



Long Beach Grange



Addy Grange





Deer Lagoon Grange



Grangers To Zoom Together For 131st Business Meeting

Grange members from across Washington State will be traveling to three different locations across the state for the 131st annual session. Restrictions surrounding the Covid-19 pandemic is forcing Grangers to meet in smaller groups and come together via Zoom for their annual business meeting. Locations for this year's business meeting (Addy in Stevens County, Deer Lagoon in

Island County, and Long Beach in Pacific County) were selected to host the meetings as they were all in counties currently operative in Phase 3 of the Governor's Reopening Plan.

Originally planned for the Walla Walla County Fairgrounds in June, the State Grange Executive Committee acted in early spring to first postpone the annual convention and then

to replace the convention with the business meeting at several locations.

Pre-registered delegates, officers, and directors only may attend the business meeting. The Grange Credentials Form served as the pre-registration. All forms must be received at the State Grange no later than October 15. Pre-registration is required as there is a maximum of 50 persons

at each location.

Delegates will begin gathering at the three locations on Friday, October 30, beginning at 7:30 a.m., where dockets will be distributed. State Grange officers, deputy masters, and spouses will assist with registration and the various tasks required for the meeting.

The gavel will fall at 9 a.m. to begin the business meeting.

Officiating at the business meetings will be State Grange Master Tom Gwin of Humptulips Grange. He will be assisted by a person in charge of the business meeting in each location. Following the abbreviated opening of the meeting, the credentials committee will report on the number of delegates

Continued on page 4

November 2020 issue deadline – October 20th Submissions can be sent to grangenews@wa-grange.org

INSIDE:

Washington State Grange Business Meeting Information Inside

Information on the Business Meeting of the Washington State Grange's 131st Annual Session can be found throughout this issue. Resolutions for the Session, the Session Schedule and more can be found starting on Page 4.

Mark Your Calendars

Upcoming State Grange Events

Due to COVID-19, many scheduled events are either canceled or postponed.

This listing reflects new dates for several items.
Please call prior to the event to confirm.

OCTOBER 12	Delegate Committee Meetings via
	Zoom: 6 p.m. – Transportation;
	7 p.m. – National Legislative
OCTORED 13	Dologata Committee Meetings via

OCTOBER 13 Delegate Committee Meetings via

Zoom: 1 p.m. – Cooperatives;

3 p.m. – Conservation and Ecology;

6 p.m. – Taxation and Fiscal Policy;

OCTOBER 14 Delegate Committee Meetings via Zoom: 1 p.m. – Grange Law;

6 p.m. – Veterans Affairs; 7 p.m. – State Legislative

7 p.m. – Agriculture

OCTOBER 15 Delegate Committee Meetings via
Zoom: 1 p.m. – Grange Activities;

6 p.m. – Health, Health Care & Safety; 7 p.m. – Fish & Wildlife

OCTOBER 15 Credentials Forms Due to the State Grange Office

OCTOBER 19 Delegate Committee Meetings via Zoom: 1 p.m. – Auditing;

6 p.m. – Constitution & Bylaws; 7 p.m. – Education

OCTOBER 20 Delegate Committee Meetings via

Zoom: 6 p.m. – Credentials; 7 p.m. - Election

OCTOBER 26State Grange Executive Committee

Meeting @ Olympia

OCTOBER 30-31 State Grange Business Meeting @ Addy,

Deer Lagoon, and Long Beach Grange Halls

NOVEMBER 17-18, 2020.... 154th Annual Session of the National Grange @ Valley Forge, PA

DECEMBER 1..... Election of Officers Report Due to State Grange Office

DECEMBER 31Fourth Quarter Secretary Reports Due

Grange Camper Clubs

SPOKAMPERS

SpoKampers Wagonmaster Faye Krenkel passed away suddenly Sunday, July 26. She was being treated for cancer and her COPD apparently lead to pneumonia. COVID-19 was not thought to be a contributing factor. Her family was with her at the time of passing.

School Meal Options Must Be Based On Science

By Tom Gwin State Grange Master/President

The Washington State Grange is concerned that students are able to access the most nutritious food available as part of the school meal program – access free from misconception, but based on science.

This is an especially relevant concern when considering 13.8 percent of Washington State students live below the poverty line and 430,000 more qualified for free lunch, meaning many of our students rely heavily on school means for a significant portion of their dietary value.

Every five years, the Dietary Guidelines of America (DGA) are reviewed, implemented and passed on to schools where they are used to design lunches for students across the nation.

In 2012, these guidelines banned 2 percent and whole milk from all schools, stating that the fat content was too high to be serving to children. Many rural organizations such as the Grange and the American Dairy Council strongly disagree with this ruling, noting that research shows whole milk is more nutrient-dense than

fat free milk.

While whole milk is higher in saturated fats. These fats assist in regulating Type 2 diabetes. In addition, they increase bone density in children, and also works to control appetite.

The misconception that whole milk is less healthy for you comes from the idea that anything high in fat is automatically bad for you. Science has shown this is not true. For example, it would be like banning cherries at schools because they are high in natural sugars. Like all things we consume, moderation is key to a balanced diet – an important lesson to learn for both adults and children. Where better to do so than in a school setting?

2015, Congress commissioned the National Academies of Science, Engineering and Mathematics (NASEM) to research guidelines put forth and the practices of the Dietary Guidelines of America Council, which creates the DGA. This study cost taxpayers \$1 million and revealed that many of these guidelines were both overreaching and unnecessary. NASEM had many recommendations for the DGA to consider for their 2020 guidelines, none of which have

been implemented.

Organizations like NASEM and American Dairy Coalition argued that the process for creating these guidelines was not transparent, did not allow for enough independent choices, and that the makers of these guidelines possessed biases that were not addressed.

With current guidelines, whole milk continues to be left off school menus with no rhyme or reason. These arbitrary guidelines that have been proven to need a holistic review and overhaul.

We believe the choice to consume whole-fat dairy products should be with the individual, and not be restricted. Instead these guidelines should be based on scientific fact.

The Washington State Grange and other agricultural organizations are calling on Congress to delay the report of the Dietary Guidelines of America Council to ensure the USDA and HHS have adequate time to review the scientifically-based recommendations from NASEM. Only after this comprehensive review should the dietary guidelines be put in place, ones which are in the best interest of our nation's growing children.

Ten Mile Grange Donates Face Shields

Ten Mile Grange #399 Community Service Project results in 100 Face Shields being donated to the Northwest Indian College. Gary Brandt, Assistant Steward, Ten Mile Grange, manufactured these shields in his home office using his 3-D printer for the frames and cutting the transparent shields to the appropriate size using his laser cutter in the garage. Gary, with support from the Ten Mile Grange, then donated the shields to the Northwest Indian College in Bellingham, WA.

Gary delivered the first 25 of 100 coronavirus face shields to Northwest Indian College Vice President of Campus Development and Administrative Services, Dave Oreiro, on August 14, 2020. Dave was thrilled to get these for staff to wear, helping to protect one another and students. While classes will all be online this fall, student services and other essential functions still need to operate. These face shields will help the college to open partially, responsibly, and safely this fall.

Gary delivered the remaining 75 shields to Dave by the end of August.



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• Tom Gwin, Executive Editor •

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Grange Name & Number	Olympia, WA 98507-1186

OCTOBER 2020

President's Message

Have Patience During This Time

By Tom Gwin State Grange Master/President

COVID-19 RECOVERY WILL TAKE TIME AND **PATIENCE**

The Covid-19 pandemic continues to create havoc in our Granges statewide. Who would have thought we would have to shut down our Granges for at least six months to protect our members and those in the communities we serve? Looking back, we had no option other than to shut down our Granges per the order of our Governor. We re continuing to receive telephone calls and email inquiries as to when our Granges can reopen. Our response, which has been consistent since this pandemic started, is that Granges follow the State of Washington Reopening Plan and guidelines from the CDC. The plan may be found online at https://www. coronavirus.wa.gov/

There is a great deal of variation within the plan. The reopening is broken down into four phases. Each county is assigned to one of the four phases based upon a number of factors. Each phase allows for an increase in activity. Currently, there are five counties in Phase 1 or a modification of Phase 1. Seventeen counties are in Phase 2 and seventeen counties are in Phase 3. While there is so much variation from county to county, the plan is allowing Granges in some counties to meet and begin activities once again. I ask that our Granges use caution and common sense in reopening their halls and working for the betterment of our communities.

On a positive note, there are a few counties who have designated a portion of their funds from the CARES Act toward non-profit groups. These funds may be used to replace rental fees lost due to the closure of our halls

and may be used to pay for utilities and costs associated with our halls. There are some restrictions, such as none of the funds may be used to pay salaries and wages. Several Grange in Lewis County applied for and were granted assistance. I would encourage Granges in all counties to investigate to see if this type of financial assistance is available in your county.

