

Marys River Messenger



Vol. 9, Issue 1

September/October 2026

Autumn Activities at the Grange

Marys River Grange Happenings

Harvest Fest – Saturday October 10, 10-3
Craft vendors, fresh pressed cider, pie auction – silent & buy-it-now – and more.

BINGO – Fri. Sept. 18 & Oct. 9, 6-8:30 pm,
\$10 for 10 games (3 cards each), \$1 blackout tickets;
drinks & snacks for sale, free door prizes

Bluegrass Jam – Weds. Sept. 16 & Oct. 14, 7 pm,
\$5-\$7 sliding scale

Inspirational Moments – 3rd Thurs. – Sept. 17 & Oct. 15, 10 am-noon, in the Junior Hall. Give negativity and anxiety a break, relax with others sharing about personal transformative experiences.

Moonlight Country Mixer – Mondays, 7-10 pm,
\$5, host/instructor Jamie Lee; first Monday – swing lesson starts at 6:30 pm, \$10

Open Mic Night – Sat. Sept. 19 Grange Social Potluck starts at 5:30 pm. Open Mic follows. Free.

Spoon Jam (Wood Carving Circle), 3rd Weds. – Sept. 16 & Oct. 21, 5:30-8:30 pm, no fee; bring tools & green wood. Casual conversation, snacks welcome. Contact Kiko for more info:
kiko@handprintpress.com or text 541-740-7243

Yoga at the Grange – Tuesdays, 6-7 pm, Sept. 29 to Nov. 17, \$10 for Grange members, \$15 for non-Grange members. Questions? Please contact Laura Coen: lauraploeg@yahoo.com



Cider pressing at Harvest Fest 2023, Jim, Mike, and Camille.



MRG Pie Auction 2024

Marys River Grange Harvest Fest 2026 Saturday October 10, 10 am to 3 pm

Plans for the Harvest Fest on October 10 are coming together, still looking for five more vendors. **This year the Pie Auction will be included in the Harvest Fest.** So come and buy pie! Mark Files will be there not only as a vendor of forged jewelry but he will also be there to sharpen your kitchen knives! So mark that on your calendars!!!

- Susan S. Harvest Fest Coordinator

Thank you, Susan, for organizing Harvest Fest annually since 2018 with the goal of upgrading MRG's kitchen.

Bakers: Please make pies for us!

Questions? marysrivergrange@gmail.com or 541-829-2907



Amazing Grange Day was AMAZING again!

MRG's annual fundraiser for the Hall brought in more than \$3,200 on Saturday August 22nd. The event was highly anticipated and at least 225 customers attended the five-hour rummage sale. Volunteers, members and friends, worked diligently to make it happen, receiving and transporting donations, setting up in and outside the Hall, and distributing everything left over. It's amazing what we manage to do! It's evolved to be a community effort, however, with innumerable contributors and recipients. As ever, people paid what they could afford, and buyers turned out to be generous. Items found new homes, one way or another, and made people very happy.



MRG kitchen stripped down in July.



MRG kitchen remodel in progress in August.

Marys River Grange #685 regularly meets on the first Wednesday of each month at 7 pm at 24707 Grange Hall Road in Philomath. Potluck at 6:30. Join us!

Contact marysrivergrange@gmail.com or 541-829-2907. See <https://www.marysrivergrange.org/> facebook.com/Marys-River-Grange-Hall-288171007887164/ To rent the Grange Hall, see Rental at marysrivergrange.org

Send items for the Messenger to Judy Hays-Eberts at marysrivergrange@gmail.com or mail to Marys River Grange, PO Box 1301, Philomath, OR 97370.

Deadline for Oct/Nov Messenger: Oct. 26

No fee for business card-sized ads from members.

"At its best, the Grange is more than a meeting or a building or a list of programs and projects. The Grange builds a community within a community."

