



MICHIGAN GRANGE NEWS



Volume XXVI NO. 3

USPS 345-580

MAY-JUNE, 2020

MAY IS BETTER HEARING AND SPEECH MONTH

You have a hearing loss if you:

- *frequently ask people to repeat themselves*
- *often turn your ear toward a sound to hear it better*
- *understand people better when you wear your glasses or look directly at their faces*
- *lose your place in group conversations*
- *keep the volume on your radio or TV at a level that others say is too loud*
- *have pain or ringing in your ears*

"People who see themselves in these statements should see an audiologist for a hearing test. Even a very slight hearing loss can have an impact on your daily life. Hearing loss is treatable, and there is no reason for anyone to miss all the important sounds of life.

HAVE YOUR HEARING TESTED

Mark Your Calendars!!

Plan Now to Attend!!

Get your reservations made!!

The 2020 Michigan State Convention will be held October 22-24, 2020 at the Ramada Inn and Conference Center at 2650 South I-75 Business Loop, Grayling, MI The number for the hotel to make your reservations is: 989-348-7611. Their FAX number in case you should need it is: 989-348-7984. Thirty Four first floor rooms have been reserved. Cost: \$75.00 per night plus tax. Rooms not reserved by October 15, 2020 will fall back into inventory for general hotel guests.

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Michigan Grange News

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Inquiries contact: Michigan State Grange
404 S. Oak Street, Durand, MI 48429

Editor & Adv. Manager:
Christopher D. Johnston

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Christopher D. Johnston, Editor
404 S. Oak Street, Durand, MI 48429

- May 1 **May Day**
- May 10 **Mother's Day**
- May 16 **Armed Forces Day**
- May 25 **Memorial Day**
- June 14 **Flag Day**
- June 20 **Summer begins**
- June 21 **Father's Day**

Through this Pandemic of COVID-19 we ask that everyone Be careful, Stay Home, Stay Healthy!

If we all work together (separately) on this we can come through it with flying colors and be better people at the end.

Whole page	\$150.00
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1/4 page / business card	\$50.00
\$40.00	

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404 S. Oak Street, Durand, MI 48429
Tel: 989-288-4546
E-mail msggrange1873@yahoo.com

Chaplain

Services to Others

Jeff Swainston P.O. Box 77, Manton, MI 49663 Tel: 616-405-6921 jeff@jnsphoto.biz

“Be hospitable to one another without complaining. Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received.” These instructions were written in Peter’s first letter to Christians in the first century, shortly after the resurrection of Jesus Christ. In Mark, Jesus told his disciples, “For the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve others and to give his life as a ransom for many.”

These words are extremely important for two particular reasons. First of all, Christians around the world recently celebrated Easter and the resurrection of Jesus Christ. Secondly, we are in uncharted territory as we are in the midst of a pandemic of a virus that is spreading worldwide.

We are called by our God to serve others in the world around us, particularly in our own communities. This is not only our calling as Christians but an important part of what the Grange has traditionally stood for. Today we have a community service program in our organization which focuses greatly on how we serve others in our communities.

So, what is one of the most important ways we can serve others during this pandemic? Many of us are out and about every day, either because of work or because we are using common sense practices to keep ourselves and others safe from the spread of the virus. But what about those who may fall into the high-risk category and are pretty much confined to their homes?

This is where we can help as Christians and as Grange members. Have you checked on your neighbors? How about elderly friends, neighbors, and family who may live alone? My daughter has offered to go to the

Continued on page 7

In Memory Of



Athol Hazen, Jr.
Past Michigan State Grange Officer
Steward 1979-1982
Secretary 1982-1983

Brother Athol, age 94, of Marshall died March 22, 1980 at his home. He grew up in the Grand Rapids Area. Married his wife, Helen in 1951 and lived in

Kalamazoo until moving to Marshall in 1953. Athol worked for Production Credit Association, Lynn Chevrolet and Lynn Farms. He was active in Eckford Township, Michigan Nature Association, Calhoun County Agricultural and Industrial Society, Farm Bureau and the B.E. Henry Building Association, and a golden sheaf member of Fredonia Grange #1713. Athol was preceded in death by his wife, Helen in November, 2017; Daughter Lois and a son Leslie, his parents and two brothers. He is survived by a daughter, Mary Lyke of Florida, a son Richard of Marshall, four grandchildren and five great grandchildren.