> Thank you for your continued patience as we work out the details of this year's business meeting.

> > -- Tom Gwin

STATE GRANGE PROCEEDS TO BUSINESS MEETING WITH CAUTION

We are proceeding to the State Grange Business Meeting with caution. As of this writing, there are nearly 140 delegates registered to attend one of the four locations. We have already added a second location in Long Beach and may need to add a second location in Eastern Washington. If we do need an additional location, we will use the same criteria in establishing a location....the location must be in a county in Phase 3 of the Reopening Plan and preferably the location already has highspeed wi-fi available.

At the business meeting, we will practice social distancing. Masks will be required for all attendees. Disposable masks will be available for those without one. Temperatures will be taken daily upon arrival and recorded. Hand sanitizer will be available. Tables and chairs will be sanitized each day. Additional measures may also be taken for the protection of our participants.

I must reiterate "ONLY PREREGISTERED DELEGATES, WA STATE GRANGE OFFICERS, AND



Tom Gwin

DEPUTIES MAY ATTEND OUR BUSINESS MEETING IN PERSON". This means Granges have submitted their credential forms to the State Grange Office by October 15. Officers and deputies must also notify the State Grange by October 15. If space is available at some locations, spouses may be allowed to attend those locations. Contact the State Grange Office after October 15 to see if space is available. Those not attending in person will be able to observe the meeting via zoom (login information is elsewhere in this issue), but will not be able to participate in discussions or

Delegate committee meetings will begin on October 12 via zoom, and will continue through October Anyone may attend these meetings, but noncommittee members may only speak with the approval of the chair. Committee assignments, dates, times, and login information is in this issue. Also in this issue, you will find a list of resolutions received as of this writing. There are still a few days before the resolution deadline, thus not all resolutions may be listed.

The tentative schedule is printed in this issue. There will be a 90-minute lunch break each day. We have made arrangements to have lunch available for purchase at Addy and Long Beach for a reasonable fee. We are still working on lunch at Deer Lagoon. Dry RV Parking is available at Addy, but not at Long Beach or Deer Lagoon. There are ample RV parks available near those two

Any questions regarding the business session should be referred to the State Grange Office. Thank you for your continued patience as we work out the details of this year's business meeting.

Legislative

2021 Legislative **Session Will Be Like No Other**



Heather Hansen

By Heather Hansen **Legislative Lobbyist**

It appears certain that the 2021 legislative session will be like no other. What remains to be seen, is how it will function virtually. Due to COVID, the legislature will not meet in person. Virtual committee hearings may benefit rural Washingtonians. Rather than driving over the mountains during winter weather, you may be able to testify on bills via your home computer.

As you read this, many topics may be on your mind including wildfire, COVID, your local economy, and the state budget.

The June revenue forecast projected \$9 billion fewer dollars would be collected than the previous four-year projection. Since then, the state economy has ticked up. There will still be a significant hole in the budget, but not quite as large as expected earlier this year.

If you have been keeping up on the news over the summer, you may wonder why a special legislative session has not been called to address the budget deficit. Only Governor Inslee can call a special session, legislators do not have that authority. There are two ways to resolve a budget deficit, either increase revenue (raise taxes) or decrease spending (cut services). Legislative leaders, who would control a special session, do not want to do either of those things just before the election.

You may be surprised when you pull back the curtain and see the actual budget numbers. The state Economic and Revenue Forecast Council's (ERFC) June revenue forecast estimated general fund revenue for the current biennium (July 2019 – June 2021) will be \$46.1 billion. While less than expected, that is still a \$2 billion increase over the 2017-19 biennium. The forecast also anticipates general fund state revenue will increase to \$50 billion in the 2021-23 biennium and \$54.5 billion in 2023-25.

So, if revenue continues to increase, why do we have a budget problem? The legislature has agreed to expenses greater than the anticipated increase. The 2020 supplemental budget included a \$555 million increase over the 2019-21 baseline budget.

A \$4.5 billion reduction in 2019-21 operating budget spending is still \$3 billion more than 2017-19 levels. State spending has increased since the 2013-15 biennium from \$33.9 billion to roughly \$54 billion. That is a 59% increase.

Much of that spending was for K-12 education to comply with the 2012 State Supreme Court's ruling in the McCleary case, the increase is unsustainable.

State spending in two years far outpaced the increase in statewide personal income per capita. State spending has grown by nearly 60% since the 2013-2015 biennium, personal income grew by 24% during that time. That is one of the highest rates of personal income growth in the nation. On average, Washingtonians are doing very well, although this increase is certainly not distributed equally. But the state cannot spend more than it brings in.

COVID has significantly disrupted our economy. Some of those changes may be long lasting. The state will have wildfire costs to pay for and increased case loads related to COVID. The Washington State constitution requires a balance budget before June 30, 2021. What are your priorities for funding?



From the beginning, supporting the private

the Grange was an enterprise system. The organization developed success of these to protect farmer's cooperative efforts led interests and to to many ventures, one encourage working cooperative venture with others while that still exists today

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To locate an agent near you call 800-247.2643 or log on to www.grange.com and use the agent locator.

Convention Info

Resolutions For Consideration At This Year's Washington State Grange Business Meeting

The primary purpose of the State Grange Business Meeting is to develop legislative policy and consider resolutions as presented by the Granges throughout the state. This year's resolution topics include:

RES.#	TITLE	SPONSORING GRANGE	COMMITTEE REFERRAL	
1	Limit Headlight Brightness and Color	Whatcom County Pomona #6	Transportation	
2	Define Good Standing	Skookumchuck #584	Grange Law	
3	National Observance Day for Eleanor Roosevelt	Five Mile Prairie #905	National Legislativ	
4	Costs of the Presidential Primary Election	Humptulips #730	State Legislative	
5	Property Tax Collections	Humptulips #730	Taxation	
6	Electronic Payment of Grange Dues	Humptulips #730	Grange Activities	
7	Opposition to Lowering the Voting Age	Humptulips #730	National Legislativ	
8	Raising the Fees When the State Grange Collects Membership Dues Directly from the Member	Humptulips #730	Grange Law	
9	Eligibility for Washington State Grange Foundation Scholarship	Humptulips #730	Grange Activities	
10	Termination of Reversion Clauses in Property Deeds	Grays Harbor/Pacific Pomona #18	State Legislative	
11	Printing the Membership Obligation on the Grange Membership Application	Humptulips #730	Grange Activities	
12	Removing Barriers to Membership	Humptulips #730	Grange Law	
13	Round Table Format for Grange Meetings	Grays Harbor/Pacific Pomona #28	Grange Law	
14	Measles	Whitman County Pomona #2	Health, Health Car & Safety	
15	Emergency Powers	Whitman County Pomona #2	State Legislative	
16	Police	Whitman County Pomona #2	State Legislative	
17	Preventing Animal Disease	Whitman County Pomona #2	Agriculture	
18	Brand Inspections	Whitman County Pomona #2	Agriculture	
19	Livestock Diseases	Whitman County Pomona #2	Agriculture	
20	Including the Tree-of-Heaven Plant on the State Noxious Weed Quarantine List	Humptulips #730	Agriculture	
21	Including Poison Hemlock on the State Noxious Weed Quarantine List	Humptulips #730	Agriculture	
22	Support for the Agricultural Fairs Rescue Act	Humptulips #730	Agriculture	
23	Aid to Developing Countries	Humptulips #730	National Legislativ	
24	Minimum Wage for Younger Teens, Ages 13-15	Humptulips #730	National Legislativ	
25	Updating the State and National Grange Policies Regarding Undocumented Immigrants	Humptulips #730	National Legislativ	
26	Officer Titles	San Juan Island #966	Grange Law	
27	Ranked-Choice Voting	San Juan Island #966	State Legislative	
28	Common Teasel	Sunnyside #129	Agriculture	
29	Repairs to the Fort Columbia Tunnel	Long Beach #667	Transportation	
30	Meat Inspections in Washington State	Brighton Park #163	Agriculture	
31	Elections – Presidential	Pierce County Pomo- na #16	State Legislative	
32	Presidential Primary Election Unaffiliated Ballots	Pierce County Pomo- na #16	State Legislative	
33	Membership Materials Availability	Pierce County Pomo- na #16	Grange Activities	
34	Local Newspaper Support	Issaquah Valley #581	National Legislativ	
35	Presidential Primary Election Date	Pierce County Pomo- na #16		
36	Roundabouts on State Drivers Licensing Test	Moses Lake #1151	Transportation	
37	National Grange Building Repair	Moses Lake #1151	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.

In addition to these resolutions, the session committee will review the ten standing committee reports, which includes additional resolutions and recommended changes to the legislative handbook.