– Philip J. Vonada, National Grange Communications Director
Good Day magazine, July 2026

There is now a tax deductible way to donate funds toward Marys River Grange! Friends of Marys River Grange is now a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, which also allows us to apply for grants for which MRG would not otherwise be eligible. (Marys River Grange #685 is a 501(c)(8).) Friends of Marys River Grange supports the educational and community service activities and infrastructure of Marys River Grange. Donations may be mailed to Friends of Marys River Grange, PO Box 1301, Philomath, OR 97370.

Questions? friendsofmrg@gmail.com or 541-829-2907

President's Note:

I lead, not wielding personal power over the Grange, I'm its workhorse. Someday, someone else will want to lead and I will do my best to support them. To be President, it helps to:

- Have some experience being an officer.
- Learn about the organization and bylaws.
- Get to know as many members as possible.
- Simply volunteer in different ways.
- Work hard.

Be able to handle conflict.

Certainly, it helps to be well supported by members. Everyone has a role in creating a positive Grange experience and culture. The work is always rewarding, as challenges spur growth and growth spurs challenges, as our values and perseverance are tested and strengthened, and as we celebrate our achievements together. In the Grange, we build relationships. We can always improve our skills, indeed it's a lifelong endeavor to better understand each other. Fortunately, the Grange gives us a place to be and belong.

- Judy Hays-Eberts, MRG President

Yoga at the Grange Fall 2026

Tuesdays 6pm - 7pm

September 29th - November 17th, 2026

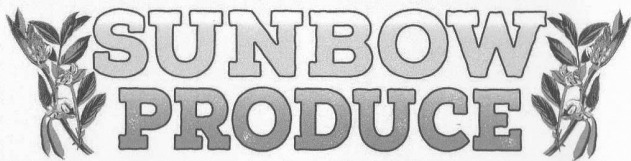
Classes are \$10
for Grange members,
\$15 for non-Grange
members.



Questions? Please contact Laura Coen: lauraploeg@yahoo.com

You're invited to Spoon Jam (spoon and other green wood carving circle) **at MRG, 3rd Wednesdays of the month, 5:30-8:30 pm.**

Come for carving (beginner to advanced, bring your own tools and wood). We gather monthly to share techniques & resources, show off tools & projects, swap spoons, have some good conversations, and get to know new (and old!) folks. Feel free to bring your dinner or any snacks you might want to share. Contact Kiko for more info: kiko@handprintpress.com or text 541-740-7243



Certified Organic

www.sunbowproduce.com

Windy Hill Farm

Eggs · Honey · Nigerian Dwarf Dairy Goats · Flowers · Produce

Airbnb Farm Stay

www.windyhill-familyfarm.com

Philomath, Oregon

**Come to Philomath Farmers Market, Sundays,
11:00 am to 3:00 pm, thru Oct. 18,** in front of the
Philomath Community Library (1050 Applegate St.)
Support local food growers, producers, and makers!

2026 Wren Community Club Concert Series

Sunday, October 11, 6-8 pm – **The Nettles**

This group plays improvisational music based on traditional tunes. Playing hard, *The Nettles* are a Celtic jam band that makes audiences move and groove. Playing soft, they're a lyrical folk jazz group.

<https://thenettles.com/>

Note: Attendees are welcome to bring beverages into the Hall; however, alcohol is not allowed on the premises (building, grounds, parking lot).

The Wren Community Hall is located at 35515 Hwy 223 (Kings Valley Hwy). If traveling west on Hwy 20 from Philomath, the Hwy 223 intersection is about 5 miles from Philomath and the Hall is located about 1.5 miles north on Hwy 223, just past Cardwell Hill Drive. For additional information call 541-609-0726.



Former MRG President Mike Terry visited on August 14 during Bingo at the Hall. (He won a door prize!) Mike has been busy with wildfire-fighting duties all summer.

Help Wanted

I am trying to find someone locally to help me with some yard cleanup and house repairs. I have a very limited budget and it's not a steady job, just a few things I hope to get done before winter. – Sue F.