Well Done Good and Faithful Servant

Christopher D. Johnston, Master 6241 Grand River Road, Bancroft, MI 48414
 Tel: 989-634-9350 (H) 989-666-6648 (C) E-mail msgprez19@yahoo.com

Covid-19

If any of you are like me, you are sick and tired of hearing about Covid-19. While watching the news and hoping there is something else going on, be sure to pay attention to what is being said about the Coronavirus. Pay attention to the ways to prevent it from coming into your house. But with all the confusing partisan arguments surrounding the virus please do your own research if you have the ability. For those of us on social media the arguments have been going back and forth on how to prevent it, how long to shelter in place.

There have been some rules in Gov. Whitmers Shelter in place extension order that I don't agree with, yet at the same time for the safety of myself, my family, and my community I will abide by those orders. (Side note, the weather has not been conducive to putting the boat in the water yet anyways.)

During the "Shelter in place" National Grange has been providing some Facebook live episodes. They have included Lecturers Programs, Membership programs, Grange Ritual discussions and the relevance of the ritual in today's society, and the Saturday evening date night with talented members from across the country sharing their talents. I encourage you if you have Facebook to check out the National Grange Facebook page and follow them and listen in on their various shows. Past National Grange Executive Committee member Marty Billquist is doing weekly auctions on Facebook with the proceeds going to the National Grange Foundation, he is auctioning off different items from the Montana Silversmith, This is on his personal page.

Michigan State Grange Activity Suspension

I want to thank you all for abiding by my directive to suspend all Grange activities in Michigan. While at the time of me writing this article, the Michigan Legislature has announced that they will not extend the Governor's shelter in place order again. Make sure that as we prepare to reopen the economy that we are still taking precautions to protect our members and our guests at Grange events from any possi-

ble spread of this virus. Thank you.

Grange Revival 2.0

July 20-25, 2021 Save the date. For all of the campers and those less adventurous, we will be traveling to Sturgis, South Dakota. There will be excursions to Mount Rushmore, Devils tower, and many other activities for everyone to participate in. Coming soon to MSG website will be more information about the revival.



We are still selling the newest Michigan State Grange pin for \$5 if you are interested in a pin or two please contact the state Secretary.

“Cultivating Connections”

Luanna Swainston, Director 965-108th Street, SW Byron Center, MI 49315
 Tel: 616-262-3516 E-mail: plswainston1@gmail.com

Something exciting coming for Deaf Awareness Department

We are going to hold a Raffle this year.

We will be drawing for this Queen Size Very Colorful Quilt at the
Annual Convention in October.

(For those of you that get the MGN by mail...sorry the picture is not in color)
 (quilt is trimmed in black, with each letter of the alphabet in colors such as, red, blue, yellow, lavender, green.etc.)

**Tickets will be available
 soon and will
 Sell for \$1.00 each or
 6 for \$5.00.**



**Proceeds will go
 towards a new Deaf
 Awareness Project to
 make our posters
 more available and
 visible throughout
 the state.**

The Do's and Don't of Ear Health

Do's:

- ◆ Do get your ears and hearing checked regularly.
- ◆ Do go to a professional to have excessive ear wax removed.
- ◆ Do use earplugs to protect your hearing around loud noises.
- ◆ Do dry your ears after showering or swimming.
- ◆ Do stay physically active. Staying physically active helps keep the heart and circulation system healthy, which helps keeps your ears healthy.

Don'ts:

- ◆ Don't put cotton swabs in your ear canal.
- ◆ Don't crank up your headphones.
- ◆ Don't ignore pain or drainage from your ears—go to a doctor.
- ◆ Don't smoke. Smoking is know to affect hearing through the circulation system.
- ◆ Don't assume hearing loss is just for old people. Hearing loss is an increasing danger to younger individuals due to exposure to loud sounds via ear buds.

Tom Smith, Co-Director 816 4th Street, Three Rivers, MI 49093 Tel: 269-858-8305
Barbara Johnston, Co-Director 2028 Robbins Road, Tipton, MI 49287 Tel: 517-431-2546 tnbjohnston@pc.com

Time flies (unless we're all still trapped indoors) and the 2020 Convention is getting close (well, maybe). Anyway our friends in the north, I'm sure will have everything ready and we need to fill up the display room. All but photography should be easier with all of our home time.

Remember, not that long ago, when there was a "Michigan Week" in May? Sturgis used to host the Kick-off parade, there was Mayor Exchange Days, and each day of the week was a spotlight on our state like Education Day, Agriculture, Industry, etc. A tradition of my Grange for many years was a Michigan Dinner. All foods brought to the potluck, the main ingredient had to be a product of Michigan. Guaranteed a good meal, and fun, too. Perhaps your Grange could try this as a means of something a little different.

Here's a few Did You Knows about our great state...