Grangers To Zoom Together For 131st Business Meeting

Continued from page 1 —

present to determine if a quorum is met

The Friday morning session will include the delivery of the State Master's Address, following by committee reports and action on those reports. The election of State Grange officers will be interspersed with the committee reports.

There are five offices up for election this year: one full three-year term on the executive committee, and one-year unexpired terms for the offices of Overseer, Executive Committee, Steward, and Flora dues to resignations for various reasons.

Following a 90-minute lunch

break at 12 noon, the delegates will again gather to continue the business of the organization though the afternoon session. The meeting will recess at approximately 5 p.m. for the evening.

Delegates will be called back into session on Saturday, October 31 at 9 a.m. Committee reports will continue until all 17 committee have reported at the session, with the delegates acting on each report. There will again be a 90-minute lunch break.

Installation of new State Grange officers is tentatively scheduled for 3 p.m., but that time may be moved earlier if business is completed. The goal is to adjourn no later than 5 p.m.

on Saturday.

Convention committees, consisting of delegates, officers, and their spouses will meet beginning on October 12 in a zoom format to review and discuss each resolution and standing committee report. Please refer to the list of committee meetings elsewhere in this issue. You can also find the list of proposed resolutions in this issue.

Normal convention activities, such as the exemplification of the sixth degree, memorial service, celebration banquet, and the talent show have been suspended for this year. Those events are all on the agenda of the 2021 convention.

Washington State Grange Business Meeting 2020

Locations: Addy, Long Beach and Deer Lagoon Granges

OCTOBER 12-23

Convention Committee Meetings via zoom Deputy Meeting via zoom

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 30

7:30 a.m.

9:00 a.m.

- Registration Opens
- Business Meeting Called to OrderCredential Report
- Master's Address
- Election of Officers Overseer
 - (one year unexpired term)
 Executive Committee
 - (full three year term)
 Executive Committee
 (one year unexpired term)
 - (one year unexpired term)
 - Flora
 (one year unexpired terr
- (one year unexpired term)

12:00 p.m. • Lunch Break

1:30 p.m.

- Reconvene for Afternoon Session
- Credentials Report Continue Election of Officers
- Continue Election of Officers
 Continue Committee Reports and Actions

5:00 p.m. • Adjourn for the Day

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 31

8:00 a.m. • Registration Opens

9:00 a.m. • Business Meeting Called Back to Order

- Credentials Report (Final)
- Committee Reports & Actions

12:00 p.m. • Lunch Break

1:30 p.m. • Reconvene for Afternoon Session

3:00 p.m. • Installation of Officers

. • Adjourn Business Meeting

Important Convention Information

Please be sure that if you are a Delegate, that you are pre-registered.

There will be NO registrations accepted at the door of any of the convention locations.

You MUST be pre-registered.

We will NOT be collecting items at any of the convention locations such as pull tabs, glasses, stamps, keep Washington warm, etc.

We WILL continue to collect Youth Raffle Tickets at each location.

Face coverings at EVERY location are required

Convention Info

Convention Committee Assignments

Additional Members may be assigned at the discretion of the State Master

AGRICULTURE

Rick Nelson - Thurston Pomona #8 - Chair Carolyn Hojem - Fruitland #999 - Vice Chair Michael Schwartz - Excelsior Pomona #37 Walt Radmer - Spokane Pomona #4 Stephen Ricarte - Stillaguamish #1058 Greg Jones - N&S Palouse #1004 John Haug - Long Beach #667 Karen Derrey - Buena #836 Rex Ogden - State Officer

AUDIT

Elizabeth Hogan – Crescent #1123 - **Chair** David George – Kellogg Marsh #136 - **Vice Chair** Ann Zabriskie - Baw Faw #34 Laurel Jacobs – Fredonia #545 Toni Kapitanovich – Clark Pomona #1 Edie Allan – Buena #836

CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS

Terry Abbott – Lewis Pomona #3 - **Chair** Helen Gardner – McMillin #848 – **Vice Chair** Ron Schaefer – Collins #893 Barbara Roderick – Skookumchuck #584 Mary Bryant – Elk Plain #782 Phyllis Ogden – Cowlitz Pomona #7

CONSERVATION & ECOLOGY

Jim Moebius – Fruitland #999 - Chair Richard LeFever – Goldendale #49 - Vice Chair Russ Weston – North Bellingham #201 John Larson – Long Beach #667 Bernard Ogden – Sunnyside #129 Isabella Lierman – Snohomish Pomona #12 Rusty Hunt – St Andrews #832

COOPERATIVES

Dennis Hall – Samish Valley #926 – **Chair** Loren Mercer – The Agate #275 – **Vice Chair** David Lierman – Horseshoe #965 Fritz Flottman – Addy #603 Pam Beckler – Cedar #534

CREDENTIALS

Cindy Kudsk – Haynie #169 – Chair Kathy Knott - Deputy – Vice Chair Sandra Rude – Fredonia #545 Wilma Penner – Molson #1069 Lucy Vest – Deputy

EDUCATION

Nick Oliver – Pierce Pomona #16 - Chair Aaron Gwin – Humptulips #730 – Vice Chair Marilyn Armit – Lewis Pomona #3 Clarene Ricarte – Stillaguamish #1058 Jean Swift – Skagit Valley #620 Joyce Meeker – Sunnyside Pomona #11 Rita Klein – Brighton Park #163 Janelle Lierman – Horseshoe #965

ELECTION

Steve Dalton – Garden City #280 – Chair Terry Ferguson – Waitsburg #1 - Vice Chair Lois Cummins – Inland #780 - Vice Chair Chuck Prochaska – Deputy – Vice Chair Warren Lewis – Garden City #280 Sherry Cummins – Greenwood Park #590 Helen Berg – St Andrews #832 Don Nillson - Deputy

FISH & WILDLIFE

Darell Meyers – Mossyrock #355 - Chair Jim Lyle – Whitman Pomona #2 - Vice Chair Don Kapitanovich – Clark Pomona #1 Annette Herbert – Excelsior Pomona #37 Peter Hauck – Ten Mile #399 Dorene Isaacs – The Valley #1048 Alfred Wilson – Cowlitz Prairie #737 Bob Knapp – Logan Hill #1086

GRANGE ACTIVITIES

Debbie Richards – Fisher/Pioneer #211 – **Chair** Heather Ferguson – Waitsburg #1 – **Vice Chair** Diane Williams – Thurston Pomona #8 Georgene Neal – Mt Valley #79 Davona Gwin – Grays Harbor/Pacific Pomona #28 Bonnie Lyle – Whitman Pomona #2 Lucille Mercer – Mason Pomona #20

GRANGE LAW

Janice Radmer – Spokane Pomona #4 - **Chair** David Bryant – Elk Plain #782 – **Vice Chair** Joan Frymire – Cowlitz Pomona #7 Leslie Wells – Tualco #284 Ruth Anne Lance – Washington #82 Alexis Kudsk – Haynie #1806 Shavanna Burlingame – Fords Prairie #33

HEALTH CARE & SAFETY

Chris Hamp – Five Mile Prairie #905 - Chair Jennifer Oliver – Collins #893 – Vice Chair Jerry Gwin – Humptulips #730 Dianne George – Kellogg Marsh #136 Florence Ogden – Sunnyside #129 Lacey Jones – Skagit Pomona #10 JoAnn Anderson – Issaquah Valley #581

NATIONAL LEGISLATIVE

Jonathan Pittman – Moses Lake #1151 - Chair George Penner – Molson #1069 - Vice Chair Alan Anderson – Issaquah Valley #581 Pam Mathews – South Union #860 Susan Hegney – McIntosh #1001 Lillie Savage – Grays Harbor/Pacific Pomona #28 Robert Richards – Fisher/Pioneer #211

STATE LEGISLATIVE

Jerry Zabriskie – Baw Faw #34 - **Chair** Steve Singhose – Crescent #1123 - **Vice Chair** Oren Gaskill – Ten Mile #399 Duane Hamp – Five Mile Prairie #905 Margaret Ohlsen – Tualco #284 Jennifer Pfleeger – Rose Valley #953 Tom Casey – Matlock #357

TAXATION & FISCAL POLICY

Scott Hackett – Whatcom Pomona #6 - Chair Marcy Belles – Oakview #311 - Vice Chair Debbie Riegel Yates – Rexville #815 Nicole Nickel – Rose Valley #953 Julie Anderson – Matlock #357 Lucille Bevis – Klickitat Pomona #5 Roxanne O'Hair – Snohomish Pomona #12

TRANSPORTATION

Brittney Oliver – Moses Lake #1151 - Chair Rodger Lance – Washington #82 – Vice Chair Christie Vintilo – South Union #860 Bekki Weston – North Bellingham #201 David Johnson – Mountain Valley #79 Kendra Meeker – Sunnyside Pomona #11 Christopher Smith – Pend Oreille #29 John Gardner – McMillin #848 Jack Carlson – Addy #603

VETERANS AFFAIRS

Ann Van Antwerp – Manor #1101 - Chair Rick Ferguson – Waitsburg #1 - Vice Chair Dennis McGurk – Greenwood Park #590 Caroline Long – The Valley #1048 Aaron Radmer – Espanola #698 Pat Veleke – McLane #383 Terry Beckler – Cedar #534



Join Us on Zoom!