Contact Judy at 541-829-2907.

My vision is limited and I could use help with communication skills. I have an iPhone 15, a computer and a printer and my webpage is

<https://www.celticforge.net/>.

I have skills in landscaping, carpentry, house painting, and pruning and I would like to exchange on a long-term basis.

– Mark, 707-601-6351

September is Suicide Prevention Awareness Month

Stronger Together: Connect. Support. Prevent.

Suicide prevention is not one moment or one person's job. It lives in the relationships we build, the support we offer, and the communities we create together. Strive to strengthen connections that protect people before a crisis occurs. Make sure everyone knows where to turn and knows it before they need it. Make the Grange a community where people feel safe reaching out for help.

Suicide prevention touches every part of life – from families and schools to workplaces, faith communities, and health care systems. When people feel connected, valued, and supported, they are more likely to seek help. And when communities come together around a shared commitment to prevention, lives are saved.

- The people in our lives can be a lifeline. Strong relationships and trusted connections help protect people when life gets hard.
- Suicide prevention starts long before a crisis. Open conversations, shared resources, and visible awareness make a real difference.
- Knowing the warning signs of suicide, in adults and in children and teens, means being able to recognize when someone needs support and connect them to help sooner.
- Communities that talk openly about mental health and suicide help reduce the stigma that keeps people from asking for help.
- Small acts of connection, such as a check-in, a shared resource, a moment of genuine attention, are how communities take care of each other.
- 988 is there for anyone who is struggling, not only for people in a full crisis. Feeling overwhelmed or in emotional pain is reason enough to reach out.
- A real person answers every call, text, and chat to 988. The support is free, confidential, and available any time of day or night.
- 988 is available in Spanish, for Veterans, for deaf and hard of hearing callers via ASL Videophone and chat, and in more than 150 languages. Help is there for everyone.

- Karen Hudspeth, MRG Deaf Awareness & Family Health



September is Emergency Preparedness Month

More information is available at [ready.gov](https://www.ready.gov). You can find out how to make a kit, fill out a form for a plan for yourself, children and pets, and learn how to be prepared for the many disasters that can occur.



Movement is Medicine

In the previous edition of the *Messenger*, I talked about the pillars of good help and the ability to age and thrive. One of the pillars of good health is exercise. What constitutes exercise that is healing to the body? Basically, all movement that a human being does during the day is beneficial; from rocking in a chair to lifting heavy weights at the gym, all your movement is beneficial to your health.

Many types of movement are much more beneficial, and there are many ways to increase the value of your time while you exercise. And, there are habitual ways to exercise that create balance and harmony in your life. Eastern philosophies from yoga to the tao are examples of how people live with comfort in their body as they grow older. Yoga is one of the better examples of how people can exercise and receive great benefit to their mind, body and spirit.

Now science has looked deeply into the body, and we know exactly what type of exercise programs create cardiovascular health, balance, mobility, and metabolic balance. Basically, there is knowledge available that you in your own home by yourself can create the extremely beneficial effects of movement, movement that is controlled with breath and wisdom is available to the ordinary person at home and at no cost.

Here at the Marys River Grange, we are blessed to have a yoga teacher as a member and leader. And, as time goes by the Grange will surely promote more programs that are beneficial to our metabolic health and process of aging with grace.

- Mark Files, Chaplain, Marys River Grange

"We must reap for the mind as well as for the body, and from the abundance of our harvest, in good deeds and kind words, dispense charity."
(Third Degree; President)

Marys River Granger Louisa Hamachek invites all folks to come see her first ever Art Show at the new Heritage Hall Cafe in Monroe for the whole month of September, 2026:

I am featuring the graphics I made for Earths Rising Farm's annual fruit tree catalog centerfold, plus some recent paintings of life by the river and streams, and my stencil word graphic prints, and my hand drawn accurate RiverWay Maps.