- ◆ That the world's first stop sign was a hand-held sign used by a traffic policeman in Detroit?
- ◆ That over 100 railroad freight cars a day were manufactured in Detroit in the 1890s?
- ◆ That Detroit became the leading producer of stoves in the 1890s, not only in Michigan but in the world?
- ◆ That the first operating railroad in Michigan was a horse-drawn train running between Adrian and Toledo in 1836? By 1850, railroad companies had completed the rail link from Detroit to Chicago.
- ◆ That the first United States Land Office in Michigan was located in Detroit in 1818? Persons wanting to buy surveyed land could only purchase it through a land office.
- ◆ That the Ambassador Bridge, linking Canada and Michigan, was completed in 1929 at a cost of more than \$16 million? It was the first bridge to connect to countries. In 1930, the Windsor-Detroit Tunnel was completed at a cost of \$22 million.
- ◆ That Michigan was the first state to develop roadside parks with picnic tables?
- ◆ That the telephone was first introduced in Michigan in 1877 on an experimental basis, just one year after it was displayed at the Centennial Exposition in Philadelphia?
- ◆ The first telephone directory in Michigan appeared in 1878, listing 124 Detroit customers who subscribed to Michigan's "Speaking Telephone?"
- ◆ That because of the availability of wood in Michigan, our state led the country in shipbuilding in the 1890s?
- ◆ That Ruth Thompson, a probate judge in Whitehall for 18 years, was the first Congressman from Michigan? She was elected in 1950, served three terms, and was the first woman to sit on the House Judiciary Committee.
- ◆ That in 1918, before the ratification of the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, Michigan amended its own constitution to give women the right to vote, thus ending a long struggle by suffragists.
- ◆ That the small town of Belding, Michigan, in 1925, produced 95 percent of all the silk thread sold in the US?
- ◆ That celery, long the leading product of Kalamazoo fields, was reputed to have medicinal qualities? Celery was acclaimed as a cure for nervousness, depression, headaches, and insomnia, and was even used in cough drops!
- ◆ That logging companies, owning over 12 million acres of forested land in Michigan, today plant more trees than they cut? Michigan now has over 19 million acres of trees on both peninsulas.
- ◆ That a policeman in Detroit named William Potts designed the first traffic light in the early 1900s? He discovered that he could direct three intersections at once with an electric contraption using a red, a green, and a yellow light installed in a tower.
- ◆ That Pearl Kendrick, a Grand Rapids native, developed the first vaccine against whooping cough?
- ◆ That the first newspaper in Michigan was printed in 1809? It went out of business after one issue because of lack of sales. However, the Detroit Gazette printed its first copy in 1817 and newspapers have been a part of Michigan ever since.
- ◆ That several Michigan teams were a part of the All American Girls Professional Baseball League, which the movie A League of Their Own was based upon? Just like in the movie, the league was created to fill the void left by men who joined the armed service in the early 1940s. The league lasted about a decade.
- ◆ That the Native Americans believed that Arch Rock, a natural limestone formation on Mackinac Island, was built by spirits as a gateway to the island? The Arch Rock stand 149 feet above water and has a span of 50 feet.
- ◆ That, in the late 1800s and early 1900s, Bertha Van Hoosen, a talented doctor and skilled surgeon and raised in Michigan, was denied entrance into the medical societies because she was a woman? She later taught obstetrics and gynecology at the University of Illinois and Loyola University medical schools. She paid her own tuition to the University of Michigan by teaching because her parents objected to her career choice.

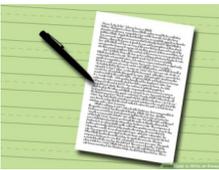
Jackie Bishop, Lecturer 479 Tuscany Drive
Tel: 269-365-0401 jacqueline_bishop@hotmail.com

Time to Create and Grow

After receiving about four inches of snow in the past week, I was wondering if we really would have Spring. However, today is a beautiful Spring day. My daffodils survived the cold weather and snow, and even came back with more blossoms, and the weeping cherry is absolutely loaded with flowers, which the bees have found and are enjoying.

Today, I knew that I needed to write this article. I am always telling everyone to work on their State Grange Contest entries, so decided I

need to practice what I preach! This afternoon, I completed an entry for the Deaf Awareness Essay Contest. Luanna has three different topics you may choose from, and are limited to 300 words. It is not necessary to develop a topic into a long story as this is only about 1/2 page typed. I also have experimented making a new recipe of quick breads in the last week that I have enjoyed eating that might be a potential candidate for entering in the Family Activities Baking Contest.