2020 Business Meeting October 30-31

You are invited to join us via Zoom during our 2020 Business Meeting held Friday, October 30th from 9am – 5pm and again on Saturday October 31st from 9am – 5pm with a 12:00-1:30 lunch break each day.

Zoom Information to observe from home:

Join Zoom Meeting via computer/laptop https://zoom.us/j/97663055885

Join Zoom Meeting via mobile device +1-253-215-8782,,97663055885# US (Tacoma)

Join Zoom Meeting via telephone/landline

(long distance charges may apply) +1-253-215-8782 US (Tacoma) Meeting ID: 976 6305 5885

Staff will be available at headquarters all day Friday if you need assistance. Please be aware that when joining us outside of the three locations, microphones will be off for virtual participants. All voting, discussions on policy or any other discussions can ONLY be done from the three designated locations.

Session Committee Meetings Via Zoom

This years' session committee meetings will be held via Zoom prior to our Business Meeting. These meetings will be held October 12-20, 2020.

The Zoom information for all committee meetings will be as follows:

Join Zoom Meeting via computer/laptop https://zoom.us/j/96100962765

Join Zoom Meeting via mobile device +1-253-215-8782 - 96100962765# US (Tacoma)

Join Zoom Meeting via telephone/landline (long distance charges may apply) +1-253-215-8782 US (Tacoma) Meeting ID: 961 0096 2765

Committee Schedule:

• Mon. 10/12 – 6pm Transportation 7pm National Legislative

• Tues. 10/13 – 1pm Cooperatives
3pm Conservation & Ecology
6pm Taxation
7pm Agriculture

• Wed. 10/14 – 1pm Grange Law 6pm Veterans Affairs 7pm State Legislative

• Thurs. 10/15 – 1pm Grange Activities 6pm Health Care 7pm Fish & Wildlife

• Mon. 10/19 – 1pm Auditing 6pm Constitution & Bylaws 7pm Education

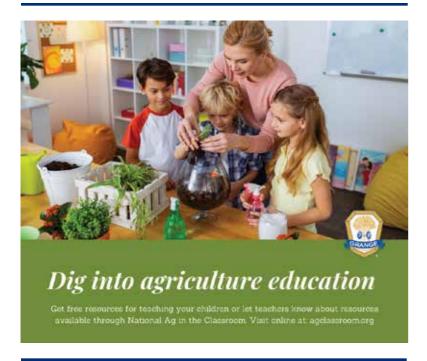
• Tues. 10/20 – 6pm Credentials 7pm Election

Both committee members and non-committee members may attend the meeting. However, if you are not a member of the committee, you must ask the chair for permission to speak on any resolution or committee work being discussed.



Membership Corner

Welcome New Members **GRANGES WITH MEMBERSHIP GAINS** August - September 2020 # Joined Jr. +1 **Cedar Valley #306.....** 1 Kay Corbett **Deer Lagoon #846......** 1 Anna Petersons Jaquelyne Brownrigg **Lincoln Creek #407......** 2 Gayle Richied, Gary Richied Molson #1069...... 1 Sharon Jackson Connas Hutchens **Silverdale #879.....** 1 Thomas Sharp Iill Hamilton **# Joined Jr.** +1



The Grange Exchange Let us help you buy or sell with a classified ad! Cost per word one month 4 or more Regular \$.50 Boxed 1.00 .75 \$2.50/line Centered or reversed text 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): _ __ @ rate \$ _____ x # months ____ = \$__ Address

Increasing Membership While Fighting a Pandemic

What a year it has been so far.

Lofty goals were set for this year. Our anticipation was to ride on the momentum from the previous year in our membership gains. We had reorganizations planned and hefty goals in gaining membership. We had ideas that made us all think outside of our boxes.

In the 3rd and 4th quarters of 2019, membership was beginning to have a significant gain which showed great momentum as we had a year-end total of almost 500 new members joining our organization. We also re-organized The Valley Grange in Stevens County and East Oakville Grange in Grays Harbor County. The excitement was growing. Numbers like these had not been seen in years. As we began our 1st quarter of 2020, we continued to see Membership numbers climb as we reached 123 new members in just the first quarter. And helping to add to those numbers was the re-organization of Birdsview

Grange in Skagit County. We also had a request to re-organize another Grange in Yakima County that was scheduled for April. But then came March and we all know how March went. And unfortunately, we are still unable to meet with this potential new Grange and their potential new members.

With the state shut-down due to the pandemic, we were no longer able to meet in our Grange halls. However, many Granges stepped up to help their communities in a multitude of ways. From making and donating masks, to being a pick-up site for students to receive their school lunches and providing students internet access in many of our Grange parking lots. Many Granges created drive-through food banks, helped distribute food in their communities, and created curbside dinners. They helped the most vulnerable shop for their necessities as well as any other things they may have needed.

In helping their communities

in this time of need, we also saw the importance once again for the Grange as a whole. Maybe more important than ever before. We were reminded of just how important we all are to one another. Especially to our vulnerable citizens and neighbors.

As new members have begun to slow down from our late 2019 momentum, there is still a good surgency of new members joining us. At this writing we have added 162 new members to our roles. This is all due to the due diligence of so many hard-working Grangers out there! It is a reminder of how and why the Grange began more than 150 years ago. Our communities are watching us work with them and in turn they want to also be part of that helping hand.

It is a great reminder for us all to "toot our own horns" and show everyone what the Grange is and that we are here for them! And do not forget to ask them to join your Grange!

San Juan Island Grange Awards Grant to New Hannah Farm

San Juan Island Grange #966 has awarded a \$4,000 farm grant to Zachary Chan, farmer and owner of New Hannah Farm. "The Grange's Farm Grant has paid for three caterpillar tunnels," said Chan. "They'll increase production and yields, help our summer crops thrive, and really extend our season. For the first time, we can properly trellis cucumbers and tomatoes. We've already noticed that the tunnels have provided our basil with a huge boost! It's a substantial upgrade for the farm and we are thrilled!"

"Supporting small farmers is so important," said Christina Dahl-Sesby, Chair of the Farm Grant Committee. "And providing grant funds for infrastructure increases the availability of high quality, locally grown and sustainable foods in the community."

"San Juan Island Grange #966 has a long history of providing support for local agriculture. We welcome this opportunity to 'grow the Grange' by supporting this young and exemplary island farmer," said Grange President Boyd Pratt.

The mission of San Juan Island Grange #966 is to support a resilient community of growers, makers, and keepers, to foster social and political



engagement, and to maintain the Grange Hall as a home for celebrations and programs.

More information about New Hannah Farm: https://www.newhannah.com/

More information about San Juan Island Grange #966: https://sanjuangrange.org/

On the web: www.WA-Grange.org

Find us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/WashingtonStateGrange

Spotlight on Youth & Juniors

Youth

Youth Department Recognizes Outstanding Work



Jerry Gwii

By Jerry Gwin State Youth Director

Even with this year's Covid-19 pandemic, the work of the State Grange Youth Department goes on. We are unable to present awards in person at this year's convention, but we do want to recognize those youth who have reached milestones in our organization. With that being said, the recipients of this year's State Grange Youth Department Awards are:

Youth Community Service Award: Morgan Browning of Mossyrock Grange is recognized for her involvement not only in Grange service projects, but those of other organizations as well

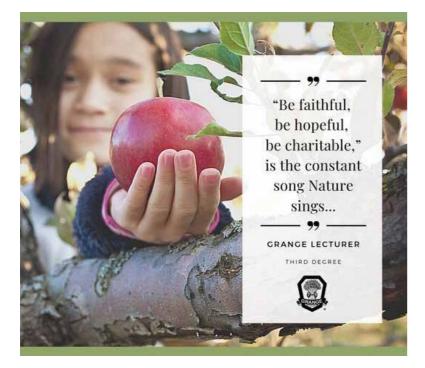
Youth Recruiter Award: Jessie Mattingly of Birdsview Grange is recognized for her work in reorganizing Birdsview Grange and recruiting 18 new Grange members.

Junior Mentoring Award: Georgia Clark of North River Grange is recognized for her outstanding mentoring abilities as a Junior Grange camp counselor and her efforts in working with younger members in her community.

State Grange Youth Achievement Awards: Based on involvement not only in Grange youth activities but in the total Grange program as well, there are seven recipients of this award: Brittney Oliver and Jonathan Pittman of Moses Lake Grange; Alexis Kudsk of Haynie Grange; Isabella Lierman of Horseshoe Grange; Skylar Zaborac and Lane Smith of Humptulips Grange; and Georgia Clark of North River Grange.