Also, there will be a pallet rack of wall art prints of this shows' paintings and prints, plus the river bank paintings have been made into nice greeting cards.

I hope you can come to my Art Opening. It is during cafe hours, Friday September 4 from 11am to 1pm. They have good Cafe Mam organic coffee and yummy scones and muffins plus a breakfast and a lunch, and the Art is Outstanding! The cafe is on the first floor of the lovely old white church, now the community center, Heritage Hall.

Louisa Hamachek is available to teach private art lessons and to come regularly to homeschool groups, folks on the spectrum (quite familiar to Louisa, an IA in schools) or folks who want that monthly relaxing artful Van Gogh picnic with a friend and Louisa bringing the art and picnic supplies, and guidance indoors or out in plain air.

Louisa.EcoArts@gmail.com

541-912-9136 text first

SHARPENING

**Free drop off and pick up:
Summer Beam Books
1337 Main Street, Philomath
Phone 541-929-8080**

Precision work by Mark Files

- **Knives**
- **Garden Tools: clippers, loppers**
- **Woodworking tools**
- **Axes, shovels, machetes**

Fast turnaround for restaurants!

**Videos on how to sharpen and hone
your knives at celticforge.net**

FREE SHARPENING:

**Mention this ad from the *Messenger* at the
Farmers Market and get one item sharpened for
free!**

What's up at Willamette Grange #52...

Hello from Willamette Grange,

As usual, BINGO at the Greenberry Tavern happens every first Thursday of the month, 6 to 8 pm. It's a fun fundraiser for Willamette Grange, hosted by Greenberry Tavern. It's a cozy atmosphere with great food and BINGO fun. The tavern folk (also WG members) help keep us going while our sources of income are limited.

This year we are having another big rummage sale – the September Sale Spectacular! on Saturday Sept 26, 9 am to 4 pm. I trust MRG's Amazing Grange Day was another huge success, but if you happen to find some items you forgot laying around the house and would like to get rid of, we would gladly take donations to our spectacular sale. We also have a free puzzle exchange table (mostly jigsaw) for those looking for a new challenge. Bring the puzzles you wish to pass along, and find a new one to work on. All ages and complexities and puzzle types are there to peruse. Check out our sales for new (used) clothing or jewelry for the upcoming holidays, or search for that missing treasure that just didn't show up at the Amazing Grange Day sale :))

Hope to see you out at Willamette Grange.

Come check us out. Willamette Grange meetings are the second Sunday 5:30 pm potluck, 6:00 pm meeting.

Willamette Grange #52

541-609-8335

Summer is soon coming to a close and tarweed plants all over town are going to seed, marking another season of blooms come and gone! As we look towards the autumnal months, we are happy to announce that our **Fall 2026 season of classes are open for registration!**

Participants can **register** for a range of half-day, full-day, multi-day, and multi-week classes in fiber arts, foods, basketry, woodworking, and more! Classes are taught by local educators, craftspeople, scientists, tradespeople, small business owners, and members of our Willamette Valley communities.

Tarweed Folk School classes take place at Wade Hardware (400 SW 2nd St.) in downtown Corvallis, and across other partner locations in Corvallis. Class costs range from \$55 to \$325, full and partial tuition scholarships are available to all. **Register today on our website or by clicking the links below!**

Many thanks,

Margot Schwarz

Tarweed Folk School

info@tarweedfolkschool.com

www.tarweedfolkschool.com



Greg Mickenham
General Contractor
OSMA 227591

541-740-2425

gregmickenham@gmail.com

Jobs big & small! - Free estimates

Health Care for Farm Workers

Farm Clinic is expanding services to uninsured & underinsured agricultural workers in Benton, Linn, & Lincoln Counties. Any small-scale & family-run farms (vineyards, tree farms, dairy, ranching, etc.)

