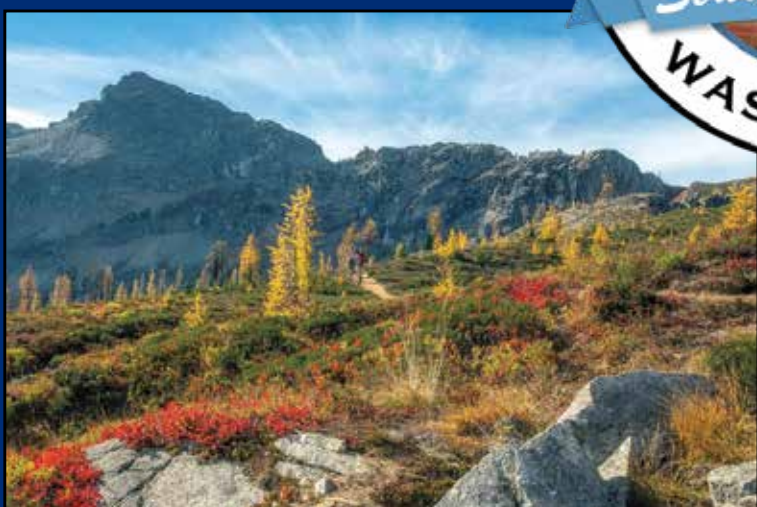
WASHINGTON STATE

Grange News

May/June 2026

Informing Grangers Since 1912

115th Year No. 3



Grangers To Gather In Skagit County For 137th Annual Convention

Grange members from across Washington State will be meeting at the Skagit County Fairgrounds in Mount Vernon for their state organization's 137th annual convention, June 24-27. The convention returns to Skagit County for the first time since 2018.

The majority of those gathering at the convention site – the Skagit County Fairgrounds – are delegates elected to represent their local Granges. The bulk of their time will be spent in meetings, making decisions that will set the course of the organization for the coming

year. Besides delegates, there are scores of volunteers who will have other responsibilities during the week, and many other members drive in to participate in special events, listen to guest speakers or simply to get together with old friends. It is anticipated that more than 500 people

will either participate all week long or join in for at least a day or two.

Officiating at the business meetings will be State Grange President Tom Gwin of Humptulips Grange in Grays Harbor County.

Preparations for this year's event have been under the direction of a district convention steering committee led by Debbie Riegel-Yates of Skagit County.

She has been assisted by a host of volunteer sub-committee chairmen and committee members.

This year's session is being hosted by Granges in the Northern District that includes Island, King, Pierce, San Juan, Skagit, Snohomish, Whatcom Counties

Prior to the official opening session on Wednesday, June

Continued on Page 4

July/August 2026 issue deadline – June 20th
Submissions can be sent to grangenews@wa-grange.org

INSIDE:

Starting on PAGE 4: Information on the 137th Washington State Grange Convention

JUNE 24 - 27, 2026

Skagit County Fairgrounds
501 Taylor St, Mount Vernon, WA 98273

Lecturer's Department

Wrap Up On 2026 Grange Contests

By **Claudine Mincks**
State Grange Lecturer

I'm not sure which brings more delight as a creative person who has enjoyed more hobbies over my lifetime than most learning different talents, participating myself or witnessing others in talents. It has certainly been a fun couple of months opening my email or walking to the mailbox and seeing what all the county Pomona contests have brought in to display and judge.

Local talent is so awesome and diverse! I love it. What I love more is seeing each county Pomona work together with all their Subordinate Granges in fun and unique ways to put on these county Pomona contests. Welcoming in not only fellow Grangers but the local community around them as well. Fellowship, Fun, and Family makes the contests feel inviting to all.

Some county Pomona's provided food, some entertainment, some

educational workshops, and yet others used the contests as a fun lead way to a dance, a health fair, a touch a firetruck, an ambulance, life-flight helicopter, or tractors and other farm equipment. How much fun to interact with the local community and also draw in those talents of the people that encompasses them.

It has been an honor to be invited to some of the county Pomona contests to be a viewer and or a judge. Thank you to those Granges that have welcomed me in as it was such a treat! You fellow Grange members are the best and it is a true honor to have been elected by you to serve as your state Lecturer this past year. Keep up the good work!

As the county Pomona contests come to an end in May, make sure to submit your report of county Pomona contests Lecturer's form to me by email or snail mail, so that the Best of Show items can advance on to the state level at the

June's state convention for further judging and prizes.

There is still time to participate in the Creative Writing contest too! I'm looking forward to reading those submissions whether Poetry or Short Story they are bound to be great. Those too can be submitted to me by email or snail mail in the month of May so they can be judged and then awarded and displayed at the state convention in June as well.

I hope to see many of you at WSG convention in June! The Lecturer's department will be facilitating both a live and silent auction at the convention and if you or your Granges have an item or basket item to donate for them, please bring them to the convention and check them in with the Lecturer's department. If you'd rather support the auctions with participation in it with the fun of bidding, that is welcomed too!



Claudine Mincks

Heirloom Project Readings May, June and July 2026

MAY 2026 (Spring E.3):

"Let the modesty and usefulness of the humble grass be to you an object of imitation."

(First Degree; President)

JUNE 2026 (Summer E.1):

"Behold these inanimate kernels of corn! But the germ has life- the future plant is there.... There is no object in which, to appearance, life and death border so closely together as in the grains of seed buried in the earth; but when life seems extinct a fuller and richer existence begins anew."

(Second Degree; President)

JULY 2026 (Summer E.2):

"We recognize the necessity of experimentation to develop new and better methods of education, but we caution against the widespread adoption of these innovative and experimental methods until they have been proven effective."

(Grange Declaration of Purposes)



Feel free to contact me anytime with any of your questions or concerns at (509) 250-0670 voice or text, claudinemincks@gmail.com and if you are submitting Lecturer forms or entering your Creative Writing entries you can email me or submit them

by snail mail to: Claudine Mincks, 373 Finn Ridge Road, Centerville, WA 98613. Continue the positive Grange workshops, programs, contests, and fellowship activities, it is such a delight to see all the wonderful Grange stuff going on!

LECTURER AND FAMILY LIVING TRAINING SESSION

State Lecturer Claudine Mincks and State Family Living Director Debbie Fisch have scheduled joint training sessions for the two departments. The Zoom meeting will allow for open discussion on the two department's programs and activities.

The next meeting is scheduled for:



**Monday, June 15
6:30 pm**



Join Zoom Meeting: <https://zoom.us/j/98036971581>

Meeting ID: 980 3697 1581

One tap mobile: +12532158782,,98036971581# US (Tacoma)

Dial by your location: +1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

Meeting ID: 980 3697 1581

By-Laws

Prosperity Grange #315 will vote on changes to our By-Laws at our regular meeting, 7 pm, June 3rd.

Submit your stories and Grange successes to...



Email Us

- State President Tom Gwin: tagwin@wa-grange.org
- Sophia Keller, Executive Assistant: skeller@wa-grange.org
- Jesse Taylor, Lobbyist: legislative@wa-grange.org
- Nancy Drake, Membership Records: ndrake@wa-grange.org
- Grange News Submissions: grangenews@wa-grange.org

General: grange@wa-grange.org

Washington State GRANGE NEWS

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• Tom Gwin, Executive Editor •

WASHINGTON STATE GRANGE NEWS (ISSN: 1070-4442) is published every other month for and by the Washington State Grange, 924 S. Capitol Way, Olympia, WA 98501-1210. Subscription price to Grange members is included in annual dues. Non-member price: \$12.50 per year. Periodicals postage paid at Olympia, WA and additional entry offices.

POSTMASTER: Send change of address to -
WASHINGTON STATE GRANGE NEWS
P.O. Box 1186, Olympia, WA 98507-1186.



Moving? Let Us Know?

Old Address (label should be on reverse of this form) _____

New Address _____

Your Name _____

Grange Name & Number _____

Please mail to:
Grange News
PO Box 1186
Olympia, WA
98507-1186

President's Message

Join Us As We "Celebrate Grange" At Our Upcoming Annual Session

By Tom Gwin
WA State Grange President

As we converge in Mount Vernon at the Skagit County Fairgrounds for our 137th Annual State Grange Session, all Grange members are invited to join us for all or a part of this years' session.

The majority of our Grange activities will be right in the center of the fairgrounds:

- Building A will host the hospitality room
- Building B will include registration, community service, membership information, sales, and displays
- Building C will have the junior and youth displays and also serve as the junior and youth meeting rooms
- Building D will be the lecturer and family living displays
- Building F will host the family living lunch, Officer BBQ/Picnic, and the Celebration Banquet
- Pavilion/Building G will be the delegate body and workshops.

Between those areas is a grassy area for our Grange campers. Campers should enter the fairgrounds from Taylor Street on the south end of the grounds. Exit will be on the north end of the grounds. Please note there is a dog show on our convention's closing weekend. We will not be able to enter the fairgrounds through Taylor Street on Friday and Saturday.

General parking for all Grange members will be through the entrance from South Walter Street on the west side of the fairgrounds. Parking will be in the Pavilion Parking Lot, just to the west of the Pavilion. We ask all Grange members to adhere to the entrance and parking guidelines as set forth by the fair staff.

We will "Celebrate Grange" with the official opening of the session on Wednesday, June 24. In addition to the delegate sessions, where one can see State Grange policy being developed, there are plenty of opportunities to celebrate the hard work by our members. The work of our talented members will be on display throughout the week in the display rooms. Group efforts will be included in the

display area with contest entries in Grange Hall Improvement, community service, and many others.

We are continuing with the display of youth educational posters and the public speaking contest. A note of interest for those considering the public speaking contest. We will accept video submissions of speeches for the competition this year. Read the information in the youth section of this issue and in the State Grange Program Handbook.

The Grange Membership Department is taking over the display of Grange promotional materials. We are looking for pamphlets/brochures, posters, shirts, hats, or any other items used by our Granges to promote their events. These items will be

*Thank you to the
Grange members of the
Northern District
(Island, King, Pierce,
San Juan, Skagit,
Snohomish, and
Whatcom Counties)
for outstanding work
in putting the
convention activities
together for the benefit
of all Grange members.*

-- Tom Gwin

judged and cash prizes awarded to the top items in each class. Be sure to turn your items in at the Membership Sales Table in Building B.

Granges are reminded to turn in their one-page "Grange in Action" report. The reports consist of one page with the Grange name and state, accompanied by 3-5 photos of the Grange's activities with captions. The activities must have taken place since September 1, 2025. The reports will be on display and then forwarded to the National Grange for recognition. This program is an excellent opportunity to celebrate the varied projects undertaken by Granges across our state.

Your state officers selected the themes for each day of the session. Officers, delegates, and members are encouraged to dress following



Tom Gwin

the themes. This year's themes are: Wednesday – Western Day; Thursday – Patriotic Day: Red, White, and Blue Attire; Friday – Junior Grange Red Tennis Shoes and Grange Attire Day; Saturday – Tropical Day.

The session will officially open on Wednesday at 8:30 a.m. Following the opening, we will move right into the business session. The Annual Memorial Service will be held at 2 pm in the afternoon session. We are planning a fun activity for Wednesday evening – stay tuned!

The business session will move into full swing and take much of Thursday and Friday. The session will include officer reports and the report and action on committee reports. The Quilts of Valor presentation will be on Friday at 10:45 a.m. The family living department will hold their annual luncheon on Thursday at 12 p.m., while the State Officers Picnic BBQ will be held that evening. Tickets are needed for both meals. Following the Picnic BBQ, the live auction will be held to support the various Grange departments.

The Saturday schedule has been revamped. The Youth and Juniors will open the session and present their programs to delegates at 8:30 a.m. Final business will follow that program. The morning session will end with the presentation of the Grange Leadership Award at 11:45 a.m. The fifth and sixth degrees of the order will be exemplified on Saturday afternoon, followed the Installation of officers and closing remarks. Our goal is to be adjourned at approximately 5 p.m. on Saturday.

Thank you to the Grange members of the Northern District (Island, King, Pierce, San Juan, Skagit, Snohomish, and Whatcom Counties) for outstanding work in putting the convention activities together for the benefit of all Grange members. Your efforts will allow us to join together to "Celebrate Grange" and will assist in preparing us for another exciting year of Grange activities.

Legislative

2026 Legislative Session Wrap-Up

By Jesse Taylor
Legislative Lobbyist



Jesse Taylor

The Washington State legislative session wrapped up on March 10th, ending the work of the 69th legislature. A total of 267 bills were passed in all, including a supplemental transportation, capital, and operating budget.

In versions of the session watch this year you were able to follow along with all of these bills as they made their way through the legislature, including our two bills which were both passed this year.

SB 5252- This bill was requested by Grange member Russ Weston and sponsored by Senator Shewmake of Whatcom county. The bill removes the acreage limit on the property tax exemption for nonprofit public assembly halls and meeting places including all grange halls. This eliminates that 1 acre cap on property tax exemptions. This bill becomes effective on June 11, 2026.

HB 2431 – This was a Grange request and sponsored by Rep. Shavers of the 10th legislative district. The bill increases the maximum annual limit for regularly scheduled fundraising activities for the nonprofit public assembly halls and meeting places property tax exemption from fifteen to fifty days per year. Thanks to Granger Steve Singhouse for testifying in support of this bill.

Income Tax & Budget

The legislature allowed for the first income tax in Washington State history by passing SB 6436. The bill labeled the "millionaires" tax is an across-the-board income tax with a standard deduction of \$1 million. Legislative democrats estimate the income tax will bring in about \$2.3 billion in new revenue for fiscal year 2029, which will add revenue to the coffers for the 2027-2031 four-year outlook.

As we look ahead, this new tax revenue will provide no new services for Washington State residents. If the 2027-2029 budget increases, year over year, at the LOWEST rate in the last ten years, we face a deficit of about \$10 billion over the next four-year outlook. The income tax revenue equates to \$2.3B (if no businesses or seven figure earners leave the state). So not only is that \$2.3 Billion used to simply cover a chunk of the deficit, but that also still leaves lawmakers about \$7 billion deficit to make up for. And that \$7 billion deficit assumes zero spending growth for two years in 2027-2029.

Look for the standard deduction on this tax to be lowered in the very near future. The legislature has shown no appetite for cost savings, cutting waste or reducing government spending. State spending has increased a whopping 73% since 2017 and 103% increase in spending since 2015. No majority party lawmakers have signaled they plan to reduce spending in future budgets, so the math is simple. They will need to increase the amount of income-tax payers to keep up with their spending wishes. In the span of the last five biennium the state has added about 30,000 new employees, which is about a 27% increase in state employees; while the state population has grown about 12% in that time. In that same time K-12 Education spending has seen a 90% increase (increase of about \$14 billion per budget), while student public school enrollment has fallen by about 50,000 students. So while case load has decreased by 3-5%, spending has increased by 90%.

The legislature is likely looking at a deficit of about \$13 Billion after they spend every penny of the \$2.3 billion income tax revenue the 2027-2029 operating budget. It will be interesting years ahead for sure.

Annual Convention

I look forward to seeing many of you in Mount Vernon this June as we celebrate the 137th year at the annual convention June 23-27th. I will giving presentations on the legislature, capital budget and fundraising and can't wait to reconnect with Grangers from all across the state. See you soon!

2026 Convention Info



JUNE 23 - 27, 2026
137th Annual Washington State Grange Convention
at the
Skagit County Fairgrounds
501 Taylor St, Mount Vernon, WA 98273



Grangers To Gather In Skagit County For 137th Annual Convention

Continued from Page 1

25, several activities will occupy delegates and others. All committees will meet prior to the session via Zoom to consider reports and resolutions submitted for delegate consideration. The committees will closely examine all resolutions referred to the convention by local community Granges. In some instances, the committees could draft additional resolutions. All those reports will be referred – with committee recommendations – to the delegate body for further debate during the session. The resolutions cover a wide variety of topics from internal organization matters to policy issues that will occupy the organization’s Olympia and Washington, DC, lobbyists in coming years.

The work of the convention will begin in earnest at 8:30 a.m. Wednesday morning when Gwin opens the session. Immediately after opening, the delegates will begin hearing reports from the various session committees. Following a short break, the delegates will begin their afternoon session with the Annual Memorial Service, recognizing Grangers who

have passed on over the past year.

Young people (teens and above) will begin their convention activities on Wednesday morning, electing and installing their own slate of officers.

Gwin will give his annual address to the delegates on Thursday, June 25. His report will address both external and internal matters. The Family Living Department will hold their annual luncheon at noon, followed by additional sessions. Sixteen different committees will report to the delegates on a wide range of subjects. Thursday evening will feature a fun activity. State Grange officers will host a “Barbecue Picnic”. The picnic will be followed by a live action, which financially supports Grange departments in their work.

The business session will continue Friday. The delegates will consider additional committee reports and elect a member to the State Grange Executive Committee. The Quilts of Valor presentation of quilts to military veterans to end the morning session. The lunch break will feature the Junior Grange Ice Cream Social. Youth and Junior Members will also compete in their public speaking contests, with the winners

receiving the honor of representing our state at the regional level. The delegates will continue their work through Friday afternoon.

The Friday evening activity will feature the Celebration Banquet. In addition to dinner, awards will be presented for both excellence and longevity of Grange work. The awards will include the presentation of 26 scholarships to Grange members from across the state. Granges will be recognized for their community service work, while the State Grange will recognize and outstanding Law Enforcement Officer, Firefighter, Teacher, and Community Volunteer.

The business sessions will begin at the Youth and Juniors taking center stage to begin the day. Following the final items of business, the Grange Leadership Award, the highest honor bestowed by the State Grange, will be presented at 11:45 a.m. on Saturday.