Spirit of Grange Youth Award: Formerly the Grange Youth Boosters of the Year, this award recognizes Grange members for their outstanding support of Grange youth members and the entire Grange Youth Program. The award goes to Ed and Marilyn Armit of Mossyrock Grange.

Thank you to those Granges who have graciously sold and/or purchased the youth raffle tickets. You can still mail them back to me or you can deliver them to the State Grange Convention locations in Addy, Deer Lagoon, and Long Beach. We will draw the winning tickets on November 7. While I will be attending the Long Beach session, we will designate someone to collect the sold tickets at each of the other locations.



Juniors

Seasonal Decorating Fun With Toilet Paper Pumpkins



Heather Ferguso

By Heather Ferguson Junior Grange Director

The leaves are changing, my plants are dying back and my garden is planted with cool weather vegetables. All of this can only mean one thing, fall is here. Since my area is still in strict "Lockdown", I cannot run out to the store for decorations like in years past. So, here is a fun and cute little craft that is child and budget friendly, not to mention a bit fitting for this year.

Toilet paper pumpkins can be made in any color, with supplies found around the house or outside, and can be torn apart at the end of fall so you do not need to store them.

All you are going to need is:

• A Roll of Toilet Paper

- 18-20" Sq. Piece of Fabric
- Ribbons, Leaves, Felt, etc. for Pumpkin Leaves
- 4-6" Twig or a Cinnamon Stick

Instructions:

- 1. Unroll 6-12' of the toilet paper and loosely roll it back up to make a more round shape. Your pumpkin can be as thin or plump as you want.
- 2. With your fabric right side down, place your toilet paper in the middle.
- 3. Starting at a corner, tuck the fabric into the toilet paper tube. Work your way around the fabric. Using a pencil or spoon handle can help with tucking the fabric in the tube. Fluff the fabric to your liking.
- 4. Tuck the twig or cinnamon into the center tube for the stem.

5. Tie the ribbon around the stem or arrange leaves on your pumpkin to finish it. Use your imagination and decorate to your liking.

There you have it, Toilet Paper Pumpkins. A quick, cute and child friendly fall craft to decorate with. If you make these I would love to see your creations. You are welcome to post a picture to the Washington Jr Grange page on Facebook.

Convention is just around the corner. I will be attending the meeting in Long Beach, so please stop and say hi. If you are attending one of the other meetings you can always give me a call or send me an email with questions or concerns. Happy Fall.

Grange Insurance Assoc. Announces Scholarship Program For 2021-2022

Grange Insurance Association (GIA) Chairman of the Board, D. Thomas McKern, is pleased to announce that GIA will again fund 25 scholarships for the 2021 – 2022 school year, totaling \$33,500. In addition, GIA is honored to award the \$1,000 Paul and Ethel Holter Memorial Scholarship, funded by a gift of Mrs. Holter's estate, and the \$1,000 Dee and Ina McKern Memorial Scholarship, funded by a gift from the McKern family.

Applicants may apply for either an academic or a vocational scholarship. Three of the awards will be for students wishing to pursue vocational studies and 22 awards will be for academic studies. The top winner in each category will receive a \$2,500 award and the remaining winners will receive \$1,000 - \$2,000 each.

Eligibility requirements (applicants must meet one of the following):

1. Current GIA policyholder (or children of GIA policyholder)

- 2. Children of current GIA company employees
- 3. A previous recipient of a GIA scholarship

Please note that children or legal wards of officers, directors or agents of GIA are ineligible.

These scholarships may be used at any institution offering courses leading to a certificate or a degree in a recognized profession or vocation, including: community colleges, business colleges and technical institutes. Vocational scholarships are aimed specifically for those students not pursuing a college diploma, but seeking further education and/or training in a vocation often not covered by more traditional colleges or universities.

The committee will base its awards on the following:

- Complete and legible application
- Scholastic ability (official grade transcript required)
- Handwritten or typed Essay by Applicant:
 - Please tell us about



- yourself, your family and your future goals
- Also include any leadership or volunteer-related programs or projects in which you have been involved in high school, in the community, or elsewhere
- What college, university, or trade school do you plan to attend and how will this scholarship assist you

Application deadline is **March 1, 2021**. (Postmarked) Funds awarded for the 2021-2022 school year.

Application forms can be downloaded at our website: www.grange.com

State Grange Partners With RALI -WA To Assist With Opioid Crisis

The Rx Abuse Leadership Initiative of Washington (RALI), works with community advocacy leaders to address our nation's opioid crisis. Our continued work with the Grange assists in increasing awareness of prescription drug misuse and connecting rural communities with resources to help prevent substance misuse. This month, we are bringing awareness to Prescription Drug Take Back Day - a nationwide event sponsored by the Drug Enforcement Administration focused on the importance of safely disposing unwanted, unused, or expired prescription medicines in your home.

With many events on hold due to COVID-19, we encourage you to take the month of October to check your homes and medicine cabinets for unneeded prescriptions and safely dispose of them. Too often, addiction begins with misuse of a family, friend, or neighbor's prescription medication. To keep your loved ones safe, we encourage you to follow these guidelines in your home:

SAFELY STORE:

Always keep prescription

medications in a locked or secure place – and always out of the reach of children.

- Have a family conversation about the dangers of misusing prescription medication.
- Never share medications with family members.

SAFELY DISPOSE:

When you are finished using a prescription medication as directed by a medical professional, you should safely dispose of it rather than keep it in your medicine cabinet for future use. Here are a few safe disposal methods:

- Use household materials to dispose of your unused medications. All you have to do is mix your medicines with kitty litter or old coffee grounds in an airtight container and dispose of it in your trash can.
- Visit a drug takeback center in your community. Click HERE to find locations in Washington or go to TakeBackYourMeds.org.



For more information and resources, visit RALIWA.org, the Food and Drug Administration website, or talk to your doctor about the disposal method best suited for your medication.

You can email info@raliwa.org any time if you have questions or ideas about how we can work together to spread awareness and provide helpful resources.

Sammamish Valley Grange Hosts Pop-Up Market To Support Local Farmers

In support of local farmers, Sammamish Valley Grange #286 partnered recently with Sammamish Valley Alliance (SVA) to make farm-fresh, nutritious produce available to local residents and the community in need

With the creation of a branded Samammish Valley Fresh Produce Bag, the organizations came up with a fresh and healthier take on drive-thru food. Every Tuesday afternoon through mid-summer and into the fall, members and volunteers coordinated, organized, packed and helped distribute a variety of seasonal, mixed vegetables at a Pop-Up Market in the Grange Hall parking lot in Woodinville, WA.

Supporting local small farm businesses is a main mission of the Sammamish Valley Grange. When hearing farmers were affected by the current pandemic and needed additional outlets to distribute their produce, members took action. The participating farms, and produce, varied each week and were highly dependent on what was available on that day's harvest. Money from produce bag sales, along with harvested bulk items, went back to the farmers to buy more produce the following week with additional donations going to Woodinville Storehouse Food Bank and other organizations in need.

For more information visit svgrange.org or e-mail sammamishvalleygrange286@gmail.com.

Photos: (Top Left) Grange President, Tom Quigley, assists drive-through customers. (Top Right) Produce featured in a Sammamish Valley Fresh Bag. (Bottom) Grange members and volunteers help with Fresh Bag distribution.







National Grange News

Food Security Is A Major Grange Priority



Betsy E. Huber

By Betsy E. Huber Master/President National Grange

One of the top issues for the National Grange is food security. Sometime in the next few weeks we will be hosting a panel discussion on this topic watch for the announcement.

Wikipedia says food security "exists when all people, at all times, have physical and economic access to sufficient, safe and nutritious food to meet their dietary needs and food preferences for an active and healthy life."

Food insecurity is the same thing as hunger, right? Not necessarily. First, food security is socio-economic (financial and cultural), while hunger is physiological (physical). Studies on food security attempt to measure

reliable access to food, with questions that include anxiety over shopping, budgeting for healthy meals, and running out of food. Hunger, on the other hand, is a physical sensation. We could say that hunger is one potential consequence of food insecurity, but food insecurity does not always result in hunger. (Food Forward website)

It's obvious to all of us that food insecurity has increased as a result of the current pandemic. With so many people unemployed, even middle-class families find themselves with less or no income to buy the necessities of life such as food. Food banks have doubled and tripled their customer base in the last six months, and the USDA has distributed over 75 million food boxes so far. Free school lunches are being handed out or delivered to every school child via school buses or even the Postal Service.