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Of course, I hope that you might consider creating something for the Lecturer’s contests. With time on our hands, this is a great opportunity to bring forth your creative side – perhaps in drawing. Contests are not designed for experts, but instead to help members

grow their talents. For those that have access to the Internet, there have been an abundance of art-resources online as a result of the kids being out of school that could provide some ideas. I found this website that is designed for kids, but could give adults ideas for drawing as well:



For those with limited computer access, often magazines are available in the household and can provide ideas for sketching a drawing. For the two-dimensional drawing/painting contest category, pencil drawings are an option, so it is likely that you have supplies on hand to create that kind of entry. Looking forward to what you create!

<https://craftwhack.com/100-crazy-cool-drawing-ideas-for-kids/> . For those with limited computer access, often magazines are available in the household and can provide ideas for sketching a drawing. For the two-dimensional drawing/painting contest category, pencil drawings are an option, so it is likely that you have supplies on hand to create that kind of entry. Looking forward to what you create!

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The COVID-19 situation has meant more time spent within family for many. In an effort to keep everyone busy and engaged in a fun activity, you might



try creating a scavenger hunt. Some of you may have a tradition for doing this Easter morning to find the Easter surprises, but it could be done any time of the year. This is especially fun when there is some sort of reward that is at the end of the hunt. The hunt could be done indoors, outdoors, or both. Depending on ages involved, it could involve taking photos of “found” items. It could be an individual or team event – lot of options for some fun.

The word “persevere” came to me during the “stay home” as I was considering my particular scenario. And while watching our church service on Facebook Live, where Hope was discussed, the light bulb went on in my head. The Fifth Degree in the Grange ritual emphasizes and has lessons on “hope and persevere”. Let us move forward in the days ahead doing exactly that – Hope and Persevere! New ways of doing things, and new things to do are likely to evolve as we proceed in the months ahead.



Can anyone identify these people? 1976 State Convention in Grand Rapids. Back Row: Beulah Winter, Ruth Smith, & Ilene Carnecross...we just can't put a name with the face on the rest. Let us know if you know.

Kevin Young, Director 60822 Creek Road, Niles, MI 49120
Tel: 269-684-3870 E-mail: Kevin60822@sbcbglobal.net

Is it Spring, Summer, Winter?!? This spring has been very crazy for weather so far. I wonder what Summer will be like here in Michigan this year. Hoping Summer will be nice and not too hot but I don't think people will care after the Stay Safe Stay Home Spring that we are having. As I sit here writing this article on April 9th, we are now having to stay home until April 30th. I know we need to stay safe and be cautious to keep the spread of COVID 19 at low levels but it is also hurting many individuals' livelihood. I am still working which I am thankful for but it is very stressful on myself and my fellow co-workers. We are doing our best to keep food on the shelves for people to buy every day, but it seems like we are always busy. I guess that shows most people had been eating out all the time! I know a lot of people are buying things to plant and grow for food in their yards this spring. We are getting low on seed potatoes at Shelton's but I got our seed potatoes purchased so we can get them planted soon.

How many of you have planted anything in your gardens yet? Things that could have been planted by know would be seed potatoes, onion sets, cold crops (cabbages, etc) and I even think carrots but not sure so please check before you plant them! When planning your garden spots, keep in mind the Ag Classes that you can enter at this year's Annual State Grange Session. Each class is open to Junior members on up to Subordinate members. There are plenty of different classes for all ages and you do not have to live in the Country to do them. I can't wait to see what Unique containers with plantings come to State Session. Please check the Program Booklet for more details. Be sure to check out the Family Activities section as they put in a neat class in their Department having to do with Antique Agriculture items.

We are running behind at getting things done around the little farm this spring due to the crazy things going on in our World right now. I have yet to get the chicken coop cleaned but that is because when I have the time it is either not nice weather or I am too tired and need to just rest! The pigs for my nephews and niece will be coming to the farm in a few short weeks and there is still things to prepare before they can come to the farm. My niece was over and power washed the peg pin, the fence panels,

the hut and my Dad power washed all of the feeders. We have to wash away a residue of a feed additive we have used in the past that is no longer allowed to be used at most County Fairs. The stock trailer is not out of storage yet and also needs power washed. The market goats have been selected and will be arriving soon as well. In the Fall we added a "garage" cat to the farm and she came to our farm expecting kittens. She had 5 and we have 2 of them left and boy have they kept the mice and chipmunk populations to very low levels! Baby, the momma cat, gave us 6 new little kittens on April 2nd! It will be fun to see them grow up but we will have to find homes for them as we just can't keep that many here.