The Grange’s Fifth Degree will be exemplified on Saturday at 2:00 p.m., followed by the conferral of the Grange’s Sixth Degree at 3:00 p.m. The final activity for the day will be the Installation of Officers for those elected earlier in the week. The session is scheduled to adjourn at approximately 5 p.m. on Saturday.

There are many opportunities for fun and recreation at the convention. There is an ice cream social on Friday, youth tours and activities, banquets, workshops and, of course, the impressive Grange displays. Most members attending the convention for the first

time are amazed at the large quantity and wide variety of handiwork submitted by Grangers and others across Washington state. Tables will be filled with samples of needlework, quilts, sewing, craft creations, works of art and photography. These displays are open to the public beginning Thursday afternoon. The displays are under the supervision of the state lecturer and the directors of family living, youth, junior Grange, and community service activities.

State Master Gwin urges all Grangers to consider spending at least one day at their state session. Members who live in the area are encouraged to attend any or all the events. They may also bring along their prospective member friends to the open sessions.

The Annual State Grange Session rotates to various locations around the state. The session will be in Yakima in 2027 and then in the Eastern District in 2028.



WA State Grange Convention RV Information

RV Parking will be available for this year’s State Grange Convention at the Skagit County Fairgrounds in Mount Vernon. The rate will be \$25 per night for water and electricity. Shower and restroom facilities are available. Camping is available beginning on Monday, June 22 and will end on Sunday, June 28. There will not be septic service available.

RV Reservation Form 2026 State Grange Session Skagit County Fairgrounds Mount Vernon

Last Name _____ First Name _____
Mailing Address _____
City _____
State, Zip _____
Grange Name _____
Telephone (____) _____ Email _____
Date of Arrival _____ # of Nights _____
Please circle your RV Hook Up Choice: Water and 30-amp Service (\$25 per night)
Length of RV _____ License # _____
Total Amount Paid _____
Make checks payable to Northern District Grange Convention
Mail by June 1 to:
Aaron Brand, 1318 Roland Street, Bellingham WA 98229

2026 Convention Info

Resolutions For Consideration At The 2026 WA State Grange Convention

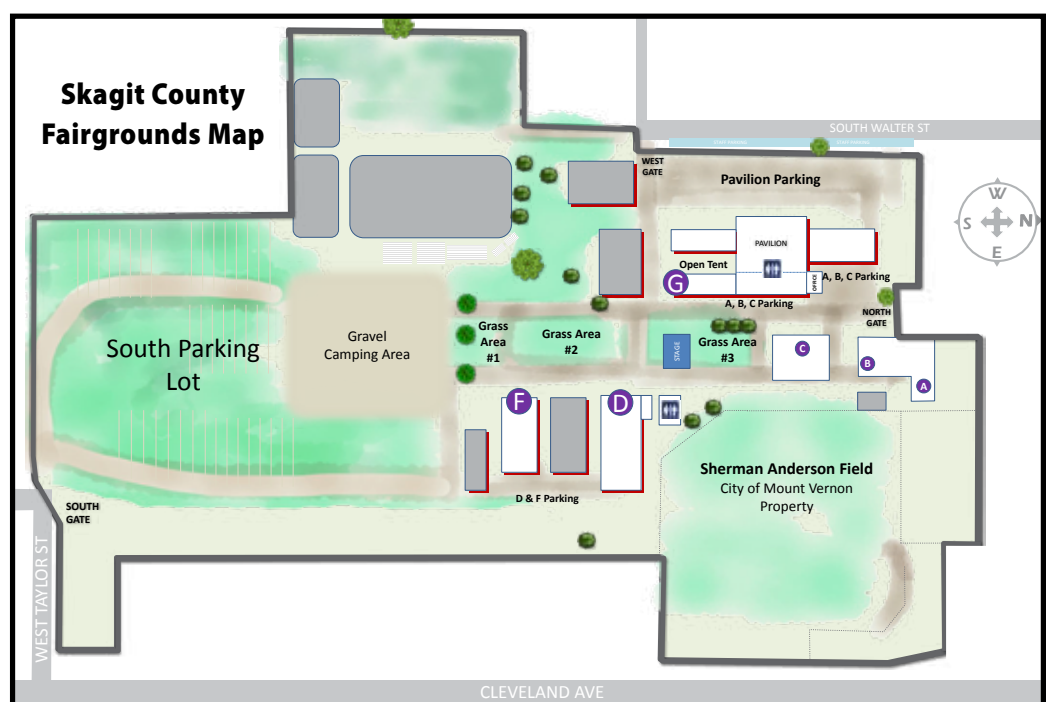
The following resolutions have been received and will be considered at this year's State Grange Session.
The resolution topics and committee referrals include:

| RES. NUMBER | TITLE | SPONSORING GRANGE | COMMITTEE REFERRAL |
|-------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 2026-01 | Is this House Real? | Matlock #357 | State Legislative |
| 2026-02 | Tsunami Preparedness | Grays Harbor/ Pacific Pomona #48 | National Legislative |
| 2026-03 | Supporting Sales and Use Tax Relief on Farm Machinery and Equipment | Five Mile Prairie #905 | Taxation |
| 2026-04 | Financing State Grange | Clark Co Pomona #1 | Grange Activities |
| 2026-05 | Wheelchair Ramps Required | Pend Oreille Co Pomona #29 | Grange Activities |
| 2026-06 | Deduction for Contributions to 529 Plans | Issaquah Valley #581 | Taxation |
| 2026-07 | Departmental Quarterly Budget Statements | Tualco #284 | Audit |
| 2026-08 | Pomona Grange Dues | Collins #893 Moses Lake #1151 St. Andrews #836 | Grange Law |
| 2026-09 | Net Neutrality | Moses Lake #1151 | National Legislative |
| 2026-10 | Predator Management | St. Andrews #836 | Fish & Wildlife |
| 2026-11 | Addressing Roadside Waste Through Infrastructure, Stewardship, and Community Healthy | Fruitland #999 | State Legislative |
| 2026-12 | Retaining Grange Membership Years | St. Andrews #836 | Grange Law |
| 2026-13 | State Grange Convention Host Committee Report | Humptulips #730 | Grange Activities |
| 2026-14 | Composition of the Grange Executive Committee | Humptulips #730 | Grange Law |
| 2026-15 | Universal Health Care | Sunnyside #129 | Health, Healthcare & Safety |
| 2026-16 | Education – Elected School Board Directors Required to Pass Criminal Background Checks | Dry Creek #646 | Education |
| 2026-17 | Growth Management – Duplication of Utility Infrastructure | Dry Creek #646 | State Legislative |
| 2026-18 | Legislative Session Length | Whatcom Co. Pomona #6 | State Legislative |
| 2026-19 | 40 Hour Work Week | Whatcom Co. Pomona #6 | State Legislative |
| 2026-20 | Homeless Non Governmental Organizations | Whatcom Co. Pomona #6 | State Legislative |
| 2026-21 | Pomona Master/President Elections | Whatcom Co. Pomona #6 | Grange Law |
| 2026-22 | Subordinate Master/President Elections | Whatcom Co. Pomona #6 | Grange Law |
| 2026-23 | The Right to Use Cash as Payment | Whatcom Co. Pomona #6 | National Legislative |
| 2026-24 | Managing Forests for Ag Water Supply | Whatcom Co. Pomona #6 | Conservation & Ecology |
| 2026-25 | Eliminate Personal Property Tax | Klickitat Co. Pomona #5 | Taxation |
| 2026-26 | Additional Regulations Needed on E-Bikes | Clark Co. Pomona #1 | Transportation |
| 2026-27 | Locator Function added to State Program Handbook | Clark Co. Pomona #1 | Grange Activities |
| 2026-28 | Locator Function added to State Legislature Handbook | Clark Co. Pomona #1 | Grange Activities |

The above resolutions have been emailed out in draft form. *If you wish to receive a copy of the proposed resolutions, please contact the State Grange Office at 360-943-9911.*

Convention Meeting Areas

- Building A** Hospitality
- Building B** Registration, Community Service, Displays
- Building C** Youth and Junior Displays and Meeting Room
- Building D** Lecturer and Family Living Displays
- Building F** Celebration Banquet, Officers Picnic/BBQ, Family Living Luncheon
- Building G** Delegate Meetings, Workshops



2026 Convention Info

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

Washington State Grange 137th Annual Session Schedule Of Events

JUNE 25 - 29, 2025

Skagit County Fairgrounds, 501 Taylor St, Mount Vernon, WA 98273

MONDAY, JUNE 22

- 10 AM Host District Set Up/Unload Trailer
- 1 PM Begin Set Up of Session Room, Display Areas, Etc.
- 6 PM Rose Drill Practice

TUESDAY, JUNE 23

- 8 AM Department Contest Check-In
- 9 AM Officer Practice
- 10AM-4PM Workshops
 - 10 AM – 2027 Legislative Update
 - 11 AM – The Right Fight: Rethinking Conflict
 - 12 PM – Fund Raising and Sponsorship Opportunities
 - 1 PM – Changing Our Mental and Emotional Trajectory (Rural Mental Health)
- 4 PM Delegate Orientation
- 7 PM Host District Welcome and Family Square Dance

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 24 – Western Day

- 8:30 AM Session Opens in the Sixth Degree
 - Business – President Address, Committee Reports
- 12 PM Lunch Break
- 12:30 PM Workshop –
Transforming SMART Goals into Achievable Actions
- 2 PM Afternoon Business Session
 - Memorial Service, followed by a brief break then reconvening business session
- 5:30 PM Closing in the Fourth Degree
- 7:30 PM Evening Fun Activity

THURSDAY, JUNE 25 – Red/White/Blue Patriotic Day

- 8:30 AM Session Opens in the Fourth Degree
 - Business – Committee Reports
- 12 PM Lunch Break
- 12 PM Family Living Department Luncheon (tickets available)
- 12:30 PM Workshop – 2027 Capital Budget Requests
- 2 PM Afternoon Business Session
- 5:00 PM Closing in the Fourth Degree
- 6:00 PM Picnic BBQ (tickets available) and Live Auction

FRIDAY, JUNE 26 – Junior Grange Red Tennis Shoes and Grange Attire Day

- 8:30 AM Session Opens in the Fourth Degree
 - Business – Committee Reports
- 10:45 AM Quilts of Valor Presentation
- 11AM – 1PM Junior Grange Ice Cream Social
- 12 PM Lunch Break
- 1:30 PM Public Speaking Contests
- 2:00 PM Afternoon Business Session
- 5:30 PM Closing in the Fourth Degree
- 6:00 PM Celebration Banquet with Awards (tickets available)

SATURDAY, JUNE 27 – Tropical Saturday

- 8:30 am Youth Open Session in the Fourth Degree
- 10:00 AM Business Session Continues
- 11:30 AM Presentation of Leadership Award
- 12:00 PM Lunch Break
- 2:00 PM Fifth Degree
- 2:30 PM Sixth Degree
- 4:00 PM Installation of Officers
- 5:30 PM Closing of the Annual Session in the Fourth Degree

** Please check the WA State Grange website for schedule updates.*

Visit us on the Web: www.WA-Grange.com
 Find us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/WashingtonStateGrange

Washington State Grange 137th Annual Convention Registration Form Mount Vernon, WA June 23-27, 2026

Attendee Information:
 Last Name: _____ First Name: _____
 Grange Name & Number: _____
 Phone: _____ Email: _____

Type of Registration: Delegate Non-Delegate Junior/Youth Guest

Additional Members Attending:
 Please list any members who will accompany you. Include age if under 18.

| Name | Age if under 18 | Attending Junior or Youth Activities |
|------|-----------------|--------------------------------------|
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |

\$30 registration fee for all attendees over the age of 18 (unless they are a delegate). This includes: Delegates, Non-Delegates, Guests, Volunteers, etc.

Registration Fee - _____ \$30 each _____
 Qty Total

Note: Dockets will not be automatically printed. Please indicate if you would like one emailed to you at no additional cost. Or you can purchase a printed copy with binder for \$15 each.

Email a copy to: _____ and to _____

Printed Docket Fee - _____ \$15 each _____
 Qty Total

Sixth Degree Tickets - _____ \$10 each _____
 Qty Total

*No Registration Fee for members wanting to take the Fifth and Sixth Degree ONLY.

Candidates First and Last Name _____
 Candidates First and Last Name _____

Total Enclosed \$ _____

Please make checks payable to Washington State Grange.
 Mail order and payment to: Washington State Grange, PO Box 1186, Olympia, WA 98507

Online ordering is available on the State Grange website: www.wa-grange.org

Sixth Degree Tickets can be picked up at the Non-Delegate Registration table.

DUE IN OUR OFFICE JUNE 5TH

2026 Convention Info

Convention Committee Assignments

Additional Committee Members may be assigned at the discretion of the State Grange President/Master

Committee appointments are:

AGRICULTURE

Meets via Zoom, Tues, May 26 at 7 pm

Chair – Carolyn Hojem – Newaukum 198

Vice Chair – Greg Jones – North & South Palouse 1004

Ed Armit – Lewis Co. Pomona 3

Dennis Hall – Skagit Valley 620

Steve Johnson – Sequim Prairie 1108

Michael Kadow – Fargher Lake 853

Rex Ogden – Cowlitz Pomona 7

Tom Quigley – Sammamish Valley 286

AUDITING

Meets via Zoom Tues, June 16 at 7 pm

Chair – Terry Ferguson – Columbia Co Pomona 56

Vice Chair – Andrea Wilbur – Pierce Co Pomona 16

Thomas Clark – Crescent 1123

Debbie Fisch – Beehive 385

Betty Garrison – Roy 702

David George – Kellogg Marsh 136

Paulette James – Mossyrock 355

Dennis Rensink – Rome 226

CONSERVATION & ECOLOGY

Meets via Zoom, Tues, June 9 at 7 pm

Chair - Butch Ogden – Sunnyside 129

Vice Chair – Steve Ricarte – Stillaguamish 1068

Jacob Gwin – Humptulips 730

Ann Johnson – Sequim Prairie 1108

Debra Kadow – Fargher Lake 853

James Loomer – South Lake Stevens 690

Shelley Macy – Whatcom Co. Pomona 6

Sandy Mode – South Bay 250

Jeff Oxborough – Roy#702

CONSTITUTION & BY-LAWS

Meets at session, Wed, June 23 at 11 am

Chair – Steve Dalton – Snohomish Co Pomona 12

Vice Chair - Phyllis Ogden – Cowlitz Co Pomona 7

Ricardo Barrientes – Fords Prairie 33

Amanda Brozana – Whitman Co. Pomona 2

Mary Bryant – Elk Plain 782

Bernie Games – Long Beach 667

George Penner – Molson 1069

CREDENTIALS

Meets at session, Wed, June 23 at 10 am

Chair – Cindy Kudsk – Haynie 169

Vice Chair – Lucy Vest – GH/Pacific Pomona 28

Bryan Bechler – Granville 857

Helen Berg – Sunnyside 129

Rosezetta Knott – East Hill 786

EDUCATION

Meets via Zoom, Tues, June 2 at 7 pm

Chair – Susan Hegney – Spokane Co. Pomona #4

Vice Chair – Marilyn Armit – Lewis Co Pomona 3

Mary Celia – Rexville 815

Kent Hojem – Newaukum 198

Jacquie Hunt – Douglas Co Pomona 49

Isabella Lierman – Snohomish Co Pomona 12

Carrie Paulson – Stillaguamish #1058

Kirby Pollard – Marion #276

Barbara Ramsdell – Prosperity #315

Mary Schwartz – Excelsior Pomona 37

Michael Smith – Waller Road 1111

Jodi Van Gelder – Fern Prairie 866

Tharin Ward – Collins #893

ELECTIONS

Meets at session, Wed, June 23 at 10:30 am

Chair – Sherry Cummins – Pend Oreille Co. Pomona 29

Vice Chair – Jennifer Webb – Rimrock 941

Lois Cummins – Inland 780

Steve Hall – McMillin 848

Kendal Harner – Olympic View 774

FISH & WILDLIFE

Meets via Zoom, Mon, June 15 at 7 pm

Chair – Peter Hauk – Ten Mile 399

Vice Chair – Darell Myers – Mossyrock 355

Ron Frisch – Crescent 1123

Rusty Hunt – Douglas Co Pomona 49

Jim Lyle – Whitman Co. Pomona 2

Steve Yates – Skagit Co. Pomona 10

GRANGE ACTIVITIES

Meets via Zoom, Wed, June 3 at 7 pm

Chair – Janice Anderson – Clark Co Pomona 1

Vice Chair – Alexis Kudsk – Haynie 169

Davona Gwin – Humptulips 730

Aric Irwin – Mason Co. Pomona 20

Janelle Lierman – Horseshoe 965

Vicky Loomer – South Lake Stevens 690

Jill Michels – Fredonia 545

Robert Reichle – Cedar Valley 306

Christie Vintilo – South Union 860

GRANGE LAW

Meets via Zoom, Thurs, June 4 at 7 pm

Chair – Jarrod Gardner – Pierce Co Pomona 16

Vice Chair – Tom Cullen – Yakima Valley Pomona 11

David Bryant – Elk Plain 782

Bob Clouse – Spring Hill 909

Ruth Anne Lance – Washington 82

Syn Omega – Matlock #357

Cheryl Saiz – Fruitland 999

Leslie Wells – Tualco 284

HEALTH CARE & SAFETY

Meets via Zoom, Thurs, June 10 at 7 pm

Chair - Jordanne Beck – Ralston 943

Vice Chair – Christine Hamp – Five Mile Prairie 905

Aaron Brand – North Bellingham 201

Dianne George – Kellogg Marsh 136

Jerry Gwin – Humptulips 730

Rob Hegney – McIntosh 1001

Jacquie Hunt – Douglas Co. Pomona 49

Jennifer Oliver – Collins 893

Mary Schwartz – Excelsior Pomona 37

Charlotte Wixson – Cedar Valley 306

NATIONAL LEGISLATIVE

Meets via Zoom, Thurs, May 28 at 7 pm

Chair – Pam Mathews – South Union 860

Vice Chair – Bob Shea – Tyler 610

Rick Ferguson – Waitsburg 1

Debbie Riegel- Yates – Skagit Co. Pomona 10

Sheila Wynn – Waller Road 1111

STATE LEGISLATIVE

Meets via Zoom, Mon, June 8 at 7 pm

Chair - Oren Gaskill – Ten Mile 399

Vice Chair – Mitch Clouse - Spring Hill 909

Duane Hamp – Five Mile Prairie 905

Carol Johnstone – Fords Prairie 33

Marg Ohlsen – Tualco 284

Jonny Pittman – Moses Lake 1151

Kathy Warren – Fruitland 999

TAXATION & FISCAL POLICY

Meets via Zoom, Mon, June 1, 7 pm

Chair – Scott Hackett – Whatcom Co. Pomona #6

Vice Chair – J.D. Prowse – Matlock #357

Mark Fisch – Beehive 385

Warren Lewis – Garden City 280

Scott Lyle – Pine Grove 115

Michael Schwartz – Excelsior Pomona 37

TRANSPORTATION

Meets via Zoom, Wed, May 27, 7 pm

Chair – Bekki Weston – North Bellingham 201

Vice Chair – Brittney Pittman – Moses Lake 1151

Kathleen Bechler – Granville 857

Fred Harnishfeger – Logan Hill 1086

Rodger Lance – Washington 82

Dustin Ogden – Sunnyside 129

Kirk Van Gelder – Fern Prairie 866

Dress Up Days For The Convention

WEDNESDAY

June 24 Western Day

THURSDAY

June 25 Red/White/Blue Patriotic Day

FRIDAY

June 26 Junior Grange Red Tennis Shoes
and Grange Attire

SATURDAY

June 27 Tropical Saturday



2026 Convention Info

Housing Around The Skagit County Fairgrounds For The 2026 State Convention

Making reservations early is really important, because everyone in the world will be coming to Mt. Vernon the same week. **Not joking** - that week includes people from both Vancouver, B.C. and Seattle attending the FIFA World Cup, the NW Firecracker Tournament, a cross-country biking group and the regular summer tourism accessing the Cascades parks. Some hotels have offered courtesy block rates or discount codes, but on a first come, first served basis. Others were reluctant due to expected extreme demand. (You could look in Bellingham too, which is 28 miles north) **Book Soon!**