Temple University professor Sara Goldrick-Rab conducted a recent study that showed 45% of college students experience hunger during their college years. In the U.S. with all our bounty of agriculture, this statistic is unbelievable and unacceptable. Often the cost of tuition is so high that students have little money left over to feed themselves.

Last year our National Grange Youth Department created the "Home Away from Home" program where Granges "adopt" students in their communities who are Grange members attending college away from their homes. This program becomes even more important in light of the above hunger statistic. As your

Granges begin to meet and share meals again, remember to invite local Grange students to come. Or if you are still not comfortable meeting, make up

a "care package" and deliver or send it to that student. You will not only make a friend for life; you may also stave off hunger for that person.



National Grange News

A View From The Hill - Summer Wrap-Up

By Burton Eller National Grange Legislative Director

OVERVIEW: Pandemic, Politics. Presidential Conventions

Democratic Convention

From August 17-20 the Democratic Party held its national convention, and formally nominated Joe Biden and Kamala Harris for their national ticket. During the event, the party highlighted voices from all sides, including progressive Vermont Senator Bernie Sanders, and Republican turned Biden-supporter former Governor of Ohio John Kasich. The party also made a concerted effort to appeal to rural voters through rural outreach events and primetime speeches from rural elected Democrats such as Representative Cindy Axne from Iowa. Along with their convention the party released their 2020 Platform which featured support for key rural issues such as broadband deployment and support for rural healthcare.

Republican Convention

From August 24-27 the Republican Party held its national convention, and formally nominated Donald Trump and Mike Pence for their national ticket. During the event, the party focused mainly on President Trump's personal brand of Republican politics and featured many members of his family and official cabinet. The party featured an array of primetime speakers who focused on rural issues, most notably Governor Kim Reynolds and Senator Joni Ernst from Iowa who both spoke about agriculture, trade, and ethanol. The party also made a controversial decision to not release a 2020 platform and instead express support for President Trump's second term agenda, a 50-bullet point list of policies which unfortunately does not address any key rural issues.

Another COVID-19 Relief Package

As convention season winds down, and Congress is set to return to work after Labor Day all eyes are on negotiations for a second coronavirus relief package. Unfortunately, after negotiations in early August fell apart both sides have steadily grown farther apart. Throughout the August congressional recess

lead Democratic negotiators Nancy Pelosi and Chuck Schumer, and lead Republican negotiators Mark Meadows and Mitch McConnell have attempted to persuade voters that it is the other side who is being obstinate and preventing a new relief package. All of this has culminated in recent public clashes between Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi and White House Chief of Staff Mark Meadows, with Meadows predicting that a new deal will not come until the end of September. Further complicating negotiations is the imminent September 30 deadline to fund the government, which may become tied to coronavirus relief negotiations.

Agriculture and Food

Give Feeding Programs Flexibility

The National Grange joined the School Nutrition Association, the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics, Feeding America and 70 national organizations to request that USDA extend critical child nutrition program waivers and flexibilities through the coming school year. This would allow the Summer Food Service Program and Seamless Summer Option to be used to feed children during the upcoming school year for meals at school, to send meals home with children to use when they are not at school, and to provide meals at community sites closer to children's homes. Secretary Perdue responded August 31 that he would extend the waivers and flexibilities through December with current funding. We expect Congress to appropriate (federal government FY 20-21 begins October 1) sufficient funds to possibly extend the program through the 2020-2021 school year if necessary.

Additional Funds for Farmers to Families Food Box Program

USDA has added \$1 billion to extend the program which has distributed over 75 million boxes so far. Farmers to Families was created last spring to shorten the food supply chain and allow farm commodities to be sold directly to distributors supplying feeding programs. The National Grange was an original supporter of creating Farmers to Families early last spring.

Keep the Trucks Moving

The National Grange and the Agricultural Transportation Working Group wrote members of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation to urge adoption of a flexible agriculture trucking policy as the Committee develops its next highway bill. To ensure resiliency of the food and agricultural supply chain, the bill should allow for a 10 percent load-shift axle tolerance and provide exemptions to the hours of service rule including:

- Eliminate the "planting and harvesting periods" rule
- Provide a 150-air-miles exemption from hours of service on the backend of hauls for ag commodities
- Update the definition of agricultural commodity to qualify for the exemption

Health Care

Extend Copay Coupons to Part D Beneficiaries

The National Grange joined the patient advocacy community to request the Department of Health and Human Services take action to reduce Medicare beneficiaries' Part D outof-pocket costs during the pandemic. Specifically, the group asked HHS to rescind the current ban on the use of copay cards in the Medicare Part D program at least through the end of the current pandemic emergency. Medicare currently does not limit how much patients must pay for prescription drugs under Part D.

Faster Access to Lifesaving Innovation

In an August 31 proposed rule, Health and Human Services will shorten the "Valley of Death" time lag between approval of new medical technologies and their acceptance for Medicare coverage. Currently, the time between FDA approval for use and Medicare approval for coverage can take years. This rule, if approved, could include innovations like implants or cell-based tests to diagnose or treat life-threatening and debilitating diseases such as cancer and heart disease.

Telecommunications

Morning Consult Features Grange President Huber

In mid-August, the daily Washington newsletter, Morning

Consult, featured an op ed by National Grange president Betsy Huber calling on Democrats, Republicans and the President to include funding to expand e mergency broadband infrastructure in the next COVID-19 relief package. High speed connectivity and more accurate broadband mapping are critical to support students learning at home, heath care providers standing up telemedicine networks, and businesses providing their services online.

Huber on Agri-Pulse Panel

Grange president Huber was a panelist in mid-August on the Agri-Pulse webinar, "Why Broadband is Important for Growing Sustainable Food". Panelists also included Shirley Bloomfield, CEO of NTCA The Broadband Association, and Tom Vanverloh, Vice President of Sustainability for the United Soybean Board.

Funding for Rapid Broadband Access

The National Grange joined the Connect Americans Now coalition on a letter to Senate and House leadership to encourage Congress to provide urgently needed funding to rapidly and cost effectively expand broadband access. The group said resources should be focused in the short run on rapid service deployments so long as there are clear requirements that service meet at least the FCC-defined speed for broadband.

Keep Lifeline Affordable

The National Grange wrote House Speaker Pelosi, Senate Majority Leader McConnell and members of the House and Senate Commerce Committees alerting them to recent actions by the Federal Communications Commission that could seriously impact Lifeline voice and broadband services. The FCC proposal, if enacted, would mandate a significant increase in co-payment from Lifeline subscribers in this medically and economically uncertain time. Lifeline is a federally subsidized voice and broadband program specifically for disabled, isolated, chronically ill, elderly and lowincome citizens and veterans.

United States Postal Service

Political Focal Point

One of the biggest focal

points for online political drama today is the unlikely U.S. Postal Service. Representatives of both political parties, the union, the media, the President, Hollywood and conspiracy theorists are all engaged in melodramatic rumor-mongering about the unsexy subject of mail. Make no mistake about it, the Postal Service faces challenges that require congressional action to solve. In the meantime, we have to get through fall elections and a lingering devastating pandemic. In a recent National Grange newsletter, Grange President Betsy Huber said, "The recommendations now being acted upon by Postmaster DeJoy were made prior to the pandemic, which has become the backdrop to much of our way of life. While still relevant, carrying them out today as if we were still living pre-COVID will not work. The pandemic has changed everything about normal life, and the USPS is no different. At the same time as the USPS has taken a financial beating due to the coronavirus pandemic, it has also taken an even more essential role in our lives as millions have been forced to work, learn, and do business from home.... We've asked for a review of best practices but always stood on the side of keeping Americans from every part of our republic connected."

National Grange Actions

There are two major factors that frame the Post Office debate for the Grange:

- Essential service. Rural America needs the Post Office to deliver mail and bring supplies, medicines, groceries, ballots and more to citizens in remote areas and to isolated populations throughout the country. The Grange supported a \$10 billion loan from Congress to the USPS earlier this year to assure its operation in the short term.
- Business acumen. The Post Office will have to operate effectively and efficiently going forward without the huge cash infusions from the federal government to continue operations. After the pandemic, expect the spotlight to be on the retiree health plan (\$69 billion deficit), pension fund, and wages (\$97,000 average per employee in 2019).

Home & Family

Family Living

Granges Selected For Outstanding Family Living Activities & Programs



Helen Ber

By Helen Berg Family Living Director

10

I would like to thank all who sent in a report in December. Many of you have been quite busy. I have selected the following Granges as outstanding Family Living activities: North River #946 for allowing the use of their hall for various meetings, operating a community food bank, collecting items for U.S. soldiers serving overseas, white elephant items for nursing home bingo and coins for Heart and Hand Pregnancy Center. They have donated items to various Grange Programs as well. **South** Lake Stevens #690 also donates their hall to kids' programs in the community. They Had 2 Christmas families they supported. They also hosted their annual reading incentive awards program for the most improved readers in their local school district by treating the family, friends and teachers to a program and dinner.