Contact: Lisa Quick, Community Outreach & Farm Clinic,
541-758-3000

YRE welcomes youth to make the news, to be Young Reporters for the Environment.

See what the youth can tell about our world now.

<https://www.yre.global/>

Training in investigative environmental journalism and film making and more is available free for any age. Perhaps it's parents or grandmas helping their 11 year-old and their friends make a video about a local problem they see, and maybe their ideas for a solution.

You may join the other 1000+ youth around the world, now in 48 countries. Ages 11 to 24 youth may join the YRE Network, and enter your journalism pieces, including photos, in an international eco journalism by youth competition. Spread the word. Go to <https://www.yre.global/>.

You can work on projects, articles, and videos together, and make friends with other youths who care to Save the Planet through sharing information and investigating news of a local environmental issue.

The YRE project was started by the UN about 10 years ago and is coordinated by the Foundation for Environmental Education, out of Copenhagen Denmark, <https://www.fee.global/>.

Youth and adult assistants may sign up directly to <https://www.yre.global/>. Corvallis' Crescent Valley High School Students for Environmental Action will be the first Corvallis YRE club, starting in November. Most likely also the Corvallis High environmental club.

A team of Marys River Grangers and our local KORC FM community radio station, are creating the support website blog/YouTube channel and podcast now, hoping to be ready to roll soon, this November 2026. We call it simply, WVEN – Willamette Valley Environmental News.

We invite you to become a member, any age, of our WVEN Network. Eco articles or snapshots or snippets may be sent in by email. They can be made by local journalists of any age in any medium. Also WVEN is to be a place to share what you have found in other journals and shows so we speed up the understanding about how we might best be stewards of this Willamette Valley we live in.

To air your photos with captions, your videos, your articles, and your editorials and comments about local issues, email them to our new email address.

We invite others to join our WVEN Production Team, setting up this low cost multidimensional eco news journal.

We will set up archives by eco topics and will attach comments and relevant additions, like maps and charts.

In November we will start meeting weekly in some cafe easy to access for youth on the bus in downtown Corvallis or by the OSU campus, so eco journalists can team up on projects and make friends who care about the planet and her beings.

Count Yourself In on the WVEN Network, the Willamette Valley Environmental News Network. Text to Louisa Hamachek, coordinator, 541-912-9136 or email to join WVEN Network: EcoNewsWillamette@gmail.com

**Philomath Citizens' Academy starts Thursdays,
Sep. 3 to Oct. 29, 6-8pm, at Philomath City Hall.**

No registration required.

<https://www.philomathoregon.gov/engage-city/page/citizens-academy> for more info.



Louisa Hamachek

"If you are able to work, free to work, and not hampered by a rigid personal bent, just look about and see what other people need. Study your country, town, village, your environment, near or distant; and take hold of some social need, whether it is a better school board or the preservation of our forests. So long as the earth or the people on it need service, there is work for all of us."

- Charlotte Perkins Gilman, *The Forerunner*, Feb. 1910



"As a child I had high ambitions. A great writer and a great actress – I was going to be those two things at least. Also a great pianist, if I could get hold of a piano to practice on, a great singer if I could carry a tune.

Now when I am in my garden my ambition is a little higher. I want to live as quietly, modestly, uncritically and usefully as a beet, a carrot, a tomato. I want to do my small part and not interfere with those who are doing their part. I want to live in uncritical peace with my fellow man."

- Ruth Stout,

How to have a Green Thumb Without an Aching Back, 1961



Marys River Grangers Judy and Sonny visited Ada Grange #570, Lane County (southeast of Florence), for their "block party" on August 8. Ada Grange is 108 years old and nearly all of its members are active volunteers. Megan Schofield (front left) is their President.

A Grange is a community organization that responds to local needs. We have a 150+ year tradition of promoting local food and nonpartisan, nonsectarian, face-to-face connections.