→ Days Inn by Wyndham Mt. Vernon

2009 Riverside Dr, Mount Vernon, WA 98273
(360) 424-4141 - 2-star hotel
Family/Oversized Rooms Available,
Free Coffee & Breakfast Item, Free Parking
Free WiFi, Pet Friendly, Pool - Outdoor,
Restaurant, Rollaway Beds Available

BLOCK RATES:

one king bed 2 guests \$ 119+tax
2 bed 2 guest queen bed \$129+ tax
2 bed 4 guest queen bed \$145 + tax

→ Tulip Inn

2200 Freeway Dr, Mount Vernon
(800) 599-5969 - 2-star hotel

BLOCK RATES:

S Queen for M-Th = \$99/night plus tax
F-Sat = \$110+ tax
D Queen for M-Th = \$110/night plus tax
F-Sat = \$116+ tax

→ La Quinta Inn & Suites, Burlington

1670 S Burlington Blvd, Burlington, WA 98233
360-205-9205
Indoor and outdoor pool, hot tub,
non-smoking facility

BLOCK RATES:

06/22 - 06/25 Group Rate: \$199+ (room & tax)
06/26 - 06/28 Group Rate: \$299+ (room & tax)

→ Clarion Pointe Mount Vernon - Burlington

300 W College Way, Mount Vernon, WA 98273
(360) 200-8424 - 2-star hotel
Pet Friendly* Free Hot Breakfast, Seasonal
Outdoor Pool, Fitness Center

BLOCK RATES:

\$289.00 per night plus tax for one or two guests
\$309.00 per night plus tax for three or four guests
Maximum occupancy: four guests per room
45-day cutoff date prior to arrival. (May 6)
Full, non-refundable prepayment for the entire
stay required at the time of booking. Reservations
can not be canceled and are non-refundable.
Early departures will not result in refunds.

→ Quality Inn Mount Vernon

1910 Freeway Dr, Mount Vernon, WA 98273
(360) 610-4329 - 2-star hotel
Premium Free WiFi, Indoor Pool, Pet Friendly
Free Hot Breakfast, Weekday Newspaper, Laundry
**No Block rates, but ask for Grange rate if
available**

→ The Kulshan Hotel

807 Trail Rd, Sedro-Woolley, WA 98284
(360) 207-1369
Complimentary Breakfast and Parking,
Non Smoking Facility, Fitness Center

BLOCK RATES:

State Grange Convention - Discount Code for
The Kulshan Hotel
Queen Studio room = \$179.10/weekday night and
\$269.10/ weekend night

→ Three Rivers Inn Hotel

210 Ball St, Sedro-Woolley, WA 98284
(360) 855-2626 - 2-star hotel
Smoke-free property, Outdoor pool, Self-service
laundry, Parking free, No pets, No breakfast

BLOCK RATES:

S Queen = \$91 with tax
D Queen = \$101.54 with tax
King = \$96.01 with tax

→ Wingate by Wyndham Mount Vernon

2300 Market St, Mount Vernon, WA 98273
(360) 342-6701 - 4-star hotel
100% Smoke-Free Hotel, Free Bus/Truck Parking
Free Breakfast Buffet, Free Parking, Free WiFi
Laundry, Pet Friendly, Pool -Outdoor, RV Parking

→ Fairfield by Marriott Inn & Suites

9384 Old Hwy 99 N, Burlington, WA 98233
(360) 757-2717 - 2-star hotel
Pool, Breakfast free, Free WIFI, Parking
Smoke-free property, Activities for kids
Pet-friendly extra charge.

→ Motel 6 - Burlington

866 S Burlington Blvd, Burlington, WA 98233
(360) 284-9485 - 2-star hotel
Pets Allowed, Kids Stay Free, Restaurant Nearby



There are other housing options in the Burlington/Mt Vernon area, including numerous Airbnb locations, but due to the extreme demand in June, these may be hard to get. West of Mt. Vernon is LaConner, which may have some housing available. South of Mt. Vernon is Stanwood, Arlington and Marysville. Everett (34 miles) has many more hotels, but they too will have heavy pressure due to the FIFA cup.



Fifth and Sixth Degrees To Be Conferred; Tickets Available

The Washington State Grange Officers will be conferring the Sixth Degree at the Annual State Grange Session on Saturday, June 28. The conferral will begin at 3 p.m. and will be held in the Livestock Pavilion (Building G), the same location as the delegate meetings.

All Sixth Degree candidates must have received the Fifth Degree of the Order, which will be exemplified at 2:00 p.m. by a team from Pierce County. Candidates should arrive at least 15 minutes prior to the degrees to get seated in the designated areas.

Tickets for the Fifth Degree are \$1 each. Tickets for the Sixth Degree are \$10 each. Tickets will be available in the registration area of the convention.



Convention Workshop Schedule

Tuesday, June 23

- 10 am** **2026 Legislative Wrap Up**
Jesse Taylor, WA State Grange Lobbyist
- 11 am** **The Right Fight: Rethinking Conflict**
Rusty Hunt, State Grange Vice President
- 12 pm** **Fund Raising and Sponsorships**
Jesse Taylor, WA State Grange Lobbyist
- 1 pm** **Changing Our Mental and Emotional Trajectory**
Cheryl Reese, Farms Stress Coordinator,
WSU Extension - Yakima County

Wednesday, June 24

- 12:30 pm** **Transforming SMART Goals into Achievable Actions**
Jonny & Brittney Pittman,
State Grange Officers

Thursday, June 25

- 12:30 pm** **2027 Capitol Budgeting Applications**
Jesse Taylor, WA State Grange Lobbyist

2026 Convention Info

From The Chaplain's Desk

Information Needed For The Grange Memorial Service At Convention

By Carolyn Hojem
State Grange Chaplain



Carolyn Hojem

Dear Washington State Grangers,

The Annual State Grange Memorial Service will be held on Wed, June 24 at 2 p.m. at this year's state session. In preparation for the Memorial Service, I have a few requests.

First, if your Grange has lost a current or past Subordinate or Pomona Grange Master or their spouse, current or past Grange Deputy or their spouse, or a current or past Grange Officer or their spouse after the 2025 Grange Convention please provide the Washington State Grange with their name, name of the Grange and Grange number.

Second, I will need family contact information for past Deputies and State Grange Officers and their spouses so I can send them an invitation to the Memorial Service.

Third, a photo of past Grange Deputies and

past Grange Officers for the Memorial Service at the 2026 Grange Convention. You can share the photos with me via email or call me and we can discuss other options. I will need this information by June 5, 2026. A copy of the obituary would be extremely helpful as well.

Thus far, we have the following Past Officers, Deputies, and spouses listed for eulogies this year: Joan Frymire, Tom McKern, Bonnie Lyle, Melvin Knott, Ruthann Wilson, and Lelah Singhose.

I understand that I'm requesting a lot of information, but this information will ensure accurate and respectful eulogies at the Convention.

Respectfully submitted,
Carolyn Hojem, Chaplain
Washington State Grange
chojem@gmail.com



Welcome to Skagit County

Nestled in the heart of Washington's picturesque Puget Sound region, Skagit County offers our Annual Convention attendees a warm welcome and a glimpse into the rich agricultural heritage that defines this vibrant area. Located just north of Seattle and south of the Canadian border, Skagit County has long been recognized as one of the Pacific Northwest's premier agricultural destinations, earning its reputation through generations of farming excellence and community stewardship. The county's fertile Skagit Valley, framed by the majestic Cascade Mountains to the east and the waters of Puget Sound to the west, provides an ideal setting for the 137th Annual Washington State Grange Convention. Whether you're visiting from the urban centers of Western Washington or the rural communities of Eastern Washington, Skagit County's blend of natural beauty, agricultural tradition, and small-town charm makes it an inviting destination for Grange members and their families.



Skagit County at a Glance

- ▶ **Current Population:** Approximately 132,700 residents, making Skagit County the 11th largest county in Washington State
- ▶ **The Tulip Industry:** Skagit County is home to over 500 acres of commercial tulip fields, representing approximately 75% of all American commercial tulip production, generating approximately \$20 million in annual gross income.
- ▶ **Primary Industries:** Health Care & Social Assistance (largest employer), Retail Trade, Manufacturing, and Agriculture remain the backbone of the local economy.
- ▶ **County Formation:** Skagit County was officially established on November 28, 1883, and is named after the Upper and Lower Skagit Indian tribes, indigenous to the region.
- ▶ **County Seat:** Mount Vernon, the largest city in the county with approximately 33,000 residents.
- ▶ **Geographic Size:** 1,920 square miles total area (1,731 square miles of land and 189 square miles of water)
- ▶ **Agricultural Heritage:** The Skagit Valley is renowned for its production of tulips, blueberries, strawberries, and other specialty crops, maintaining a strong connection to the land and farming traditions

WA STATE GRANGE CONVENTION MEAL TICKETS ORDER FORM

Name _____

Grange Name & Number _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Please Note: Daily Lunches will not be available at the fairgrounds. There are ample food establishments nearby.

Thursday, June 25

____ Family Living Lunch – Deli Wrap Sandwich (ham, turkey, or veggie), Potato Sald, Chips. Served at the fairgrounds.

____ \$21 each
Qty Total

Thursday, June 25

____ Dinner – Officers Picnic BBQ with hamburgers, hot dogs, salad, Watermelon, dessert, beverage. Prepared by the WA State Grange Officers. Served at the fairgrounds.

____ \$20 each
Qty Total

Friday, June 26

____ Celebration Banquet – From Moose Creek Barbeque in Smokey Point – Two meat choices - Brisket or chicken with barbeque sauce, potato salad and coleslaw, roll, butter.
OR

____ Vegetarian Option: smoked corn/bean salsa over chips.

____ \$26 each
Qty Total

Please make checks payable to Washington State Grange.
Mail order and payment to: Washington State Grange, PO Box 1186, Olympia WA 98507. Order forms must be received no later than June 5.

Online ordering is available on the State Grange website: www.wa-grange.com

Tickets will be packaged and may be picked up in the convention non-delegate registration area.

Membership Corner

Growing Our Grange: Simple Ways Every Member Can Help Build Our Future

**By Sophia Keller
Membership Director**

Membership is the heartbeat of every Grange. New members bring fresh ideas, new energy, and the helping hands that keep our halls active and our communities strong. As we look ahead to a busy year and an exciting convention just around the corner, now is the perfect time for each of us to take small, meaningful steps to grow our Grange family.

Set Clear Goals for Your Grange

Growth doesn't happen by accident. Each Grange should set membership goals that are realistic, measurable, and inspiring. Whether it's welcoming five new members this year or increasing participation at events, goals help keep everyone focused and motivated. Celebrate progress along the way and make membership a shared priority.

Make Membership Visible at Every Event

One of the easiest and most effective ways to welcome potential members is to simply be available. Every Grange event, whether it's a fundraiser, community dinner, craft fair, or educational program, should include a membership table. A friendly face behind that table can make all the difference.

A well-staffed membership table can:

- Answer questions about what the Grange does
- Share upcoming activities
- Offer brochures and membership applications
- Help visitors feel comfortable and included

When people see that we're open, welcoming, and ready to talk, they're far more likely to take that first step toward joining.

Turning Classes and Workshops into Opportunities

Many Granges host classes, workshops, or community programs. These are perfect moments to connect with people who already value learning, service, and community, exactly the kind of people who make great Grangers.

Consider offering a simple drawing at each class. The

Each Grange should set membership goals that are realistic, measurable, and inspiring.

entry slip can include a checkbox asking whether the participant would like more information about the Grange or is interested in becoming a member. It's a low-pressure, friendly way to start a conversation and follow up later.

Talk About the Grange Wherever You Go

Every Granger is an ambassador. Whether you're at the grocery store, a community meeting, or chatting with neighbors, take a moment to share what the Grange means to you. Personal stories are powerful. When people hear why you care, they're more likely to want to be part of it too.

Think about Joining us for Convention

Our Annual Convention is fast approaching, and it's one of the best opportunities for members — new and seasoned — to deepen their understanding of the Grange. Convention is open to all Grangers, not just delegates, and it offers a wealth of learning and connection.

At Convention, members can:

- Learn more about Grange programs, history, and leadership
- Attend workshops and

discussions

- Meet Grangers from across the state
- Share ideas and bring home inspiration for their local Grange

Whether you're curious about how the Grange operates, eager to get more involved, or simply looking to connect with others who share your passion for community, Convention has something for everyone.

Together, We Grow

Membership isn't just about numbers; it's about strengthening our mission and ensuring the Grange continues to serve our communities for generations to come. With each conversation, each event, and each welcoming gesture, we build a stronger, more vibrant Grange.

Let's make the remainder of this year one of growth, learning, and renewed commitment to the values that brought us here. I hope to see many of you at Convention in Mt. Vernon. Please stop by and say hi!

Congratulations Winners!

New Membership Contest

• January 1, 2026, through December 31, 2026 •

Congratulations to the following Grangers for bringing in 5 new members into your Grange. You will each receive the membership T-shirt.

T-Shirts

- Charlie Deach – Columbia #87
- Jane Morgan – Prosperity #315
- Dean Bell – San Poil #684

Congratulations to the following Grangers for bringing in an additional 5 or more new members into the Grange.

After recruiting your first 5 members and receiving your t-shirt, when you bring in another 5 or more new members, you will receive a \$25 "Grange Bucks" Certificate, which can be spent on any Grange gear, pamphlets, jewelry or other paraphernalia we have on hand at State Grange.

\$25 Grange Bucks:

- Duane Johnson – Addy #603
- Mike Gilmour – Fargher Lake #853
- Mike Nestor – South Camano #930

The Grange Exchange

Let us help you buy or sell with a classified ad!

| Cost per word | one month | 4 or more |
|---------------------------|-------------|-----------|
| Regular | \$.50 | \$.40 |
| Boxed | 1.00 | .75 |
| Centered or reversed text | \$2.50/line | |
| Minimum for one month | \$5.00 | |

Word count: hyphens, spaces and X's separate words. Phone numbers count as one word. **We do not print ads for 900 number services.**

Deadline: 5th of each month (for the following month's paper). Classified ads must be paid in advance. (Tear sheets not sent for classified.)