I have mentioned these activities as an inspiration to think of what you can do. Prosperity Grange #315, Issaquah Valley #581 and many others had great reports.

Pomona winning reports go to Klickitat #5, King #13, and Skagit #10 as well as 4 others. Highlights gleaned from these are working at the local museum, caring for cemeteries, helping families who have been burned out, helping with food banks, homeless, 4-H and other organizations. Thanks to all of you who truly care.

Now news about convention. Remember we will not have any contests. This includes the quilt blocks. We will use the same block for next year. I do not plan on making changes to our program so don't discard the program handbook until you get a new one.

Here's hoping this pandemic will pass and we will be together soon. In the meantime stay healthy.



Flavorful Family Meal for Fall

(Courtesy of Family Features)

These Grass-fed Beef Meatballs with Garlic and Herbs can be the perfect solution anytime you're craving a warm, comforting meal. They're made with New Zealand grass-fed ground beef, which provides an unrivaled taste. Grass-fed year-round, the animals roam and graze freely over lush green hills and pastures, resulting in lean, flavorful meat that tastes just as nature intended.

Paired with a tomato-based sauce, the meatballs are baked before being topped with Parmesan cheese and parsley then served hot for a dish that warms you from the inside-out. While preparing the meatballs, be sure to wet your hands prior to shaping them as it helps prevent the meat from sticking to your hands.

Find more comforting fall recipes at <u>beefandlambnz.com</u>.

Lopez Island Grange Receives Grant

Article appeared in the Island Weekly Eastsound, WA - August 28, 2020

Lopez Island Grange was recently selected as one of 36 of 40 applicants to be recommended for funding through the Washington State Historical Society (WSHS) Heritage Capital Projects (HCP) grant program. Non-profits from across the state submitted project proposals that were ranked by the WSHS advisory committee in a public session on five criteria ranging from community value to operations and maintenance sustainability. Lopez Island Grange ranked at #5 with a total of 94.5 points out of 100. The HCP is a 2-1 matching biennium capital funds grant, focused on preserving historic sites in Washington and providing public access to history.

The ranked list will be forwarded to the Washington Legislature for inclusion in the Historical Society's capital budget request and voted on for final approval in January 2021. Once approved, contracts will be drawn up and work may begin. All projects must consult with the Washington Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation (DAHP) and adhere to the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Historic Preservation and be completed by June 30, 2023.

The Lopez Island Grange requested \$21,667, with an estimated project cost of \$65,000 for stone foundation repair, insulation, weatherization, and energy-efficient heating and cooling upgrades. In the coming year, the

Lopez Island Grange will be applying for additional grants and outreaching to the local community through a variety of fundraising initiatives to meet the total costs. This project is the first step in a multi-phased building plan that the Grange board has outlined for needed upgrades and restoration.

"We are honored that the WIHS ranked us so highly and recognizes the historic value of our 117 year old Grange building, to our island community," said Sue DuMond, Lopez Grange Master. "We want to thank the Lopez Island Historical Society for partnering with us, 40th District Representatives Alex Remel, Debra Lekanoff and Liz Lovelett, the Lopez Island Chamber of Commerce and the many community members for their letters of support that were included with our grant application."

Built in 1903, the Grange building was originally the Center Schoolhouse, one of four schools on Lopez Island before the district consolidated in the 1940s. Shortly after, Lopez Island Grange #1060 was formed and the building provided a valuable meeting place for island farmers, as well as other community functions. Those uses continue today. The volunteer Lopez Island Grange membership and board has stewarded the building ever since, conducting monthly Grange meetings, as well as making it available for community usage and being responsible for its ongoing maintenance. The building retains much of its original historic character and as a cherished island

institution, it continues to be a vital community-gathering place.

This summer will see the completion of the painting of the exterior of the building, as well as, some well and pump house improvements. "Although we aren't able to meet in person, we hope people will join in and support us virtually," said DuMond.

For more information about Lopez Island Grange, how to contribute and upcoming events please visit: http://www.facebook.com/lopezislandgrange.



Prep time: 15 minutes **Cook time:** 25 minutes **Servings:** 4

Beef Meatballs:

Oil

- 1 pound New Zealand grass-fed ground beef
- 1 cup fresh white breadcrumbs
- 3 cloves garlic, crushed
- 1 egg, lightly beaten 3 tablespoons milk
- 1 1/2 teaspoons Worcestershire sauce
- 1 teaspoon dried mixed herbs, such as parsley, thyme and oregano salt and pepper, to taste

Tomato Sauce:

Oil

- 1 onion, finely chopped
- 2 cloves garlic, sliced
- 1 can (14 ounces) chopped tomatoes, in juice
- 1 1/2-2 cups vegetable stock
- 1 tablespoon tomato paste
- 1 teaspoon sugar
- 1 bay leaf
- salt and pepper, to taste

To Serve:

1/3 cup freshly grated Parmesan cheese 1/2 cup roughly chopped parsley leaves

To make beef meatballs: Preheat oven to 425° F. Lightly oil deep baking dish or skillet. Mix beef, breadcrumbs, garlic, egg, milk, Worcestershire sauce, mixed herbs and salt and pepper, to taste, then shape into eight meatballs and place in prepared baking dish.

To make tomato sauce: In heavy saucepan over low heat, heat dash of oil and add onion and garlic. Cook until onion is soft, about 10 minutes. Add tomatoes, stock, tomato paste, sugar, bay leaf and salt and pepper, to taste.

Simmer 10 minutes to allow flavors to mingle and liquid to reduce. Remove from heat, cool about 5 minutes and remove bay leaf. In food processor, process until sauce is smooth.

Pour sauce over meatballs and bake 25 minutes, turning meatballs after 15 minutes. Serve hot sprinkled with Parmesan cheese and chopped parsley.



Grange Connection

GRAYS HARBOR COUNTY

Elma Grange held their clothing exchange in September. Flea markets start up again in October. A holiday bazaar is planned for November.

Humptulips Grange continues to operate the food bank, serving more than 60 families in September. The Grange decided not to have their fund-raising auction on November 7 and are going through the donated gift certificates checking expiration dates. Bingo events will also hold off until the new year. The Grange approved the sale of a small parcel of property to the Humptulips Grocery in hopes they can put a well on it for potable water at the store. Jerry Gwin will be one of our convention delegates, while Aaron Gwin and Jacob Gwin will split the second delegate position.

Satsop Grange will begin their flea markets again in October, to be held the first weekend of each month.

OKANOGAN COUNTY

Twisp Valley Grange will host a Virtual Candidate Forum on the 2020 election on October 8.

PACIFIC COUNTY

Long Beach Grange is looking forward to hosting part of the State Grange's business meeting. The Grange will be selling lunch at the meeting. The Grange adopted a resolution on the Fort Columbia Tunnel. John Haug and John Larsen will be our delegates to the meeting.

SPOKANE COUNTY

Green Bluff Grange was able to drop off the dictionaries to the Colbert Elementary School for the third graders. We purchased the Youth Raffle tickets. Master Jim Lahde and wife, Janice, will attend WA State Convention in Addy. We still hope to have an outdoor vendor Harvest Festival in October. We have a few events in the works but all depends on what Phase Spokane County is in during the upcoming

months. At our September 15 ZOOM meeting we decided to hold off on our November Booster night and will hopefully be able to have a community Christmas party in December. Also, still hoping to have a bluegrass concert scheduled for end of November. Some GB Grangers are entering items in the National Grange contests. Jr. Grangers did cancel their October Haunted House. We will certainly look forward to being able to have all our Grange functions in 2021. Happy Fall.

STEVENS COUNTY

Camas Valley Grange is planning their Haunted House for October 16, 27, 23, 24, and 30.

THURSTON COUNTY

Skookumchuck Grange has not had a regular meeting since the Covid crisis. We have been conducting necessary business decisions via Facebook by creating a group. Our Master has been addressing members by letter, sent by the USPS

Lecturer's Department

Creative Writing Contest Results

By Leslie Jo Wells State Grange Lecturer

Congratulations to everyone who participated in this year's Creative Writing Contest. Our entries were down a bit but were definitely quality entries!

• A-1 Poetry – Metered Topic: Camping (10 Entries)

First Place: Bob Sholes, North River Grange #946, **Second Place:** Jarrod Gardner, McMillin Grange #848 and **Third Place:** Evelyn Van Horne, Fertile Valley Grange #1094.

Entries in this category were also received from: Lorell Fisher, Stranger Creek Grange #374, Jarrod Gardner, McMillin Grange #848 – 3 additional, Rex B. Valentine, Satsop Grange #183, Mary Lee Rozelle, Camden Grange #687 and Ralph K. Allen, Jr., Williams Valley Grange #452.