In necessariis unitas	In essentials, unity
in dubiis libertas	in non-essentials, liberty
in omnibus caritas	in all things, charity

Pomona Grange – 1930's to 1940's

The Pomona Grange consists of all the Subordinate [Community] Granges in each county. Each Subordinate Grange hosts Pomona monthly by rotation.

Alderpoint, California is about 40 miles off the highway east of Garberville. The roads were gravel, narrow and steep. When Alderpoint Grange hosted Pomona, the Grange would charter a passenger train consisting of a steam engine and two passenger cars. It is about 110 miles by rail from Eureka to Alderpoint. The train trip took about 2-1/2 hours each way. The train made stops along the way to pick up Grange members.

We would leave Eureka at 7:00 am, arriving at Alderpoint at 9:30 for an all-day Grange meeting with pot luck dinner at noon. The Grange meeting was over at 4:00 pm, with the train leaving at 5:00 pm to return to Eureka at 7:30 pm, making quite a long day.

As a teenager, I really enjoyed those trips. This trip was made once a year. During those years there were many more teenagers in the Grange than now. Since there was no television and, at best, automobile transportation was not the greatest, we went for other entertainment. The Grange was one. We were members of the degree drill team.

There are many tunnels on the railroad and, naturally, the young people took advantage of the darkness for a stolen kiss or two.

- Earl Nunnemaker,
submitted by daughter Vickie Nunnemaker

White Lines on the Highway

The 101 (Redwood Highway) through Humboldt County in Northern California in the 1930's was a narrow, crooked highway. At that time, the Redwood League was quite powerful in the legislative lobby and in influencing many departments in California, which prevented the Highway Department from cutting the Redwood trees to build the highway. Because of that, there are many, many places on the old highway where they cut up to a 20 inch slab off the trees to get a wide enough roadway. This can still be seen on the old road through the Avenue of the Giants between Scotia and Phillipsville. That, among other road conditions, made driving very hazardous, especially at night or in the fog.

My parents, Phil and Amber, belonged to the Garberville Grange. They had to drive 20 miles each way to and from the Grange as we lived at Miranda at that time.

During the refreshment and social hour one evening in 1933, Amber made the observation that, if white lines were painted on the roadway to divide the traffic, the highway would be much safer to drive. The conversation carried on for awhile at the next meeting. Amber made a motion that the Legislative Committee draw up a resolution to send to the State Highway Department to have white divider lines painted on the highways.

The resolution was enacted at Garberville Grange and sent to Humboldt County Pomona Grange. They acted favorably and sent the resolution to the State Grange which also acted favorably. The resolution then went to the State Highway Department and, in 1934, the white divider lines were installed on all California highways and eventually in all states.

Shows that one person can change many things if that person really desires some change to be made.

- Earl Nunnemaker, past Master of several Granges,
including Summit #432

Cyrano's
BOOKBINDING

BookRepair/Restoration
Custom Binding
Fine Art Supplies
Unique Art Papers
Classes

361 SW 2nd St
Corvallis Or 97330

M-F
10a-6p

541-286-4661
stpcyrano@gmail.com

Susan Stogsdill, Owner

Happy birthday, Marys River Messenger!
This issue begins its ninth year of publication!

Marys River Grange #685
 PO Box 1301
 Philomath, OR 97370
 marysrivergrange@gmail.com
 541-829-2907



Marys River Grange Announces



Game Night
 Friday Sep 18

6:00 PM - 8:30 PM*



24707 Grange Hall Rd, Philomath

You're Invited!

A family friendly, fun fundraising event for Marys River Grange

10 games: 5 regular, 5 special pattern
 Plus: 1 blackout with Block of Nine prize

Ticket prices are

\$10 for 10 3-on games (3 cards for 10 games)

\$20 for 10 6-on games (6 cards for 10 games)

\$1 per blackout ticket

50/50 split on prizes/fundraising

Drinks
 and
 snacks
 for sale



* End time is estimated, and may vary depending on length of individual games