Ad copy (or attach copy): _____

No. words ____ @ rate \$ ____ x # months ____ = \$ _____ (enclosed)

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Membership Corner

• Welcome New Members •

GRANGES WITH MEMBERSHIP GAINS March/April 2026

| | <u># Joined</u> | <u>Jr. +1</u> | <u># Joined</u> | <u>Jr. +1</u> |
|------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|---------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|
| 603 Addy | 15 | 3 | 296 Lower Naches | 2 |
| Naomi Simmons, Kassandra Steele, Ryan Balas, Cortney Balas, | | | Ron Freeze, Brenda Freeze | |
| Shawn Vasquez, Summer Vasques, Noah Cool, Asher Vasquez, | | | 925 Lummi Island | 1 |
| Sean Maners, Katie Maners, Tessa Horcher, Sarah Hoecher, | | | Kathy Thurber | |
| Arya Rogers, Andre Mansfield, Hannah Mansfield | | | 796 Manson | 4 |
| 417 Adna | 3 | | Ryan Coffell, Kristin Coffell, Josh LeFebre, Lillian LeFebre | 2 |
| Christopher Fay, Jerry Futter, Marlene Futter | | | 1054 Menastash | 4 |
| 571 Barberton | 3 | 3 | Jonathan Betz, Andrea Betz, Noah Betz, Levi Betz | 1 |
| Ron King, Celeste King, Gaven Emerson | | | 265 Meridian | 4 |
| 385 Bee Hive | 8 | 5 | Stephanie Schaeuwe, Jeff Schaeuwe, Noah Lanctot, Pam Fox | |
| Damien Eggers, Kerstin Eggers, Zoey Eggers, Manuel Rivera, | | | 164 Minnehaha | 1 |
| Elizabeth Rivera, Manuel Rivera Jr., Lloyd Stanton, | | | Sharon Garden | |
| Jacqueline Jaszezyszyn | | | 161 Moran Prairie | 1 |
| 404 Bethel | 2 | | Alyssa McDonald | |
| Karen Forsythe, Roxanne Timmons | | | 98 Mountain View | 5 |
| 861 Black Lake | 1 | | Maria Perez, Virginia Hartnett, Tricia Stevens, | |
| Lisa Wood | | | Miriam Rincon Sanchez, Molly Blalock | |
| 630 Burbank | 4 | | 311 Oakview | 1 |
| Christopher Maddux, Annette Maddux, Steve Paxton, | | | Kya Howman | |
| Regina Paxton | | | 1125 Olalla | 1 |
| 681 Chimacum | 5 | | Sheila Tallman | |
| Aleta Groening, Anders Edgerton, Latitia Delfino, Julia Delfino, | | | 315 Prosperity | 3 |
| Nancy Edgerton | | | Velma Rogers, Shelley Kaurin, Julie Merrick | |
| 87 Columbia | 5 | | 943 Ralston | 7 |
| Anthony Rizzi, Arlen Aleckson, Sharon Aleckson, Keith Hutton, | | | Freya Roth, Joel Klein, Tiffany Mann, Kyle Mann, Bronco Lanes, | |
| Theresa Hutton | | | Nicole Thiel, Columbia Bank - Ritzville | |
| 737 Cowlitz Prairie | 3 | | 815 Rexville | 3 |
| Errin Piersing, Derek Piersing, Ameen Piersing | | | Holly Dickens, Cherly Felt, Chris Felt | |
| 1012 East Wenatch33 | 8 | 6 | 953 Rose Valley | 1 |
| Tessa Bromiley, Brooke Bromiley, Heather Hill, J. Colin Hill, | | | Vincent Beyer | |
| Collin Childers, Nika Childers, Brad Scherck, Natalie Scherck | | | 702 Roy | 2 |
| 26 Elma | 1 | | Yvonne Lopez, Kimber Ivy | |
| Adrienne Allison | | | 684 San Poil | 3 |
| 853 Fargher Lake | 3 | | Karen Sampley, Don Skare, Kathy McKay, Brian McKay, | |
| Patty Clark, Brian Burdock, Ethan Powell | | | Stephen McKay, Frank Sampley | |
| 267 Fern Bluff | 3 | | 800 Sharon | 1 |
| Maria Olivas, Pablo Olivas, Gustaro Ortega | | | Delbert Detray | |
| 866 Fern Prairie | 2 | | 250 South Bay | 9 |
| Michael Horte, Jan Gates | | | Tianna Ford, Deborah Nojmeh, Carolyn Rivers, Natalie Psait, | |
| 533 Fort Colville | 9 | 3 | Mike Stuart, Mary Stuart, Jarret Sands, Nicole Sands, Terry Adams | |
| Alissa Brown, Rheanna Miller, DJ Chesebro, Sharon Otter, | | | 930 South Camano | 4 |
| Tristan Otter, Kylee Bourquin, Lucas Haus, Nicole Bird, | | | Mary Grace Antony, Robert Hill, Tom Jones, Bruce Spong | |
| Avaleigh Bird | | | 690 South Lake Stevens | 2 |
| 999 Fruitland | 6 | | Alice Hansen, Jeff Hansen | |
| Kimberly LaBrosa, Susan Fink, Sharon Colapp, Leslie Miller, | | | 1058 Stillaguamish | 1 |
| Karen Conaway, Gloria Beavers | | | Imelda Delgade | |
| 348 Fruitvale | 4 | | 129 Sunnyside | 1 |
| Gloria Frueh, Jack Calvert, David Chrisholm, Dennis Grace | | | Samantha Ogden | |
| 94 Glenwood | 2 | | 984 Swauk Tenaway | 3 |
| Kay Carr, Carole Johnson | | | Ben Steverson, Joan Andrews, Toby Andrews | |
| 49 Goldendale | 1 | | 1111 Waller Road | 3 |
| Florence Chisholm | | | Kim Szegiet, Kathi Sittnick, Bryan Yambe | |
| 300 Green Bluff | 1 | | 114 Whelan-Ewartsville | 1 |
| Julia Becker | | | Cheryl Boldori | 1 |
| 322 Happy Valley | 1 | | 1143 White Trail | 6 |
| Thomas Hansen | | | Barbara Smith, Mario Macias, Marissa Samples, Earl Hurley, | 2 |
| 965 Horseshoe | 1 | | Lindsay Keel, Brooke Hurley | |
| Owen Skinner | | | | |
| 780 Inland | 1 | | | |
| Andrew Durant | | | | |
| | | | # Joined | Jr. +1 |
| | | | TOTALS | 166 |
| | | | | 27 |

SpoKampers Camping Club



SpoKampers Cruise The Panama Canal

SpoKampers opened the 2026 camping season April 9-28, with a Cruise through the Panama Canal, traveling from Mobile, Alabama, through the Canal, with stops in Puntarenas, Cabo San Lucas, and terminating in Seattle. Participants included Mike and Cheryl Britton, Walt and Janice Radmer, Steve and Sylvia Hansen, and Forrest and Marlene Diehl.

We flew to Mobile from Spokane on April 9 and rented a van, then stayed in the hotel near the freeways. That weekend all of the rooms in town were booked due to an annual festival event. We visited historic Richardson/DAR House, the Mitchell House, Battleship Park, and had various dinners out.

Saturday, we went through the embarkation process at the Cruise Pier and spent that night in our cabins, all meals provided, while in-port repairs were completed on a safety sensor. We sailed from Mobile, a day later than planned, straight for the Panama Canal arriving there 5 days later. Our scheduled visit to Cartegena was eliminated because of our scheduled canal transit date. It took about 10 hours to travel through the 3 Gatun Locks into the lake, travel from northwest to southeast through the Panama jungles, then back down 85 vertical feet to Pacific Ocean sea level through the 3 Miraflores Locks. We saw wild animals including their red Deer, Capybaras, vultures, Frigate birds, and many others.

We then traveled northwest to Puntarenas, Costa Rica for our scheduled visit to town and the natural park at Tarcoles River where we viewed Capuchin monkeys, crocodiles, Roseate Spoonbills, and numerous other birds. We returned to the ship in the afternoon, and set sail for Cabo San Lucas at sunset.

Continuing northwest arriving at Cabo about 9:30AM, we were tendered (boated) into town about 12:30 and spent less than 3 hours in town having a taco lunch together enjoying the sunshine and a guitar specialist. About 3:19PM, we got into a line about a mile long to catch a tender back to our ship (before 4:15 deadline) arriving on-board after 5PM. The ship left immediately for Seattle. About 100 mile north, we ran into cold weather which reminded us of the northwest.

We arrived in Seattle at about 7AM on April 28 and disembarked for our flight home that afternoon, making plans for our next cruise.

We will be attending the Grange Fun-Rally at Ocean Shores at Britton's and Figg's places from May 29-31.

If anyone wants to camp with us, contact me or Verne Figg; Mike Britton at 509-922-1494.

Grange Camping Association

The Grange Camper Association Rally will be May 29-31 at Figg Property in Ocean Shores. The Annual Meeting will be held on Saturday May 30th at 10am. The future of the Association will be determined at the meeting. All Association members are encouraged to attend.

Highlights From The WA State Grange Executive Committee Meeting

MARCH 18, 2026

- Approved the request from Fairview Grange #619 for funds from their custodial account for replacement of the front steps and to improve wheelchair access.
- Met in the name of Brewster Grange #1018 for the purpose of changing signators on their bank accounts.

APRIL 27, 2026

- Approved a line of credit for Spring Hill Grange #909 to satisfy their capitol grant requirements with the WA Department of Commerce.
- Approved the request from Fairview Grange #619 for funds from their custodial account for the removal and disposal of the old gas furnace.
- Approved the request from The Agate Grange #275 for funds from their custodial account for water line repairs at their hall.
- Approved the request from Barberton Grange #571 for funds from their custodial account for the overage cost of their roof replacement.
- Approved the amended request from Manor Grange #1101 for funds from their custodial account for front door replacement.
- Updated the Personnel Handbook regarding changes in state law for the use of sick leave.
- Agreed to receive and redistribute community impact funds received via a grant awarded to Sharon Grange #800.
- Accepted 26 resolutions from Subordinate/Pomona Grange for inclusion into the docket and referred each resolution to the appropriate session committee.
- Reviewed a list of Subordinate Granges with 13 or less members. Granges will be contacted asking them to increase their membership to 13 members as required by the National Grange Digest of Laws.
- Reviewed a list of Junior Granges who have not submitted Secretary reports for two or more years. Their sponsoring Subordinate Grange will be contacted to determine if the Junior Granges are still active.
- Agreed to notify five Granges who are two or more quarters behind on dues and reports that they must become current or they will be placed on probation and not allowed to have a delegate at the upcoming State Grange Sssion.

Highlights From The WA State Grange Foundation Meeting

APRIL 27, 2026

- Approved the proposed Fiscal Sponsorship Agreement for use between Subordinate Granges and the WA State Grange Foundation for Granges wishing to apply for capitol improvement grants under the foundations, umbrella.
- Approved the recommendation of the Scholarship Committee for the awarding of scholarships for the 2026-2027 academic year. Twenty-six scholarships were awarded, totaling \$34,750.
- Approved the recommendations of the Scholarship Committee for updates to both the scholarship application and the scholarship evaluation forms.

Now's a Great Time to Support the Washington State Grange Foundation

Here's how you can help:

Are you a Fred Meyer Customer?

Support the Washington State Grange Foundation just by shopping at Fred Meyer with your Rewards Card. You are now able to link your Rewards Card to your favorite nonprofit by visiting customer service desk at your local Fred Meyer or by creating an account online and linking your rewards card to the Washington State Grange Foundation (account # DI486). Whenever you use your Rewards Card when shopping at Freddy's, you will be helping our organization earn a donation from Fred Meyer. They are donating \$2.6 million each year - up to \$650,000 each quarter - to the local schools, community organizations and nonprofits of your choice. All you have to do is link your Rewards Card and scan it every time you shop at Fred Meyer.



Community Service

Tell Us What You've Done In Your Community...



Leslie Wells

By Leslie Wells
Community Service
Director

COMMUNITY SERVICE CONTEST

The Community Service Contest is sponsored by the WA State Grange Foundation and the Washington State Grange. There will be only one class in the State Grange Community Service Contest. All Subordinate and Pomona Granges will compete against each other. The Community Service Report form is available to print from the WSG website. <http://www.wa-grange.org/CommunityService.aspx>

Contest Rules:

1. The reporting period begins on June 1, 2025 and ends on May 31, 2026.
2. Completed reports/notebooks are due by June 1 to the WA State Grange Office. **Any report received after June 5 will not be included in the contest judging.** Reports may be submitted electronically or mailed.
3. Please refer to the guidelines for preparing your report, which are posted on the State Grange website.
4. Your community service report should consist of the following: the community service report form; report

of your work explaining the need for the project; what you did and including recognition and pictures; and identification of your major project for the year. The more information you can provide and the more documentation you have will strengthen your report. Your main project should be stronger than the other projects and may require more pages and documentation than the others. There is a maximum of 50 pages (front and back) or 100 total sides, not including the report form.

5. Your Grange name and number should be listed on

Convention Information:

- ➔ If you are bringing donation items to Convention, our Community Service area will be in Building B, along with the registration area.
- ➔ If your Grange had an entry in the above covered Contest, you may pick up your entry at the Community Service area.
- ➔ Please stop by and say hello!

the cover.

6. Judging will focus on the projects initiated by your Grange, rather than following

the leadership of other groups. Judges will evaluate the impact your Grange has had on the local community.



Washington Agriculture in the Classroom

By Judy M. Hamp Hossner
jmhag@gmail.com
360-394-7744
(please leave a message)

The National Ag in the Classroom (NAITC) was organized in 1981.

A small number of Washington Grangers learned about NAITC and visited Washington Granges, sharing information about the National organization and how it would benefit Washington. Each State Program is developed separately under the NAITC umbrella. Some state ag programs are housed, financed, and sponsored by the state land-grant university; some state ag programs are financed and sponsored by the state's Farm Bureau. The Washington ladies wanted Washington Ag in the Classroom not to be financed and sponsored by just one group.

As I go around to Washington Granges, I am often asked if I had met Sister Snyder, Ralston Grange. She certainly made an impact spreading the word about the Ag in the Classroom program. I met her daughter

who was a teacher. I have also met her son, Jerry; he's been an excellent auctioneer for different granges.

So in 1983, Washington Ag in the Classroom (WAIC) was organized by a group of Grange volunteers as a (501c 3) non-profit organization. The goal of Washington Ag in the Classroom is increasing agriculture literacy in our State's K-12 students. Why is Ag in the Classroom needed in Washington? The number of people removed from agriculture is staggering and they don't know where their food comes from. Education is KEY! Agriculture feeds, clothes, and houses us! Agriculture has a HUGE impact on our daily lives-whether we live in a city or on a ranch!

What is Washington Agriculture?

- ▶ **Fruit** (Tree Fruit and Berries)
- ▶ **Row Crops** (Grains and Vegetables)
- ▶ **Forestry** (Trees and Lumber)
- ▶ **Ranching** (Dairy Cattle,

Meat Cattle, Sheep, Goats)

- ▶ **Aquaculture** (Fish and Shellfish)

What does Washington Ag in the Classroom offer to our students and educators?

1-We contact 2nd Grade teachers (and their principals) about reading a book to the class. We read and discuss the book's content and leave the FREE book for the classroom library. Sometimes the teacher will not place the book in the following year's class library until a reader returns to read and discuss the book for that class. For some classes, a different book is read and left for the class library.

Some of the titles we use include:

- Who Grew My Soup?
- The Day the Farmers Quit

2-We publish an 8-page, full-color magazine called Ag@School. We deliver FREE copies of the magazine to all requesting teachers (grade 4 classes -public and private school, home school, and high school ag classes). The magazine doesn't teach agriculture per se but how

Washington State agriculture affects our everyday lives and how it ties to economics, math, science, technology (STEM), writing, career goals, and more!

The fall issue focuses on general agriculture, the winter issue on technology, and the spring issue on stewardship. Ag@School is designed to help teachers develop ag literacy without adding to an already heavy teaching load. All lessons and activities are geared to Washington's Essential Academic Learning Requirements (EALRs). Class sets come with a teacher guide that includes background, discussion starters, vocabulary definitions, answers, and post-test activities.

25 Years! Yes, the 2025-2026 school year is the 25th Anniversary of Ag@School!

How can YOU help? How can YOUR GRANGE help?

Donate! We are completely funded by donations and grants! Every dollar counts! Your personal donation can help us educate Washington youth about our agriculture. Your Grange can "adopt a class"

- \$100 will supply one classroom with Ag@School for an entire year! Add \$10 for a book for one 2nd classroom..

Share this information with an Educator! 1) The teacher can ask for a reader for a 2nd grade class and the book is FREE! 2) Subscribing to Ag@School is FREE for a classroom!

Spread the word! If you have a contact with a school (rural or non-rural), please help us contact that school- 2nd grade teacher(s) and 4th grade teacher(s). Yes, urban and suburban kids need to know how Washington works hard to supply our food, clothing, and housing.

Spread the word! Tell anybody and everybody about our two programs that seek to educate students (2nd grade, 4th grade, and high school) about agriculture and ask them to support WAIC.

I have been a member of the WAIC Board, representing our Washington State Grange for many years. Please contact me at jmhag@gmail.com. I can:

- 1) meet with your Grange;
- 2) find a reader for a 2nd grade class;
- 3) get the Ag@School subscription started; and
- 4) attempt to answer your questions.

You can always check us out at our WAIC website: <https://washington.agclassroom.org/>.

National Grange News

A View From The Hill - Spring 2026 Wrap-Up

By **Burton Eller**
National Grange
Legislative Director

AGRICULTURE AND FOOD

Farm bill heads to House floor vote

The National Grange joined a group of 451 national and state organizations representing a broad cross-section of the agriculture community to urge swift passage of Farm Bill 2.0 by the House. While the commodity support and crop insurance sections of the farm bill were adopted by Congress last year, the remaining sections are overdue for adoption this year. The House vote is expected by May 1. The Senate Agriculture Committee is expected to consider the farm bill later in May. At a gathering of several hundred farmers and ranchers on the White House lawn recently, President Trump signaled his support for the farm bill and urged Congress to pass it quickly.

Additional farm aid being considered

Congressional agriculture leaders are seriously considering \$15-\$20 billion in additional farm aid and disaster assistance as farmers are facing rising costs and increasing bankruptcies. These funds would need to be included in a supplemental spending bill later this year.

New World Screwworm Update

In mid-April, the USDA broke ground at Moore Air Force Base in Edinburg, Texas, for a new sterile fly production facility. Sterile fly release in screwworm-infested areas has historically been most effective in reducing and eradicating the pest. The latest screwworm case was discovered about 80 miles south of the Texas border, and the U.S.-Mexico border remains closed to cattle trade because of the screwworm threat. However, Secretary of Agriculture Brooke Rollins says there may be a future opportunity to bring cattle through the Douglas, Arizona, port of entry because the closest case of screwworm in Mexico is 800 miles from Arizona.