• A-2 Poetry - Free Verse Topic: Camping (5 Entries)

First Place: Cheryl Strong Magnuson, Happy Valley Grange #322, Second Place: Sandra Jo Johnson, Diamond Lake Grange #506 and Third Place: Jarrod Gardner, McMillin Grange #848. Entries in this category were also received from Ann Fackenthall, Gardenspot Grange #278 and Barbara Hagedorn, Fargher Lake Grange #853.

• A-3 Short Story Topic: Thoughts on Nature (3 Entries)

First Place: Mary Lee Rozelle, Camden Grange #687, Second



Leslie Jo Wells

Place: Lorell Fisher, Stranger Creek Grange #374, and **Third Place:** Rex B. Valentine, Satsop Grange #183.

• A-5 Book Review (2 Entries)

First Place: Carolyn Hojem, Fruitland Grange #999 and **Second Place:** Ralph K. Allen, Jr., Williams Valley Grange #452.

The overall Best of Show winner of \$50 was Mary Lee Rozelle, Camden Grange #687 and the Second Best of Show winner of \$25 was Bob Sholes, North River Grange #946. The First, Second and Third Place winners for each category were awarded Rosettes.

Pomona Connection

GRAYS HARBOR/ PACIFIC POMONA

Grays Harbor/Pacific Pomona Grange met in September at the Olympic View Grange Hall. There was discussion as to when Granges can open for activities as we are in Phase 3. Lillie Savage reported with the cancellation of the Grays Harbor County Fair, this year's theme will now be used for 2020. Davona Gwin and Lillie Savage will be our delegates to the convention. Our next meeting will be on November 14 at the North Willapa Harbor Grange Hall. The meeting will include the election of officers.

Pomona Calendar

All Pomona Granges are reminded to send their list of 2021 meeting dates, times, and locations to grange@wa-grange.org for inclusion into this calendar.

grange@wa-grange.org for inclusion into this calendar.
This list of dates was submitted to the WA State Grange in January. Due to COVID-19, there may be numerous changes in this schedule. Please confirm your dates with the Pomona Grange Master prior to the scheduled meeting.
ADAMSto be announced.
CHELANNovember 21, 10 a.m. meeting, 12 p.m. potluck. Location to be announced. Social Luncheon will be at Smitty's in Wenatchee on October 15.
CLALLAM November 8 at Dry Creek, annual planning meeting at 5 p.m., refreshments afterward.
CLARK October 14 at Hazel Dell. Harvest Dinner at 5:30 p.m., meeting following.
COLUMBIAto be announced.
COWLITZ/
WAHKIAKUM October 17 at Sunnyside, 6:30 p.m. potluck, 7:30 p.m. meeting. Will be election of officers.
DOUGLASto be announced.
EXCELSIORNovember 21 at The Valley, 10:30 a.m. Awards dinner and Harvest auction with proceeds to Camp NEWA Fund.
FERRY October 12 at Malo, 6 p.m. meeting.
GRAYS HARBOR/
PACIFIC
ISLANDto be announced.
KINGOctober 17 at East Hill, 10 a.m. Will be election of officers.
KITSAPOctober 16 at Olalla, 7:30 p.m.
KLICKITATNovember 14 at Centerville, 12 p.m. potluck, 1 p.m. meeting.
LEWIS October 3 at Hope, 6 p.m. potluck, 7 p.m. meeting. November 7 at Cowlitz Prairie.
MASONNovember 21 at Twanoh, 11 a.m.
OKANOGANNovember 14, 10 a.m. meeting, 12 p.m. potluck. Location to be announced.
PEND OREILLE October 10 at Fertile Valley, 11 a.m. Will be election of officers.
PIERCEOctober 3 at Riverside Valley, 10 a.m. Will be election of officers. November 7 at Marion.
RIVERSIDEto be announced.
SKAGITOctober 7 at Rexville, 7 p.m.
SNAKE RIVERNovember 21 at Columbia Valley 10 a.m.
SNOHOMISH November 21 at Kellogg Marsh, 10 a.m. meeting, 12 p.m. lunch. Will be election of officers.
SPOKANE November 21 at Green Bluff, 10 a.m. meeting, 12 p.m. potluck. Will be election of officers.
STEVENS October 24 at Stranger Creek, 11 a.m. meeting, 12 p.m. potluck
SUNNYSIDE October 13 at Buena, 7:30 p./m.
THURSTON October 1 at South Union, 7 p.m. meeting.

November 5 at Black Lake.

announced.

7 p.m. meeting.

YAKIMA

November 18 at Haynie, 6 p.m. potluck,

October at Rimrock, 10 a.m. meeting,

12 p.m. potluck. Exact date to be

7 p.m. meeting. Will be election of officers.

October 16 at Selah Heights, 6 p.m. potluck,

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

Here's how you can help:



Do you shop at Amazon?

Did you know your purchases can make a difference? AmazonSmile will donate to the Washington State Grange Foundation when you do your shopping at smile.amazon.com/ch/91-6064592 (you can also search by our name, the Washington State Grange Foundation). By remembering to shop at smile.amazon.com, Washington State Grange Foundation can significantly increase its AmazonSmile donations (you MUST shop at AmazonSmile not just the normal Amazon website).

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.



GRANGE INSURANCE ASSOCIATION (Seattle, Washington)

NOTICE OF 2020 ANNUAL POLICYHOLDERS' MEETING

The Annual Policyholders' meeting of the Grange Insurance Association will be held on Monday, March 15, 2021 at 10:00 a.m. at Grange Insurance Association, 200 Cedar Street, Seattle, Washington 98121.

This meeting may be moved to a virtual setting as we continue to monitor the pandemic. Please consult our website (www.grange.com) as the meeting approaches for further announcements and potential virtual registration

All Grange Insurance Association policyholders are welcome to attend.

Signed at Seattle, Washington this 16th day of September 2020.

Brian J. Allen, CPCU, ARM, AFIS **Corporate Secretary GRANGE INSURANCE ASSOCIATION**

WE'RE STRONGER



If you or someone you know has a disability or chronic illness, and COVID-19 has made it harder to connect with people or to get care, information, or supplies, Center for Independence can help.

CFI can help you access face masks, groceries, transportation, technology, peer support groups, information about your rights, and more.

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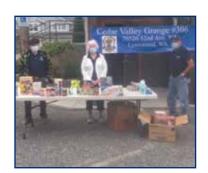
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Protecting those who improve your community GREATAMERICAN Specialty Human Services Expert insurance protection for The Grange JOSH OGDEN (360) 856-1000 COTTON INSURANCE AGENCY PO BOX 1520 FRIDAY HARBOR, WA. 98250 301 E. Fourth St. Cincinnati, OH 45202

Grange Connection







Cedar Valley Grange Hosts Food Drive

Cedar Valley Grange #306, Lynnwood, WA, held a food drive on Saturday, September 12, 2020. Grange members wore masks and maintained social distance. Despite COVID restrictions, approximately 695 pounds of

food and personal items were collected as well as \$45 in cash. All proceeds went to assist the Lynnwood Food Bank.

Pictured above left: Our first donor of the day brought 7 bags of food. She then went to Fred

Myers and returned with another 7 bags of food. What a great example of giving from the heart!

Pictured above right: President Wendell Ewing, Secretary Charlotte Wixon and Member Jack Wixon.

Ralston Grange Uses Grant Funds To Support Assisted Living Facility

With funds provided by Innovia through a grant process, the Ralston Grange members reached out to some of those in our community who have been the most vulnerable and isolated during this virus outbreak. Our goal was to let the residents of our assisted living facility, Rose Garden Estates, know that we are thinking of them and, hopefully, brighten their day; days that often seem just like the last, and even more so for those unable to get out and about.

On Tuesday, September 17th, a carload of gift bags, flowers, eight boxes of books donated by the East Adams County Library, some flags for their flagpole, and subscriptions to some magazines the residents would like were delivered to the eighteen residents at Rose Garden. Our Junior Grangers made about 30 "Thinking Of

You" cards to put in each bag

In addition we donated gift cards and one of our Ralston Grange/Ralston Community coffee mugs to each of the seventeen employees to thank them for all the hard work they do taking care of our friends.

Thank you to everyone who helped with this project! Ralston Grangers came through again.







Issaquah Valley Grange Delivers Dictionaries

Issaquah Valley Grange #581 has delivered 271 dictionaries

to three elementary schools with the aide of Master Alan Anderson. The Issaquah schools

are Sunset Elementary, Issaquah



Valley and Maple Hills. The bookplate label was designed by our own Florence 2020 may not be a year we

really want to remember but the dictionaries are definitely a collectible with a masked world and 6 feet of social distancing. Beyond word definition the book contains bios on all Presidents, facts about countries, information about the 50 states, the solar system, sign language, Braille and much more that can entertain beyond the virtual school.