Please be mindful that this is the time that the country roads and some State Highways will have slow moving farm vehicles on them. If it wasn't for those farmers and their employees we wouldn't have the opportunity to go to farmers' markets or the grocery stores to get the needed foods to feed our families. Please give those big vehicles and tractors as much room as you can without causing problems for yourself or others.

With all this technology going into modern farms, the demand for skilled workers in the agriculture sector is rising. In 2015, the United States Department of Agriculture reported that jobs in food and agriculture outnumber degrees granted in those fields nearly two to one. Of those job opportunities, 27 percent are in science, technology, engineering or math. Remember whenever possible please buy Local or Locally Grown / Made products! You are helping small farm families most of the time. Well that is it for now. Good luck with your garden planning and happy growing until later!

CHAPLAINS continued...

grocery store for those who don't wish to make sure they have sufficient groceries. Members of my church and several community members have offered to assist those who may be financial difficulties due to being off work during this time. We shouldn't have to look far to find a way, no matter how great or how small, to help out in our communities right now. Even if it just a phone call to check in on someone. It is the least we can do.

Let's all make an extra effort during the next few weeks to serve others who may be in need during this pandemic. It is not only what we are called to do

Continued page 8

Mary Ann Rocco, Director 145 Beadle Lake Drive, Battle Creek, MI 49014
 Tel: 269-209-6640 Email: roccomaryann@yahoo.com

Goodbye winter and hello spring. Hopefully we will see sunshine, and warmer weather soon.

Fredonia Grange lost a very special and lifelong member on March 22. Athol Hazen, the father of Richard Hazen passed away. He will be truly missed.

The past couple of months have been very different for us.

Our Community Services activities have been cancelled, and we have had to discover other ways to help in our communities. Many of us have been making masks, delivering food to family members, neighbors and local food banks.

This being said our Community Service Reports might look different this year. I know some of the community service activities that were cancelled cannot be rescheduled or happen this year.

Please remember a Community Service notebook is not required. Completion of the summary report form is totally acceptable. If doing a notebook the summary sheet MUST be at the front of your notebook filled out and completed.

Spring is a time to clean and organize. Here is quick review to help you with organizing your Community Service notebooks.

Organize the Notebooks.

Tell the your story as you organize your projects
 Group the projects together

Keep items that support your projects, like thank you letters and newspaper articles, with or without photos.

Simplify your notebook by selecting the best photos for each project.

Ways to Organize

Organize by New Projects and Continuing Projects
 Or-Organize in chronological order from the beginning to the end of the year Or -Organize by the largest projects to the smallest projects

Keep the page clean and concise

List all project at the beginning of the book (Index)

Donations for a project should be noted

If tabs are use make sure they are secured so they don't fall out

Remember the notebook maximum size is a 2-inch binder.

The Community Service program period is September 1, 2019 thru August 31, 2020.

Notebooks or reports are due to Mary Ann by September 10, 2020.

When you need to contact me via email, please put your full Grange name on the subject line (ex. Fredonia Grange).

Thank you for all you do in your community.

Have a Happy Mother's Day and Happy Father's Day!

Mary Ann

Remember to Stay home Stay safe and Save lives.

MEMBERSHIP

June 30 deadline

Tricia Eidsmoe 1451 Grey Road, Midland, MI 48640
 Tel: 989-631-0079 E-mail: tennisbums@charter.net

COVID-19. Coronavirus. Social distancing. Pandemic. These are words none of us thought we would be hearing this year! I hope everyone is safe in your Grange family. This is really going to change how we deal with our Grange year.

Back to business. The Grange year for the membership department ends June 30. I hope to see many pledge cards returned to me in the next few months. If you need additional cards, please contact me.

The membership Grange year deadline tends to sneak up on us as it runs July 1 thru June 30. Most of us are more focused on the Grange year which runs October 1 thru September 30. I would strongly suggest Granges create a membership plan during the summer. This can then be used right before the holidays hit or right after and you won't have to scramble for ideas early in the next calendar year.

Please take time to review the Program Book if you haven't done so yet. Even though this is not a National Grange contest, I would love to see the displays done by the Granges in Michigan. Granges that send me the required information (check the program book for details) will be recognized at State Session.

I wish everyone a Happy Mother's Day, Father's Day and Memorial Day – the unofficial start to summer! Hopefully we will be able to attend gatherings again soon.

Tricia

CHAPLAINS continued...

but also gives us a sense of accomplishment. We can feel good about our service to others.

God is not unjust; He will not forget your work and the love you have shown him as you have helped his people and continue to help them. ~Hebrews 6:10