Drought concern increasing

Drought in the contiguous United States has reached record levels for this time of year, according to weather data. Meteorologists suggest this is a bad sign for the upcoming wildfire season, growing season, western water issues, and food prices. The government's drought severity index hit its highest level for March since records started in 1895, and March was the third driest month recorded regardless of the time of year.

Support for Wildlife Services

The National Grange and over 200 national and state farm, ranch, airport, pilot, and landowner groups are urging the appropriations committees on the Hill to again fully fund USDA's Wildlife Services. Wildlife causes more than \$12.8 billion in damage to agriculture, natural resources, human health and safety, and private property. Wildlife Services works cooperatively and directly with state agencies, landowners, and producers to protect the public and reduce wildlife-related damage.

AG WORKFORCE

H-2A Visa Program for Temporary Ag Workers bottlenecks

The National Grange and two dozen agricultural producer organizations are asking Secretary of State Marco Rubio to clear a backlog of ag worker applications stuck in his department. Employers must navigate a multi-agency process involving various state agencies, the Department of Labor, the Department of Homeland Security, and the Department of State. Both State and DHS have affirmed that waiving in-person interviews for returning, previously vetted H-2A workers serves the national interest. Therefore, the producer groups respectfully urge the administration to immediately authorize the use of interview-waiver authorities for returning H-2A applicants.

HEALTHCARE

Rural hospital funds diverted

Large urban hospitals and major teaching hospitals are

exploiting a loophole in the Medicare 340B program to increase their bottom lines and further reduce funding for rural hospitals and clinics. The National Grange released a report on a study by Magnolia Market Analysis that shows how a growing number of primarily large urban hospitals are taking advantage of a process that allows them to "dual-classify" as rural to claim government benefits and funding without treating rural patients. Congress created 340B to help rural safety-net hospitals stretch scarce resources. Drug manufacturers are required to sell medicines to participating hospitals at steep discounts with the expectation that hospitals would use the savings to expand care for low-income and uninsured patients. But dual-classified urban hospitals can sell deeply discounted medicines to non-needy patients at steeply marked-up prices and use the profits for financial gain. In 2023, a total of 1,265 hospitals held rural status, but only 672 were true geographically rural hospitals. The National Grange will work with patient groups and Congress to increase 340B program oversight and to tighten program eligibility so that 340B participants are truly safety-net providers serving low-income and uninsured rural patients.

Hamp op-ed in RealClear Health

An op-ed by National Grange president Chris Hamp in Washington's RealClear Health newsletter on April 22 focused on hospital reclassification and its impact on rural patients. Rural hospitals receive special payment protections under Medicare because they serve smaller, older, under-insured, and uninsured populations. But recently, large-geography urban hospitals have used a Medicare loophole to reclassify themselves as administratively rural to gain access to rural-only Medicare funds. "Every dollar redirected to a dual-classified urban hospital is a dollar not available to prevent the next rural closure", said Hamp.

Alzheimer's crisis in rural areas

The National Grange released a study by the Information

Technology and Innovation Foundation that examined how rural Americans face a disproportionate and growing burden from Alzheimer's disease. This is driven by structural barriers that delay diagnosis, limit access to emerging therapies, and impose staggering costs on patients, caregivers, and rural health systems. "This report lays out both the scale of the problem and the path forward", according to National Grange president Chris Hamp. "Geography should never determine whether anyone receives a diagnosis in time to benefit from treatment and right now, it does." The good news is that scalable, affordable diagnostic solutions already exist; they simply lack the federal policy framework to reach the communities that need them most. The National Grange will work with patient groups, providers, and Congress to ensure rural patients and providers can access and afford these diagnostics and treatments.

TELECOMMUNICATIONS

House passes FirstNet reauthorization bill

By unanimous vote in the House, the First Responder Network Authority Reauthorization Act will now move to the Senate. FirstNet is the nationwide first responder network designed by first responders and operated by AT&T under a contract with the Commerce Department. The National Grange is a strong supporter of FirstNet.

Broadband bills get House approval

A plethora of broadband bills were adopted by the House this past week, including bills that would:

- Require stronger vetting of broadband providers participating in the Universal Service Fund (low-income, low-cost).
- Require an "interagency strike force" among all federal land management agencies to prioritize and speed permitting requests.
- Reauthorize rural telehealth grant programs through 2030.

These bills had strong support from the National Grange.



AI could mean job losses

Verizon CEO Dan Schulman predicts that AI could lead to 20-30% unemployment within the next five years. Advancements in humanoid robots could disrupt manual labor jobs, which have been considered relatively safe until now. He advocates for more education and reskilling initiatives to help workers cope.

OF INTEREST...

Support for farmer and rancher mental health

The National Grange joined the National Farmer Veteran Coalition, the American Farm Bureau, the National Farmers Union, and 29 other rural and agricultural groups to request continued funding for the Farm and Ranch Stress Assistance Network. In a letter to the appropriations committees on the Hill, the group thanked Congress for its past funding support and requested that FRSAN be funded at no less than \$10 million in FY27. The group noted that FRSAN supports four region-specific centers that include telephone helplines, websites, training programs, workshops, support groups, and outreach services, all of which are rural-centric.

John Deere settles right to repair

Deere has agreed to pay \$99 million and provide equipment owners with access to "repair resources" to settle a class-action lawsuit over the company's repair practices. Deere will make repair resources available to owners, lessors, and independent repair shops on a license or subscription basis. The settlement gives farmers the ability to diagnose and repair problems without requiring to use the services of an authorized dealer.

Moran Prairie Grange Keeping Busy With Spring Activities

Moran Prairie Grange has been bustling with activity this Spring! We kicked off the season by hosting a lively community

Easter Egg hunt. Families joined us for a day filled with laughter as children eagerly searched for candy-filled eggs across our back

property, creating plenty of joyful memories.

Building on that momentum, we organized a Blood Drive on Easter Monday right at the Grange. The turnout was fantastic, with community members coming together to make vital donations to Vitalant. It was inspiring to witness everyone rally around such an important cause.

In May, our involvement in the Spokane Fire District 8 Open House offered us

another opportunity to engage with the community.

This event serves both as outreach and a membership drive, where we distribute toys and connect with visitors about the benefits of joining the Grange. The fire department's equipment demonstrations—especially the trucks, fire hoses, and the Life Flight Helicopter—were crowd favorites.

These gatherings allow us to strengthen ties with neighbors and collaborate



with organizations dedicated to educating and uplifting our community.



Spotlight on Youth & Juniors

2026 Junior Grange Camps Offer Opportunities For Kids

The schedule has been set for this summer's Junior Grange Camping Program. Registering early is the best way to secure a spot for a child in your life to experience a week of fun, safe and wholesome activities.

Each camp will feature a week of fun activities including music, hiking, swimming, special program, games, crafts, and Junior Grange instruction. It is not necessary for children or their parents to be Grange members to attend camp. Eligible ages are 9-14 years.

Although each camp is administered separately by a board of directors, each requires a signed medical permission slip from parents, a completed registration form and pre-payment of camp fees. Brochures and registration materials on each camps and all forms are available on the State Grange website (www.wa-grange.com/JuniorCamps.aspx). One may also call the individuals listed below for each camp.

There are a number of camperships available for first-time campers. These camperships will pay \$150 each, which is approximately one-half of the camp fee. These camperships are made possible by the State Grange Needy Campership Fund (formerly the Richard A.

Kimball Memorial Fund).

A prospective camper simply has to write a letter of interest in securing the campership and sending it to the Washington State Grange, PO Box 1186, Olympia WA 98507. An application form for the camperships is available on the State Grange website; follow the link for the Richard A. Kimball Memorial Camp Scholarships on the site's front page. Donations to this special fund are still being accepted.

Camp Wooten: July 13-18, can be sent to Dawn Yearout, 13546 Rd 5 NE, Moses Lake, WA 98837. The registration fee is \$300. Register online at <https://wootenjrgrangecamp.cheddarup.com>. Camp Wooten is located near Pomeroy in Southeast Washington. The camp director is Dawn Yearout, (509) 989-7057 or email dawnyearout2@yahoo.com.

Clallam County Junior Grange Camp: held August 2-7 at Camp David on the shores of Lake Crescent in Clallam County. Cindy Kelley is leading the leadership team putting this camp together. The cost for the camp is \$325 per camper. Registration information is on their Facebook page: Clallam

Junior Grange Camp and on the camp website <https://clallamjuniorcamp.com>. Questions can be directed to 360-460-9549 or emailed to juniorgrangecamp@gmail.com.

Cornet Bay Junior Grange Camp: Will be held July 12-18. The camp, near Deception Pass, has a fee of \$350 per camper. The camp is under the leadership of Co-Directors, Marvin and Jennifer Oliver, 253-906-6078 or email jenandmarv@yahoo.com. Registration material is available on the State Grange website: www.wa-grange.com/JuniorCamps.aspx. Registration forms and payments should be sent to Kathy Moynihan, 29415 218th Place SE, Black Diamond, WA 98010.

Camp Morehead will operate as a day camp only this year due to facility issues. The day camp will be July 13-15 and held at the Humptulips Grange Hall, in Grays Harbor County. The day camp is under the guidance of Co-Directors Tom Gwin (360-581-0177 or tagwin0181@outlook.com) and Jacob and Tessa Gwin. There are no fees for attending the day camp.

Camp NEWA (Northeast

JUNIOR GRANGE CAMP DATES FOR 2026:

JULY 12-18Cornet Bay Junior Grange Camp
Near Deception Pass

JULY 13-15Camp Morehead (Day Camp)
Humptulips Grange Hall in Grays Harbor County

JULY 13-18Camp Wooten
Near Pomeroy in SE Washington

AUGUST 2-7Clallam County Junior Grange Camp
At Camp David on the shores of Lake Crescent

.....**Camp NEWA (Northeast District)**
Will not operate in 2026

District) will not operate in 2026. The camp board has reorganized and hope to be in operation for the 2027 camping season.

Potential campers should check the brochures on each camp for a list of items to bring and a list of items not to bring to camp.

Grangers are encouraged to volunteer to help with

the camps. They are also requested to visit the camps in their area, especially for the designated Visitor's Program. There is a guest charge for dinner, other meals, and overnight stays.

Remember, the child needs no prior Grange affiliation to enjoy the summer camping experience. Spread the word about this Grange camping opportunity!

For Brochures, Forms and Registration Information on our Summer Camps, visit:
www.wa-grange.com/JuniorCamps.aspx

Spotlight on Youth & Juniors

Youth

Updates On Convention Youth Activities

By Jerry Gwin
Youth Grange Director

A couple items of note for our upcoming State Grange Convention:

→ We are accepting video entries for the Public Speaking Contest. Follow the rules as printed in the handbook.

→ Youth Department Raffle tickets were mailed during the first week of June to all Granges. We ask you to sell the tickets. Return the completed stubs and the month together in the envelope. You may also deliver them directly to the convention. If mailing, they must arrive in my post office box no later than June 20.

→ Items for Keep Washington Warm will be collected at the convention ... including stocking caps, scarves, gloves, mittens, socks, etc. All items must be new and not worn before. Items may be purchased or handmade.

The Annual Washington State Grange Convention is rapidly approaching. The youth group will have their own schedule of activities which includes:

Tuesday, June 23

2-5pm – Turn in Educational Posters and Record Books for Judging – Building C

2-5pm – Turn in Raffle Tickets and Keep Washington Warm Donations – Building B

2-5pm – Turn in Youth Auction Items – Building C

Evening – Family Square Dance

Wednesday, June 24

8:30am – Attend Opening of the State Grange Session

9am – 11am – Turn in Raffle Tickets and Keep Washington Warm Donations – Building B

9am – 11am – Turn in Educational Posters and Record Books for Judging and Youth Auction Items – Building C

11am – Youth Group to Meet, Elect Officers

1pm – Installation of Youth Officers

2pm – Attend Memorial Service

3pm – Youth Officer Practice – Building C

Evening – Attend Session Fun Activity

Thursday, June 25

8:30am – Youth Group

meeting and drill practice

1pm – Educational Posters on Display

2pm – Youth Activity at the Art Center

Evening – State Officer BBQ and Live Auction – Building F

Friday, June 27

8:30am – Youth Group meeting and drill practice

10:45am – Quilts of Valo Presentation – Building G

11:30am – Junior Grange Ice Cream Social

1pm – Public Speaking and Sign-a-Song Contests – Building C

6pm – Celebration Banquet and Award Presentations – Building F

Saturday, June 27

8:30am – Youth Group to Open Session – Building G

1:45pm – Attend Fifth Degree

3pm – Attend Sixth Degree

5pm – Closing of the Annual Session

We are hoping for a large youth group at the convention.



Jerry Gwin

Juniors

2026 Convention Information And Schedule Released

By Jacob & Tessa Gwin
Junior Grange Directors



Jacob and Tessa Gwin

Greetings Grangers!

The 137th Annual Washington State Grange Convention is right around the corner! State Session will be held in Mount Vernon this year, at the Skagit County Fairgrounds. As this will be the last issue of the Grange News before Convention, we have some updates that will be important as you arrive for convention. The Youth and Junior displays and meeting rooms will be located in Building C at the Skagit County Fairgrounds. Project drop off times will be as follows: Tuesday, June 23rd from 2:00 pm - 5:00 pm and Wednesday, June 24th from 8:00 am-11:00 am. During project drop off we will also be collecting any silent auction items as well.

A more formal itinerary for Junior activities will be available at Junior Registration. Junior activities will take place Thursday-Saturday 9:00-11:30 and 2:00-4:00. On Thursday, we will be having a combined Junior and Youth field trip at Tri Dee Arts from 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm. There will be a couple activity options for Juniors and Youth to choose from while we are there. Lunch on Thursday will also be provided. Thursday evening, after the State Officer BBQ, there will also be the Junior and Youth Auction, which will raise funds for the Junior and Youth programs. Friday from 11:00 am - 1:00 pm, Juniors will be hosting their annual ice cream social. We are always looking for volunteers to support this activity, if you are available, please stop by and help us pass out some ice cream! Following the ice cream social on Friday, we will be hosting public speaking contests at 1:30 pm. If there are any sign a song entries, they will also be presented at this time. Great news, Junior sign a song is considered a National Grange contest this year! This is a great opportunity to try something new if you have not presented a sign a song before!

Registration for this year's convention is currently available on the Washington State Grange website. We are looking forward to seeing all the Junior members that attend State Session this year! Participating in Junior Grange activities offers opportunities for learning, leadership, and friendship! See you all in June!

Tell the Grange Story Apply to be a Communication Fellow

Applications are being accepted for the next cohort of National Grange Communication Fellows, a leadership and professional development opportunity designed to help Grange members strengthen communication efforts at all levels.

The selected cohort will serve through the conclusion of the 2027 National Grange Convention, focused on storytelling, digital engagement, advocacy communication, and member outreach.

Communication Fellows will work alongside the National Grange Communications Department and other staff on a variety of projects while gaining hands-on experience in social media strategy, photography,

writing, video, branding, and emerging digital communication tools. Applicants of all ages and experience levels are encouraged to apply, with a special emphasis on welcoming participants who are eager to grow their skills and help tell the story of today's Grange.

"Communication continues to evolve rapidly, and the Grange must continue evolving with it," said Philip Vonada, National Grange Communications Director. "This updated Fellowship format is designed to help us better embrace digital communication, expand the ways we connect with members and communities, and ensure the Grange's story is being shared in engaging and impactful ways



across every platform."

Previous Communication Fellows are welcome to apply again, though the National Grange strongly encourages first-time applicants to consider participating. **Applications are due July 1.** Learn more at:

www.nationalgrange.org/communication-programs/

Junior Connection

Green Bluff Junior Grange

Green Bluff Junior Grangers sponsored the "Keep It Clean Trash Pickup" on April 19. People helped pick up trash on Green Bluff roads. Thanks everyone!

Humptulips Junior Grange

Humptulips Junior Grange met for Spring Break Day Camp in April. Members learned about food dehydrating, making jam and jelly, and canning fruit. Craft projects were completed. Junior Grangers had eight entries in the baking contest in March.

Spotlight on Youth & Juniors



Greenwood Park Grange Hosts Easter Egg Hunt

On April 4th, Greenwood Park Grange in Stevens County had our Easter Egg Hunt and Easter Dash. 25 kids attended. We had soft-serve ice cream, cupcakes and popcorn. Over 2000 eggs were hidden for the Egg Hunt. Greenwood Park Grange gladly accepts egg donations for next year. Egg donations can be sent to Greenwood Park Grange c/o Juanita Curnutt 4562 Lessig Rd #B Hunters, WA 99137



83-Year Fargher Lake Grange Member Talks History With Youth And Juniors



Barbara Hagedorn, 100 years old and an 83-year member of Fargher Lake Grange, gave a presentation on April 10 to the Grange youth, juniors and general membership. The subject was the history of Fargher Lake Grange and the history of North Clark County.

East Wenatchee Youth Grangers Earn Belt Buckles



At the March meeting for the East Wenatchee Youth Grange, members received their belt buckles that they earned by meeting the requirements. To earn a belt buckle you must for 3 years be a member, and each year for those 3 years, complete 4 hours of community service, attend 75% of the meetings, complete the record book, and do 1 demonstration. The youth who received the belt buckle from left to right in each: (Top Left) Maddie, Patrick, and Niath, (Top Right) Roren, Hazel, and Gideon, (Bottom Right) Kiera, Isaac, and Caleb.

Students Spruce Up Lower Naches Grange



It must be Spring!! Naches Valley High School students (as part of their community service) came to spruce up Lower Naches Grange in Yakima County.

North River Grange Hosts Spelling Bee



North River Grange held their 10 annual spelling bee for the North River School Elementary. Prizes were awarded to the first three places for each grade.

November 9-14, 2026
Broken Arrow, OK

Stoney Creek Hotel & Conference Center
Secure your hotel room: <https://grange.biz/160hotel>

Washington State Grange Awards \$34,750 In Scholarships



The Washington State Grange foundation is pleased to announce our 2026 scholarship award winners. Twenty-six Grange members from across the state have been awarded scholarships based on academic excellence, Grange and community involvement, and recommendations from their schools and Granges. The awards total \$34,750 .



MARGUERITE "MAGGIE" BAILEY

MCINTOSH GRANGE #1001 DELPHA GOUDE MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Marguerite "Maggie" Bailey is the daughter of Samuel and Anne Bailey. She received her Bachelor of Science degree in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology with a minor in Sociology from Carroll College in Helena, Montana. She is working toward her Doctorate degree in Biochemistry at Montana State University. Her studies are emphasized in agricultural crop genetics. She hopes to use her degree to test the genetics of various agricultural crops. Maggie and her parents are members of McIntosh Grange. She is a Graduate Research Assistant at the Bothner Lab at MSU. Maggie was awarded the Delpha Goude Memorial Scholarship.



COLTON BARSNESS

MENASTASH GRANGE #1054 McKERN MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Colton Barsness is studying Communications at Washington State University. A member of Menastash Grange, Colton, the son of Matthew and Harmony Barsness, was awarded the McKern Memorial Scholarship. Colton served as Secretary and President of the Menastash Grange Livestock Club. He has also been a member of both 4-H and FFA and has participated in soccer and track at school. Colton was a 2024 Kittitas County Fair Ambassador and volunteered in a 2nd grade classroom at Lincoln Elementary School. He is a member of KUGR Radion at WSU where he serves as a sports broadcaster. He is planning a career in news or sports broadcasting.



CADEN BATES

MOSES LAKE GRANGE #1151 FOX ISLAND GRANGE SCHOLARSHIP

Caden Bates, a member of Moses Lake Grange, is the recipient of the Fox Island Grange Scholarship. The son of Daniel and Katina Bates, Cade will graduate in June from Warden High School. He is planning to study Engineering at Washington State University. Caden is the Assistant Steward and Youth Vice President at Moses Lake Grange. He shows rabbits in the Grange Youth Fairs Program. Caden started his own rabbitry, focusing on Crème D'Argent rabbits. With few breeders in the US, Caden has been able to network with others interested in the breed. Grange has given him the confidence, experience and the ability to learn and grow as well as gain mentors and be a mentor to others while sharing his love for rabbits.



OLIVIA BERDAN

BEE HIVE GRANGE #385 RAY & MARIAN KAMERRER MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Olivia Berdan, the daughter of Jeff and Holly Berdan, is the recipient of the Ray & Marian Kamerrer Memorial Scholarship. Olivia will graduate in June from Wenatchee High School. A member of Bee Hive Grange, Olivia plans to study English Literature and Drama at Central Washington University. She has been active with high school theatre and choir. She has also been active in community theatre and is a 4-H member. Olivia plans to use her college degrees to further her own acting and writing career.



ADDISON BOWEN

MCINTOSH GRANGE #1001 DELPHA GOUDE MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Addison Bowen, the daughter of Chris and Lisa Bowen, is a 2026 graduate of Rockford High School. A member of Spokane County's McIntosh Grange, Addison was awarded the Delpha Goude Memorial Scholarship. She will enter her second year studying Astronomy and Astrophysics at Emory-Riddle Aeronautics University in Daytona Beach, FL. Addison's college activities include pep band, the orientation team, and the Society of Women in Engineering. She participated in Competitive Gymnastics and is a national winner in trampoline and tumbling. Following school, she hopes to work for NASA and be in mission control for the first manned mission to Mars.

Meet the 2026 Scholarship Award Recipients

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ARYANNA CERAR

**ELK PLAIN GRANGE #782
POMONA VILLA PIERCE COUNTY
SCHOLARSHIP**

Aryanna Cerar, the daughter of Jonathan and Jeanine Cerar, will graduate in June from Sammamish High School.

A member of Elk Plain Grange, Aryanna is planning to study Elementary Education at Oregon State University. Aryanna was awarded the Pomona Villa Pierce County Scholarship. Aryanna was captain of the Sammamish High School Speech and Debate Team. She is a state place winner in speech and debate. She has been a staff member at Camp Sealth and volunteered at the High Middle School Sixth Grade Camp. She received the Red and White Honor Cord for service, with over 450 hours volunteered.



CHLOE CLYBURN

**MENASTASH GRANGE #1054
NORMAN BUCCHOLZ MEMORIAL
SCHOLARSHIP**

Chloe Clyburn is a member of Menastash Grange in Kittitas County. The daughter of Christopher and Pauline Clyburn, Chloe

is a 2023 graduate of Ellensburg High School. She just completed her third year at Montana State University where she is studying Animal Science and Equine Science. She then plans to earn a degree in Veterinary Technology, followed by a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine. She would like to focus on large animal veterinary services. Chloe was active in the Grange Youth Fairs Program, where she showed Breeding Goats. She also showed horses and dogs in 4-H, along with livestock and dairy in FFA. Her college activities include the Intercollegiate Equestrian Team, marching band, and Pre-Vet Club. Chloe is the recipient of the Norman Buccholz Memorial Scholarship.



JOCELYN DEGROAT

**FIVE MILE PRAIRIE GRANGE #905
MARION & SNOWIE VANDERPOOL
MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP**

Jocelyn DeGroat, a 2025 graduate of Mead High School, was awarded the Marion & Snowie Vanderpool Memorial

Scholarship. The daughter of Nick and Jessica DeGroat, Jessica is a member of Five Mile Prairie Grange. She is currently studying Exercise & Wellness at Brigham Young University. Her focus is to encourage healthy motivated eating and to promote longevity and quality of life. She continues to volunteer at the food bank and Habitat for Humanity. At BYU, she participated in running club, swing dancing club and cross country running.



AARON GWIN

**HUMPTULIPS GRANGE #730
MCCLEARY GRANGE
SCHOLARSHIP**

Maya Hankins, a member of Lewis County's Mossyrock Grange, is the daughter of Judd and Samantha Hankins.

She is a 2024 graduate of Mossyrock High School and currently attends Central Washington University, working toward a degree in Construction Management, with a minor in Engineering Technology. While in high school, Maya designed and constructed an organic community garden with assistance from her FFA advisor. Her interest in horticulture led Maya to the Outstanding FFA Horticulture Exhibitor Plaque at the 2024 Washington State Fair. Maya is also involved with the VITA-IRS Program at Mossyrock Grange, where she is a certified tax preparer and prepares taxes for senior and other low-income persons.



MAYA HANKINS

**MOSSYROCK GRANGE #355
LONE YEW GRANGE
SCHOLARSHIP**

Maya Hankins, a member of Lewis County's Mossyrock Grange, is the daughter of Judd and Samantha Hankins.

She is a 2024 graduate of Mossyrock High School and currently attends Central Washington University, working toward a degree in Construction Management, with a minor in Engineering Technology. While in high school, Maya designed and constructed an organic community garden with assistance from her FFA advisor. Her interest in horticulture led Maya to the Outstanding FFA Horticulture Exhibitor Plaque at the 2024 Washington State Fair. Maya is also involved with the VITA-IRS Program at Mossyrock Grange, where she is a certified tax preparer and prepares taxes for senior and other low-income persons.



APRIL JONES

**FIVE MILE PRAIRIE GRANGE #905
RAY & MARIAN KAMERRER
MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP**

April Jones, a member of Five Mile Prairie Grange, is the daughter of Mark and Rebecca Jones. April was awarded

the Ray & Marian Kamerrer Memorial Scholarship, which she plans to use to study Food Science at Brigham Young University - Idaho. April will graduate in June from Mead High School, where she is involved with the marching band, wind ensemble, and tennis team. She is the Chapter Secretary for the National Honor Society, she is a member of the Inland Empire Soccer Referees Association, where she referees soccer matches for youth, ages 8-15.



LAURA KLEIN

**PROSPECT POINT GRANGE #1067
HORACE BOZARTH MEMORIAL
SCHOLARSHIP**

Laura Klein, a member of Prospect Point Grange, is the daughter of George and Karina Klein. She will graduate this year from St. Anne Homeschool. She

is planning to study Animal/Dairy Science at either Walla Walla Community College or the University of Idaho. Laura was awarded the Horace Bozarth Memorial Scholarship. Laura is the Lecturer at Prospect Point Grange and has worked with programs and activities for the Grange. She is active in the Youth Fairs Program where she shows goats and dairy cattle. Laura has participated in the Tractor Driving Contest eight times, placing first in six of those events. Her spare time is spent working on the family farm.

SCHOLARSHIPS



KATHLEEN KOCHER

CHUMSTICK GRANGE #819 FRENCH CREEK GRANGE SCHOLARSHIP

Kathleen Kocher, the daughter of Charles and Michelle Kocher, will graduate in June from Cascade High School in Leavenworth. A member of Chumstick Grange, Kathleen was awarded the French Creek Grange Scholarship. Kathleen is planning to study Nursing at Wenatchee Valley College. As a Grange member, Kathleen has helped plan, set up, and clean up for the annual holiday craft fair at the Grange Hall. She has been a member of 4-H and the Grange Youth Fair Program, participating at the Chelan County Fair and the North Central WA Fair. Kathleen has also been involved with the Lake Wenatchee Rec Club and the Bavarian Boondockers.



MELISSA KUDSK

HAYNIE GRANGE #169 KEGLEY AGRICULTURAL SCHOLARSHIP

Melissa Kudsk, a member of Haynie Grange, is a 2024 graduate from Ferndale High School. She is completing her second year at Washington State University, studying Agriculture Education. Melissa, the daughter of Lauren and Cindy Kudsk, is the 2024-2025 Youth Ambassador for the Washington State Grange. She serves as the Lady Assistant Steward at Haynie Grange and was also the Lady Assistant Steward for the 2025 National Grange Youth Officer Team. Melissa showed goats, lambs and alpacas at the Northwest Washington Fair. She was the Vice President of her FFA chapter and received her State FFA Degree in 2023. She has served as a Teen Counselor at Cornet Bay Junior Grange Camp. Melissa recently accepted a position on the State Grange Youth Team. Melissa was awarded the prestigious Kegley Agricultural Scholarship.



SOFIA NICHOLSON

MENASTASH GRANGE #1054 POMONA VILLA GENERAL SCHOLARSHIP

Sofia Nicholson, the daughter of Kevin and Angelina Nicholson, will graduate in June from Cle Elum Roslyn High School. A member of Menastash Grange, Sofia will be attending the University of Arkansas to study Public Health with a minor in Sonography. In high school, Sofia participated in volleyball, basketball, softball, and track. She has been a member of 4-H, FFA, and Grange. Sofia has been employed by Miners Picca and Verna's Kitchen. Upon graduation, she hopes to return to her hometown and work in the health field.



HAYDEN OSTRANDER

TERRACE HEIGHTS GRANGE #586 NOB HILL GRANGE SCHOLARSHIP

A member of Terrace Heights Grange, Hayden Ostrander was awarded the Nob Hill Grange Scholarship. Hayden has been accepted into the Honors Program at the University of Washington, where she will study pre-Law. The daughter of Tim Ostrander and Heather Tjarnberg, she will graduate in June from Yakima's East Valley High School. She would like to become an attorney, practicing in family law. Throughout high school, Hayden has been active with the track team, cross country, and drama club. At Grange, she assisted with the fair display, Community Christmas Party, and building and installing the Little Free Library.



LAUREN ROHDE

WAITSBURG GRANGE #1 RAY & MARIAN KAMERRER MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Lauren Rohde is a 2025 graduate of DeSales High School in Walla Walla. A member of Waitsburg Grange, Lauren is the daughter of Eric and Angela Rohde. Lauren, the recipient of the Ray and Marian Kamerrer Memorial Scholarship, is studying Archaeology and Ancient History at the University of Aberdeen in Scotland, UK. Lauren has served as a delegate to the State Grange Convention and is a Past State Youth Master. She has received numerous awards in State Grange Contests and was previously a Junior Grange Camp Counselor. She hopes to eventually receive her Doctorate Degree in Archaeology and Ancient History, sharing her passion for history with others who are just as curious as her.



PARKER SACKMAN

FORT COLVILLE GRANGE #533 INGA ANDERSON MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

A senior graduating from Colville High School, Parker Sackman is a member of Fort Colville Grange. The son of Kyle and Karey Sackman, Parker was awarded the Inga Anderson Memorial Scholarship. Parker is planning to study Business Management in college. He has been involved in school athletics, with an emphasis on soccer, basketball, and football. Parker was the Fort Colville Grange Youth President in 2024-2025. His community service involvement includes coaching at youth soccer and football camps. He also assists with programs at the elementary and junior high school and was a mentor for the Unified Basketball Team.



TYLER SCHUYLEMAN

BEE HIVE GRANGE #385 FIDELTY GRANGE SCHOLARSHIP

Tyler Schuyleman is a 2022 graduate of Wenatchee High School. He has an associate degree from Wenatchee Valley College and is now attending Georgia Gwinnett College in Lawrenceville, GA to continue his studies in Exercise Science: Clinical Concentration. With the ultimate aspiration of playing professional baseball, Tyler plans to open a training and rehabilitation facility for young baseball players. Tyler participates in collegiate and summer baseball teams, also is now coaching and training younger baseball players. He also works part time in cherry and pear orchards. Tyler is the son of Nathan and Jane Schuyleman. All are members of Bee Hive Grange.

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BAILEY SHERLEY

**MENASTASH GRANGE #1054
MARTIN & GRACE FORRY
MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP**

Bailey Sherley, a 2021 graduate of Ellensburg High School and 2024 graduate from WSU with a degree in Agriculture and Food Business Economics. She is currently enrolled in the Master's Program at Oklahoma State University continuing her studies of International Agriculture. The daughter of Dan and Becky Sherley, she was awarded the Martin & Grace Forry Memorial Scholarship. Bailey is a member of Kittitas County's Menastash Grange. She is planning to graduate with her Master's Degree in 2026. Following graduation, Bailey plans to work alongside agricultural producers and other industry professionals to educate the public, promote agriculture, and bridge the gap between producers and consumers.



BODE SHERLEY

**MENASTASH GRANGE #1054
POMONA VILLA GENERAL
SCHOLARSHIP**

Bode Sherley is Studying Mechanical Engineering at Washington State University. A member of Menastash Grange, Bode is the son of Dan and Becky Sherley. He is a 2025 graduate of Ellensburg High School. Bode, a 2023 Kittitas County Fair Ambassador, was awarded the Pomona Villa General Scholarship. Upon college graduation, Bode hopes to contribute to the agricultural industry through innovation, using his skills to improve both his community and the world. He is active in the Ellensburg FFA Chapter and received his FFA State Degree Award. Bode showed pigs in the Grange Youth Fairs Program and participated in livestock judging. In the summer, he was a Farm Operations Assistant at Charlton Farms.



OWEN SKINNER

**HORSESHOE GRANGE #965
BEAR CREEK/HORSESHOE
GRANGE SCHOLARSHIP**

Owen Skinner, a 2022 graduate of AIM High School, is the recipient of the Bear Creek/Horseshoe Grange Scholarship. Owen, the son of Steve Skinner and Christa Tuchscherer, is a member of Snohomish County's Horseshoe Grange. He will be attending Cascadia College, with an undecided major. He then plans to transfer to Washington State University to continue his studies. Owen is employed as a produce clerk at Safeway.



JOHANNA SMITH

**MENASTASH GRANGE #1054
POMONA VILLA GENERAL
SCHOLARSHIP**

Johanna Smith, a 2024 Homeschool graduate, has been attending Yakima Valley College studying Nursing. The daughter of Danial and Rebekah Smith, Johanna is a member of Menastash Grange #1054. Johanna shows her steers in the Grange Youth Fairs Program. She and her family spend a year and a half in Honduras, in Central America, at Hospital Loma de Luz. This led her to the decision to enter the nursing field. For the past few years, she has worked in the agriculture industry from irrigation to operating heavy machinery to milking dairy cows daily.



PRESTON STINGLEY

**MENASTASH GRANGE #1054
ADRIAN & BETTY DEVRIES
MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP**

Preston Stingley is the sone of Ruley and Annie Stingley. A member of Menastash Grange, Preston will graduate in June from Kittitas High School. He is planning to study Business Management at the University of Montana Western in Dillon, MT. He plans to play collegiate football. Preston developed his leadership skills and outstanding character as the Student Council President and National Honor Society Vice President. He has been involved with both FFA and Grange Youth Fairs. While he continues to work on the family ranch, his skills resulted in an internship with SS Equipment, where he is developing his professional business skills. Upon college graduation, he hopes for an internship with Eli Lilly and Company, where he can continue his passion for business with real world experience in a leading pharmaceutical organization.



ALLYSON STOLLER

**FARGHER LAKE GRANGE #853
ROCK CREEK GRANGE
SCHOLARSHIP**

Allyson Stoller, a 2022 graduate of Camas High School, is the recipient of the Rock Creek Grange Scholarship. The daughter of Elijah and Michelle Stoller, Allyson is a member of Fargher Lake Grange. She is studying nursing at Utah Tech University. Part of her education included a school trip to Uganda, where she volunteered at an orphanage and at a refugee high school. Allyson received her certificate as a Certified Nursing Assistant through her school and is currently working in that capacity. She is looking forward to graduating with her nursing degree in May 2027.



LUKAS TEAGUE

**DRY CREEK GRANGE #646
WA STATE GRANGE FAMILY LIVING
VOCATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP**

Lukas Teague, a member of Clallam County's Dry Creek Grange, is the recipient of this years WA State Grange Family Living Vocational Scholarship. Lukas, the son of John Schmeltz and Sarah Teague-Schmeltz, will graduate in June from Port Angeles High School. He has been attending the Running Start Program at Peninsula College, and plans to attend Montana Technological University in Butte, MT as a member of the Lineman Pre Apprentice Program. He participated in wrestling and cross country in school and is involved in BMX Riding. He is a 4-H member and shows sheep and swine. He has held numerous part time jobs and is currently working by Bizy Boys Landscaping

Home & Family

May/June News From Your Family Living Director

By **Debbie Fisch**
Family Living Director

WA 98801.

“May is the month of expectation, the month of wishes, the month of hope.”

~ Emily Brontë

“June carries the promise of everything — from long daylight to the first harvests.”

~ Anonymous

Bear with me, there is a lot this time!

Grange Pomona Contest Reports

I have received several Pomona Contest reports so far. Yay! I think I did a Snoopy happy dance when my first one arrived in the mail. Thank you for making sure I received them and that they are filled out in legible writing or typed. I had someone fill out the form online and then just email it directly to me. He said it was easy! If you feel up to the challenge, give it a go! Be sure to print out a copy as well so you have a reference of the items you are bringing to State. If you have a chance, please send me the date of your Family Living Contest(s) so I can add it to my calendar. I love to know when they are happening! Once you have held your Pomona Contest, please send your purple winner results to me so that I can get entry tickets ready for State in June. fishcharosa@msn.com.

2025 Year-end Reports

I hope that everyone has returned their 2025-year end report. It isn't too late to get them in if you haven't done it yet. I love receiving them and getting to know everyone and what is happening in your Grange! If you have lost your copy, please go to www.wa-grange.com, under Departments, then Family Living Department, Forms and reports. You can either email them to fishcharosa@msn.com, or mail them to Debbie Fisch, 4035 Squilchuck Rd, Wenatchee

Where to find forms and Contest Information

This year Washington State Grange did not mail out the 2026 program to each Grange/Pomona Grange due to budget constraints. If you need a copy of the Family Living handbook and other forms, you can find it online at the State Grange website. Go to www.wa-grange.com, then look for the black bar and hover your mouse over Departments, click on Family Living, then look for the Family Living links on the left-hand side, click on Family Living Forms. You should find everything you need there. The contest information is called “Family Living Program Handbook.” There are several new judging sheets available online as well. Feel free to email me requests for judging sheets and the Family Living handbook and I will email them to you. If you have old forms to use up, please feel free to use them at your Pomona Contests. We will start integrating the new forms into the State Contest this year. And if you find spelling errors, please let me know so I can make sure to get those corrected for next year.

Zoom Meetings!

Be sure to mark your calendar! We still have two more Zoom meetings for the Family Living and Lecturer Departments. Be sure to join us on May 11th and/or June 15th. They will all be at 6:30 p.m. The zoom link can be found on the home page of the State Grange Website, on Facebook, or in the front part of this newsletter.

Family Living Luncheon at State Convention

You are all invited to join us at the Family Living Luncheon at State Convention. Mark your calendars for June 25th for the Luncheon at the Skagit Valley Fairgrounds. Meal sign-up should be in an upcoming Grange News and



Debbie Fisch

available for sign up on the Website at some point.

Help needed! Many hands make light work!

If you are able to help out at State Convention, please reach out to me. Please consider having your Grange and/or Pomona Grange donate a basket or item for the silent auction. Out of those items donated, we will select items suitable for the live auction. We will need lots of help during Convention! On Monday during set up, we need some men who can help set up tables and quilt racks. During judging on Wednesday, we can use helpers to attach ribbons and to shuffle entries around to where they need to be for judging purposes. Wednesday afternoon, we will need help from some tall people getting quilts hung.

Convention Schedule:

Note: this schedule may be flexible to work with the Convention Committee and other departments

Monday -

Set up starts around noon once we are able to get items off the trailer, helpers plan to arrive by 11:00 for coffee and donuts! My treat!

Tuesday -

Contest Check in time 8:00 am to 6:00 pm

Wednesday -

Contest Check in 8:00 am to noon, Judging starts at 10:00 am, displays will be closed until judging is complete and entries are placed for display.

Thursday -

Displays open 9:00 am to 6:00 pm

Friday -

Displays open 9:00 am to 6:00 pm

Saturday -

Silent Auction ends at 12:30 pm, Check out starts at 2:00 pm



Johnny Cake

from the kitchen of
Jessi Saucedá's Grandmother

Ingredients:

| | |
|--------------------|-----------------------|
| 1 Egg | 1 ½ tsp Baking Powder |
| ¼ cup Sugar | ½ tsp Baking Powder |
| 1 ½ cup buttermilk | ¼ tsp salt |
| ¾ cup flour | ½ tsp baking soda |
| 1 ½ cup cornmeal | |

Directions:

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Mix all ingredients together and pour into an 8x8 greased pan. Bake for 45 minutes.



Debbie Riegel-Yates
Washington State QOV Coordinator
Email: wildrose55@gmail.com
Phone: 360-420-5108

Quilts of Valor was formed in 2003 by Catherine Roberts. She presented her first Quilt of Valor at Walter Reed Medical Center. She had a vision of a quilt comforting her son who was deployed to Iraq. Her message has been that quilts equal healing. Since 2003, 400,000 quilts have been awarded nation wide.

In Washington, we have 27 groups. If you are or you know someone that is a veteran, please call me or email me so we can honor them at the State Convention on Friday, June 26th at the Skagit County Fairgrounds in Mt. Vernon.

Celebrate America250 with the Grange




All Granges across the country are encouraged to participate in America's semiquincentennial - 250 years of patriotism, freedom, and shared values.

The Guidebook for Granges can be downloaded at
<https://grange.biz/America250>

Grange Connection

✦ *A Fresh Look for Our Reader Board!* ✦



Thanks to a generous donation, South Bay Grange now has a refreshed reader board to help share upcoming events with our community. ♥

A big thank you to Bret Childers and his daughters for repainting, refurbishing, and adding a touch of landscaping to make it shine! ♥

Keeping our community connected at South Bay Grange

Sharon Grange Hosts Oyster Feed 77 Years Later



In 1949, the Sharon Grange #800 held its first oyster feed and this year the members and community put on another successful event on Saturday, April 11th from 12 p.m. until 4 p.m. Although there have been a few changes through the years, such as post-Covid restrictions of serving the all-you-can-eat oyster dinner on a buffet line rather than family style and the pie varieties being more than just lemon meringue, the feedback from the customers was very positive. The dinner included not only the breaded and fried oysters, but oyster stew, coleslaw, ham, green beans, mashed potatoes, roll, pie, and beverage. This event cannot occur without the cooperation of the Sharon Grange Members, as well as, other people who live in the local community. The kitchen was a hustle and bustle of activity as oysters were prepped for frying and for placing in the stew, coleslaw was mixed, and potatoes and green beans were cooked. Tickets were sold and collected, stew was dipped, pies were cut, and tables cleared and set ready for sitting 8 people per table. The dining room was



very busy as the servers on the buffet line and on the floor were caring for the appetites of the nearly 350 customers. Tips were collected for the grange's scholarship fund, raffle tickets sold, and silent auction items bid on to help with the overall fund raising for the Sharon Grange. Organizers have set next year's event date, so that everyone can "save the date." The 2027 Sharon Grange All-You-Can-Eat Oyster Feed will be held on Saturday, April 17th with the exact start and end time to be determined as the date draws near next year.

Sunnyside Grange 25-Year Membered Honored



Helen Berg, President of Sunnyside Grange #129, presenting Susan Woolridge her Silver Star Certificate.

Sequim Prairie Grange Hosts First Farmers Forum

Sequim Prairie Grange held its first Farmers Forum on March 26, themed "Let's Talk Water," bringing together local producers, agricultural professionals, and resource agencies for an evening centered on education, collaboration, and current issues facing the farming community.

Organized by Grange members Steve and Ann Johnson, who own the Lazy J Tree Farm, the forum welcomed farmers from the Dungeness River irrigation area, representing a diverse range of agricultural operations — from small-scale farms to larger livestock and ranching operations. The event drew more than 60 participants, reflecting strong interest in water-related concerns and a shared commitment to staying informed.

The program featured presentations from several agencies and organizations working directly with land and water resources in the Dungeness River watershed. Guest speakers included Bill Baccus of Olympic National Park; Jason Hatch and

Patrick Yoon of Washington Water Trust; Ben Smith of the Water Users Association; Sara Tanuvasa of the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS); and Kim Williams and Quentin Norcutt of the Clallam Conservation District.

Presentations focused on irrigation challenges and this year's snowpack levels — both key factors affecting water availability for the upcoming growing season. Speakers shared updates on current conditions, seasonal outlooks, and resources available to help farmers manage water use efficiently and sustainably.

The forum also provided

an opportunity for attendees to ask questions, exchange ideas, and connect with agency representatives, helping to strengthen communication and collaboration within the local agricultural community.

Food for the event was provided by WSU Extension, contributing to a welcoming and community-oriented atmosphere.

The Sequim Prairie Grange hopes to continue hosting similar forums in the future to support local agriculture and provide a space for ongoing information sharing and discussion on important topics.

Stranger Creek Grange Teaches Knitting At Local Craft Night



Basic knitting instruction and supplies were provided by Stranger Creek Grange #374 at their community craft night. More sessions and crafts are planned through the summer.



Grange Connection

Greenwood Park Grange Hosts Awards And Appreciation Dinner

Greenwood Park Grange #590 had a awards and appreciation dinner on March 7th. We gave out awards to each member and to community members for their donations for our bathroom remodel and our Christmas Santa Shop. Each person got a blanket from Juanita Curnutt as my way of saying thank you to our members and the community. I would like to thank:

- Greg Howard
- Daniel Baker
- Del Karnes for the hard work on bathrooms
- Linda Hall
- Charlene Hall
- Marjorie Stemmelin
- Heather Veelle - for always stepping up to cook a meal
- Mary Schwartz
- Linda Somerlott
- Mick Schwartz - For numerous donations with help with food

A special thank you to non members:

- Lee Roberts - Easter Eggs and Christmas Donation
- Michelle Dickerson - Christmas donation
- Michele Magnis - making the blankets
- Lori Dill - (500.00) Christmas donation
- Duane Johnson - Bathroom donation
- Vern Guenther - Christmas donation
- Jennifer Russell - Christmas donation



Fredonia Grange Starts Hall Renovations



Fredonia Grange in Skagit Valley has gotten new paint in the main floor and the kitchen is getting finished. It's looking like a new building!

Alder Creek Grange Hosts Pasta with a Purpose



The true meaning of a fraternal organization was recently demonstrated by Alder Creek Grange #890, in Bickleton, WA. Fraternal is defined as a voluntary organization focused on fellowship, mutual aid, and community service. Following the recent catastrophic accident that left Lisa Marlin with a broken neck the Grange and the community with a population of less than 150, joined forces to create a fundraising activity to help with her medical expenses and lost income during her slow recovery. That recent event featured a delicious spaghetti dinner including beverage and dessert. Attendees received raffle tickets at the door which led into an exciting and fun silent auction and raffle with all proceeds benefiting Lisa. If you were unable to attend the benefit you can still donate directly to her. This event exemplifies the fundamental principles of a fraternal organization such as the Grange.

Less than three weeks later, the Grange Hall was once again filled to near capacity. On Friday the 13th, the Bickleton Goodwill Society hosted a pancake feed alongside the Alder Creek Grange, which organized a Bingo night.

Washington Grange #82 Sort Seeds



Eight members of Washington Grange No. 82 spent the afternoon sorting vegetable seeds and flower seeds for their ongoing project to keep seeds available for the public in the two seed cabinets they purchased and donated to two of the libraries in the Fort Vancouver Library District. Our lecturer, Patti Tuller, spear headed this popular project a few years back.

This year we have put together over 1,000 small seed packets for free distribution at the libraries. It has been a successful community service project.

Violet Prairie Grange Keeps Busy; Hosts First-Ever Open House

Violet Prairie Grange has been very active recently. We hosted a 4-H Rabbit Clinic as well as two equine clinics sponsored by the 40-Something Cowgirls: "Bit Fitting" and "Saddle Education." Our monthly "Mercantile Market" continues on the second Saturday of each month. This year, we again contributed teddy bears as prizes for the annual spring B.E.A.R. (Be Excited About Reading) challenge for local first and second graders. We hosted our first-ever "Open House" to increase community awareness. To close the event, our dear Jan Erickson was awarded her "60 Year" seal before refreshments were served (see photo to the right). Regarding our regular meeting schedule, we return to meeting on the second Monday of the month (5:00 potluck/6:00 meeting) for April and May. Meetings will be suspended from June through August and resume on Monday, September 14th.



Happy Valley Grange Holds Game Night

Happy Valley Grange enjoyed a game night on April 21, 2026. Gene Magnuson, Assistant Steward, was the Bingo caller for the evening. We all brought White Elephant prizes and nobody went home empty handed. Two of our players were President Duane Isackson and Lady Steward Sylvia Bernauer.



Grange Connection



Saving Stevenson Grange Hall

Saving the old Stevenson Grange Hall is the foremost project of a new non-profit group called "Grace" (Grange Renovation and Community Engagement.) Stevenson Grange Hall was built over a century ago as a pioneer dance hall and was located where Rock Creek meets the Columbia River. Early-day carpenters and experienced retired boat builders used natural old-growth timber in its construction.

Multiple generations have grown up remembering the massive fir dance floor and clear span trusses used to eliminate obtrusive interior columns. With the completion of Bonneville Dam in late 1930s, the old building had to be moved to higher ground. Following the move to higher ground it became the Stevenson Grange Hall. For several years the Grange used the building as a venue for typical Grange activities such as community dinners, dances, weddings and various fair events. Jumping forward to 2026, the aging building sits forlorn and neglected in the Skamania County Fairgrounds parking lot.

Stevenson Downtown Association has partnered with Stevenson Grange as a non-profit fiscal sponsor. The "Save the Grange" group is currently soliciting community input on how the Grange building should be used if renovation is successful.

UPDATE: On Sunday afternoon April 19, the Grace Project group (Grange Restoration and Community Engagement) celebrated signing a 6-month lease with Skamania County. This lease provides the opportunity for a feasibility study on restoring the historic old Stevenson Grange Hall to see if restoring the building is a viable project to meet building codes. Alexis House in Stevenson prepared an artisan style luncheon for the signing event. Impressive support shown by the community turnout.



Terrace Heights Grange Hosts Chili Cook-Off



Terrace Heights Grange #586 held a Chili Cook-off and Open House on March 8th. It was well received with tasters choosing their favorite chili from six entries. There were also representatives from local community departments with information for participants. An "America 250" theme was used. Pictured: L to R: Jessica Hinkle (Tied for 1st Place), Pam Bright-THG Pres., Glenda Tjarnberg-THG Lecturer, Danette Negron-Cortes (Tied for 1st Place) and Connie Hauver (3rd Pl).

CHELAN COUNTY

Manson Grange will be hosting a "Seeds of Service" Community Recognition Dinner to honor distinguished members, community partners, and those who have contributed to the success of our recent renovation and program growth. Over the past year, our efforts have included both facility improvements and expanded community engagement through events such as educational programs, social gatherings, and local partnerships. While this event is by invitation only, it reflects the broader mission of the Grange—to foster strong, connected communities through service and shared purpose.

DOUGLAS COUNTY

St. Andrews Grange #832 celebrated a historic event on March 16, 2026. It was 100 years since their local Grange was founded in March 1926. They still have 5 grange members who are direct decedents of two of the founders, Chris and Mabel Jorgensen. President Marcus Dingman presided over meeting number 1,568. For some 70 years, St Andrews grange met twice a month, but eventually it was dropped to once a month, which now is the 3rd Monday of each month, starting with a dinner at 6 o'clock (except in July, August and December). It is a busy place, now that they have young people involved, who take their projects to the North Central Washington District fair in Waterville. St Andrews Grange plans on putting up a display on Memorial Day at their annual cowboy breakfast to commemorate their 100th anniversary year.

GRAYS HARBOR COUNTY

Humtulsips Grange celebrated the 55th anniversary of the revitalization of our Grange with a potluck dinner and membership awards presentation on April 10. Golden Sheaf Awards for 50 years of membership were presented to Pauline Drolz, Gerald Gwin, Peggy Furth, and Larry Mills. Silver Star Awards for 25 years of membership were presented to Debbie Smith and Tamy Rissman. Forty year seals went to Dayne Beck, Bill Brownrigg, Jim Brownrigg, Teena Butterfield, and Larry Moore. Fifty Five year seals were presented to Carol Brownrigg, Luther Brownrigg, Robert Drolz, Davona Gwin, and Sandra Wells. Rachel Lovejoy was given a seal for 65 years while W.H. Elder was presented a 70 year seal. The Grange continues serving the community by operating the Humtulsips Grange Food Bank. Information on the Dept of Transportation

improvements to US Hwy 101 in the Humtulsips area were distributed to Grange members and our community. We are nearing the end of the mortgage on our hall and hope to have it paid in full by summer.

Sharon Grange #800 will host their Open House Brunch on May 16th from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. at Sharon Grange #800 located at 912 South Bank Road, Oakville across the Chehalis River Bridge from Porter. It is \$5 for biscuits and gravy, sausage, eggs, and beverage. It will be following the Sharon Cemetery clean-up which is from 8 a.m. to 10 a.m. All funds raised will go to our building and scholarship funds. Sharon Grange will also be hosting a farmer's market on Saturday, July 18th from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The theme is "Plants and Roots Festival." There will be nachos and hot dogs available for a nominal fee. The booth rental is \$20. The money raised will go towards the building and scholarship funds. The Grange is located at 912 South Bank Road, Oakville, across the Chehalis River Bridge from Porter.

KLICKITAT COUNTY

Glenwood Grange held a very informative meeting on the afternoon of March 29, with President Linda Williams presiding. Upon arriving at the hall members were asked to examine the brush and tree trimming project recently completed to mitigate fire concerns. A big thank you goes to Greg and Brenda Wiebe for hauling the brush away. Following the official opening, discussions centered around revising meeting dates, an evaluation of our current dues structure, and how to handle the increasing cost of building insurance. Lucille Bevis and Richard Lefever, guests from Goldendale offered valuable input to questions regarding current Grange requirements and Grange history. Member Jerry Dean explained upcoming plans for the Camas Prairie Pioneer Assoc. field day and tour of historic Mt. Adams Sheep Camps. Following the meeting, a snack of homemade pizza, veggie trays, and many cookies was provided.

PIERCE COUNTY

Elk Plain Grange will be hosting a Bingo Night Thursday May 21st at 7pm. On Sunday, May 31st will be having an Ice Cream Social and Open House at 2pm.

SPOKANE COUNTY

Green Bluff Grange started May out by holding our annual pie auction and Booster night

program. It was a fun evening of bidding for your favorite pie and honoring Grange members. The all you can eat pancake breakfasts will be held on May 31 and June 26—the 5th annual Sherm Simpson & Mel Walker Tractor parade follows this Strawberry breakfast. Tractor owners drive their tractors on the Cherry Pickers route. The America250 birthday message in April was about "Three Symbols of Freedom"—Drummers, Betsy Ross flag, and Liberty Bell with one Grange member receiving a 250America special coin. May—Good Neighbor Day & June—John Deere partner will be the topic of America 250 message. June 2 Grange event is Flag Retirement Ceremony. Scholarship winners were announced at the April 21 meeting. Grange meetings are on the 3rd Tuesday of the month, and everyone is welcome.

STEVENS COUNTY

Camas Valley Grange #842 is gearing up for a busy summer. At the Grange, Cat Care will be holding spay/neuter clinics from May through October. There will be Bingo on the first Saturday of May, June, August, September, October, and November Bingo by different local nonprofit groups. Haunted House/Kiddie Karnival planning meetings are scheduled in the upcoming months. Collection of supplies for the homeless are ongoing. Gathering of school supplies for MWSD has started, etc. Our grange members are dedicated and caring people.

THURSTON COUNTY

South Union Grange held regular meetings April 7. The audit committee gave a report of their findings on the 2024 books. The accounts were in good order and Treasurer Pam Mathews what thanked for her diligence in keep records of the Grange's accounts. Discussions were held regarding the Grange's upcoming April 25 "The Secret Under Our Feet" workshop for kids (and families), which will be presented by Victoree Jamiel. Other activities/events that South Union Grangers are planning are the May 15-16 garage sale, the October 3 Harvest Festival with Thurston Conservation District, and a candidates' forum in mid October. Meetings are held the third Monday of each month at 7 pm. The next regular meetings will be on May 18 and June 15. Dances are held the first Saturday of every month except October, beginning at 1:30 pm. The County Four and More provides live county music for your dancing and listening pleasure. Donation is \$6 per person at the door and all ages are welcome.

Grange Connection

Happy Valley Grange Adorned With Flowers



We Grangers are often gardeners. Cheryl Magnuson, Flora and musician, from the Happy Valley Grange #322, brings flowers from her garden every meeting. Here are a few photos of some of her flowers: **Flora flowers #1 (Top):** Laurel, Silver Dollar Plants, Geum and Forget me nots. **Flowers #2 (Bottom Left):** Flowering Currant, Asian Pear Apple Blossoms and Forsythia. **Flowers #3 (Bottom Right):** Marigolds

Goldendale Grange Celebrates 115th Anniversary



A review of Goldendale Grange records indicates that on February 11, 1911, twenty-five farm families met at the No. 4 Schoolhouse east of Goldendale to organize what is now known as Goldendale Grange #49. Grange dues were set at \$.10 monthly or \$1.20 annually. Completing degree work was challenging in a schoolhouse filled with bulky heavy desks. Coffee was transported to meetings in burlap-insulated cream cans stored near the wood stove to maintain temperature.

On March 8, 2026, 115 years later, members and friends met at the Hall to celebrate Goldendale Grange's 115th anniversary with a community potluck luncheon. Dr. Ogden, State Grange Musician, opened the afternoon program by discussing State Grange Degree work and comparing past work to today's. James Radcliffe, President of the Klickitat County Historical Society and a Pleasant Valley resident, delivered a brief presentation about his grandfather Norman's involvement at Pleasant Valley Grange 65 years ago. Dandy Valley Farms generously donated the door prizes. Guests appreciated Bubba Jensen and Patty for preparing the main course of pulled pork and roast chicken and Laurie Walker for making the birthday cake.



Prosperity Grange Institutes "Community Education Nights"



Prosperity Grange #315 recently instituted "Community Education Night" every 3rd Wednesday of the month! Pictured Top: Pam Nistler teaches a cake decorating class at Prosperity #315 on February 18. Pictured Bottom: Debra Basquez (from Fruitland #999) teaches a Jam Making class at Prosperity #315 on March 18.

South Union Grange Honors 50-Year Golden Sheaf Member

South Union Grange member Nadine Murphy (center) was presented with her Golden Sheaf pin and certificate during a visit by South Union Master Patty Mathews (not shown) and State Ceres Pam Mathews (right). Long-time friend Janice Erickson of Violet Prairie Grange (left) also attended to congratulate Nadine.



Sharon Grange Schedules Annual Local Cemetery Clean-Up Day

Sharon Grange #800 has taken on the community service of helping to clean-up the local Sharon Cemetery for generations. The Sharon Cemetery is just south of the grange on South Bank Road. This year's cemetery clean-up is scheduled for Saturday, May 16th from 8 a.m. to 10 a.m. Those willing to help are encouraged to wear gloves and bring tools for clipping and cleaning (some tools will also be on hand for those who need to borrow them during the clean-up). The members are very appreciative of the work done by Harvey Hamilton and his son Quentin to clean and right the headstones. Member Jim Beerbower recently said, "I can now read the writing on my great-great-grandparents headstones." Sharon Grange Member Jan Hamilton is the wife of Harvey and mother to Quentin.



Pomona Connection

EXCELSIOR POMONA GRANGE

Excelsior Pomona Grange will meet on May 16 at the Greenwood Park Grange Hall. Contest entries are due for all contests except baking and photography. Pomona meetings begin at 10:30 a.m.

GRAYS HARBOR/PACIFIC POMONA

Grays Harbor/Pacific Pomona met on March 14 at North Willapa Harbor and May 9 at Olympic View. Contests were held, with over 300 entries this year. Plans are in progress for the Grange Building displays at the Grays Harbor County Fair. The next Pomona meeting will be on July 11 at the Long Beach Grange hall with an adjusted time. We will begin with a 12 p.m. potluck, followed by business meeting at 1 p.m.

THURSTON COUNTY POMONA

Thurston County Pomona Grange met at Black Lake Grange on March 7 for their monthly meeting, preceded a potluck dinner. Lecturer and Family Living contests were held at Brighton Park Grange on March 28. The April 2 Pomona meeting was held at South Union Grange at 7 pm, preceded by a potluck at 6 pm. The baking and candy contests were held at the meeting and entries were actioned by Ron Nelson following the meeting, with proceeds going to Pomona. The June 7 Pomona meeting will be held at South Bay Grange at 7 pm with a potluck preceding the meeting at 6 pm. The annual floral arranging contest will be held at that meeting. The Pomona picnic will be held at the Nelson Ranch beginning at 2 pm on Sunday July 12. There will be no regular meeting held in July.

Pend Oreille County Pomona Granges Team Up For Soup Kitchen



Members from Calispel Grange and Diamond Lake Grange of Pend Oreille County Pomona have teamed together to cook and serve at the Stone Soup Kitchen in Newport, Washington. Everyday of the week from 4-5 pm a meal is served for free to anyone hungry at the local Hospitality House Community Center in Newport. Tuesday of each week is when the two Granges meet, cook and serve. All soup kitchen "Chefs" are required to get a Washington State food handlers license.

Pictured are Patti Monk, Jeanie Wolke and her grandson, Wayne. Young Wayne puts on his food handlers gloves and cheerfully helps guests get their food and utensils.

Delicious soups, pastas, BBQ sandwiches, chili, and more are provided complements of local donations. We are always looking for volunteers. Come for a visit and a bowl of soup.

The Granges Of Yakima Valley Pomona Enjoy St. Patrick's Lunch

Twenty-five leprechauns from the Yakima Valley Pomona (YVP) Granges met at Toppenish's Legends Casino in March for a St. Patrick's Day lunch and celebration! Our YVP social committee did a great job coming up with such a good outing for all to enjoy!



Whatcom County Pomona Hosts Potluck At Rome Grange Hall



Rome Grange hosted the recent Whatcom County Pomona Grange meeting at their Hall to discuss resolutions. The evening started with a Potluck. The meeting went until 10:40 pm, so we were fortunate we started with a good fuel supply!

Pomona Calendar

Pomona Granges are reminded to send their 2026 meeting schedules to the State Grange Office for inclusion in The Grange News.

- ADAMS** May 19 at Ralston, 6 p.m
- CHELAN** May 16 at Chumstick, 10 a.m. business meeting, 12 p.m. potluck. Lunch at Smitty's Restaurant in Wenatchee at 12 noon on May 21 and June 18.
- CLALLAM** September meeting date, time and location to be announced.
- CLARK** May 13 at Manor, 7 p.m.
- COLUMBIA** to be announced.
- COWLITZ/ WAHKIAKUM** May 16 at Silver Lake, 1 pm potluck, meeting to follow.
- DOUGLAS** to be announced.
- EXCELSIOR** May 16 at Greenwood Park, 10:30 pm. Will include all contests except baking and photography.
- FERRY** September 14 at San Poil, 6 pm.
- GRAYS HARBOR/ PACIFIC** May 9 at Olympic View, 10:30 a.m. meeting, 12 p.m. potluck. Contest entries due on May 8, 11 am to 1 pm to Olympic View.
- ISLAND** May 16 at Deer Lagoon
- KING** to be announced.
- KLICKITAT** July 18 at Centerville, 12 p.m. potluck, 1 p.m. meeting.
- LEWIS** August 1 at Hope, 12 p.m. lunch, 1 p.m. meeting.
- MASON** May 16 at Matlock, 11 am meeting, 12 pm potluck.
- OKANOGAN** July 11 at Oroville, 10 a.m. meeting, 12 p.m. potluck.
- PEND OREILLE** August 22 at Camden, 10 a.m.
- PIERCE** May 2 at Waller Road, 10 am. Will be degree day and include the lecturer contests. June 6 at Riverside Valley, 10 a.m., will include baking and canning contests
- SKAGIT** May 6 at Samish Valley, 6:30 pm meeting with refreshments following.
- SNOHOMISH** May 15 at Kellogg Marsh. Lecturer and Family Living contest entries due on May 14, 2-4 pm.
- SPOKANE** May 9 at File Mile Prairie, 10 a.m. Contest entries due on May 8 to Five Mile Prairie.
- STEVENS** to be announced.
- THURSTON** May 7 at Prosperity, 6 p.m. potluck, 7 p.m. meeting.
- WHATCOM** June 16 at Laurel, 6 pm potluck, 7 pm meeting. Will include the flower show.
- WHITMAN** May 16 at North & South Palouse, 10 a.m. meeting, 12 p.m. potluck. Family Living and Lecturer contests to be included.
- YAKIMA VALLEY** July 13 at Fruitvale. 5 p.m. potluck, 6 p.m. meeting.

SPEAK LIKE A "CHAMP"

Speak like a "CHAMP" is a monthly message designed to get everyone speaking the same language to encourage positive teamwork as we Grange.

SHOW THE WORK

Show the Work emphasizes the importance of demonstrating progress, transparency, and follow-through. It means making visible the effort, planning, and results behind decisions and initiatives – not for recognition, but for trust-building and accountability. **Show the Work** reinforces that credibility is earned by action, not intention. Within the Grange, this concept reminds leaders and members to communicate steps taken, milestones reached, and outcomes achieved so that momentum is shared, understood, and celebrated across all levels of the organization.

SAVE THE DATE!

Upcoming State Grange Events

Scheduled events may be either cancelled or postponed. Please call prior to the event to confirm.

| | | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| MONTHLY | New Member Reports due to the State Grange Office | JUNE 2 | Convention Education Committee Meeting via Zoom, 7 pm |
| MAY 15 | Grange Hall Improvement Contest Entries due to the State Grange Office | JUNE 3 | Convention Grange Activities Committee Meeting via Zoom, 7 pm |
| MAY 20 | Pomona Family Living Contest Report due to State Family Living Director | JUNE 4 | Convention Grange Law Committee Meeting via Zoom, 7 pm |
| MAY 20 | Pomona Lecturer Contest Report due to State Lecturer | JUNE 8 | Convention State Legislative Committee Meeting via Zoom, 7 pm |
| MAY 20 | Creative Writing Contest entries due to State Lecturer | JUNE 9 | Convention Conservation & Ecology Committee Meeting via Zoom, 7 pm |
| MAY 26 | Convention Agriculture Committee Meeting via Zoom, 7 pm | JUNE 10 | Convention Health, Healthcare & Safety Committee Meeting via Zoom, 7 pm |
| MAY 27 | Convention Transportation Committee Meeting via Zoom, 7 pm | JUNE 11 | State Grange Executive Committee Meeting via Zoom, 7 pm |
| MAY 28 | Convention National Legislative Committee Meeting via Zoom, 7 p.m. | JUNE 15 | Convention Fish & Wildlife Committee Meeting via Zoom, 7 pm |
| MAY 29-31 | Grange Camper Association Fun Rally at Ocean Shores | JUNE 15 | Lecturer and Family Living Joint Zoom Meeting (hosted by Claudine Mincks and Debbie Fisch), 6:30 pm via Zoom |
| JUNE 1 | Grange Community Service Reports due to the State Grange Office | JUNE 16 | Convention Audit Committee Meeting via Zoom, 7 pm |
| JUNE 1 | Nominations for Volunteer Recognition Program (Law Enforcement Officer, Firefighter/EMT, Teach, Volunteer Group, and Community Volunteer) due to the State Grange Office | JUNE 23 | Convention Credentials Committee Meeting, 10 am at Skagit County Fairgrounds |
| JUNE 1 | Entries for State Grange Youth Contests Due to State Youth director)Youth & Young Adult Ambassadors, Sign-a-Song, Prepared Speeches, Spirit of Youth Award, Youth Achievement Award, Youth Community Service Award, and Junior Mentor Award) | JUNE 23 | Convention Election Committee Meeting, 10:30 am at Skagit County Fairgrounds |
| JUNE 1 | Applications/Nominations for all Junior Grange Awards due to State Junior Directors | JUNE 23 | Convention Constitution/Bylaws Committee Meeting, 11 am at Skagit County Fairgrounds |
| JUNE 1 | Lecturer and Family Living Joint Zoom Meeting (hosted by Claudine Mincks and Debbie Fisch), 6:30 pm via Zoom | JUNE 24-27 | 137th Annual Washington State Grange Convention at the Skagit County Fairgrounds, 501 Taylor St, Mount Vernon, WA 98273 |
| JUNE 1 | Convention Transportation Committee Meeting via Zoom, 7 pm | NOVEMBER 11-15 | 160th Annual National Grange Convention at Stoney Creek Hotel & Conference Center Broken Arrow 200 W Albany Street, Broken Arrow, OK 74012 |

Grange Members Celebrate In Centralia: 90th Anniversary For State's Oldest Member

By Jacob Moore
jacob@chronline.com
The Chronicle
Centralia, WA
* Article reprinted with permission.

Lifelong Lewis County resident Irene Tripp celebrated 90 years as a Grange member this week, making her the longest serving Grange member in the state and possibly the only 90-year Grange member in state history.

Tripp celebrated the anniversary surrounded by family and many other Grange members at the South Creek

Post Acute facility in Centralia Tuesday afternoon. Tripp, who was born to a family of lifelong Grangers, has been a member of the Newaukum Grange since she was a child. She has gone on to pass that tradition down to at least four generations, all Grangers, who celebrated the 90-year anniversary with her.

Washington State Grange President Tom Gwin, a 50-year Granger and member of the Humptulips Grange north of Hoquiam and Aberdeen, also made the trip to Centralia to award Tripp with an official certificate honoring her anniversary.

While Gwin says they can't

be 100% certain, he and the state Grange believe Tripp may be the first ever 90-year member in the history of the Washington State Grange, which was first founded in 1889, two months before Washington gained statehood.

"We think this is the first one ever in our state," Gwin said. "I did four 80-years last year, but we've never had a 90."

Maybe even more impressive is Tripp's longevity. The longest Granger in the state is currently 102 and, according to her family, will turn 103 in August.

Tripp has been a member of the local Newaukum Grange all her life since she was born to parents Frank and Pearl Miller, who themselves were active Grange members and among the earliest members of the Newaukum Grange.

Frank was a well-regarded member of the Grange and received the Washington State



Grange Leader of the Year Award in 1967, according to a recent state Grange proceeding. Tripp's late nephew Wayne Miller is also well known in the community. He passed away in 2024 and was a highly regarded member of the State Grange, as well.

Miller and his wife Peggy were well known for leading and organizing Junior Grange Camps in the summers for the many children of Grange members. Miller served as Washington State Grange

vice president and also for nearly 20 years as Junior Grange Director.

Tripp's son Ted remains an active member of Newaukum Grange and recently celebrated 60 years as a Grange member. According to Tripp, roughly 80% of the family is involved in the Washington State Grange. Tripp's great niece Jennifer Webb, who also attended the celebration, serves as a Washington State Grange deputy and has been a member of the Grange for 43 years.

