



MICHIGAN GRANGE NEWS



Volume XXIX NO. 5

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September-October, 2023

150TH MICHIGAN STATE GRANGE CONVENTION

OCTOBER 19-21, 2023

**Lenawee County Fairgrounds
602 N. Dean Street, Adrian, MI 49221**

**National Grange Lecturer, Ann Bercher will be our
National Grange Representative**

Room reservations will be on your own

Make sure you are getting your entries in all of the contests ready.

5th and 6th Degrees will be conferred.

**Remember to bring items for the Silent Auction
And bid, bid, bid!!**

Check the agenda on the back page of this issue.

Hope to see all of you in Adrian!!

*Page 2
Rest Tonight*

*Page 3
Here Comes Fall
Fundraisers*

*Page 4
Deaf Ecosystems
Reports Due
Grange Happenings*

*Page 5
Are You're Entries
Ready?
Burns 150th Invite*

*Page 6
Notebook Done?*

*Page 7 & 8
County Fairs
Memorials*

www.michiganstategrange.org



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

Editor & Adv. Manager:
Christopher D. Johnston

Postmaster send address changes:
Christopher D. Johnston, Editor
404 S. Oak Street, Durand, MI 48429

Sept. 4	Labor Day
Sept. 16	Burns Grange 150th Celebration
October 9	Columbus Day
October 19-21	Michigan State Grange 150th Annual Convention
October 31	Halloween



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404 S. Oak Street, Durand, MI 48429
Tel: 989-288-4546
E-mail msgrange1873@yahoo.com

Chaplain

Jeff Swainston P.O. Box 77, Manton, MI 49663
Tel: 616-405-6921 revjeff82@gmail.com

Rest Tonight

Don't Be Anxious About Tomorrow

As you sink into bed tonight, exhausted, are you already thinking about tomorrow's meetings, next week's obligations, and next month's deadlines?

You're anxious about tomorrow... and the next day... and the next.

Whether you're a busy mom who's worried about your child's future, an overwhelmed college student in the throes of midterms, or a rising executive with demands pulling from every direction, it's difficult not knowing what tomorrow will bring. This anxiety is something that keeps many people awake at night — but does it do any good?

One result of anxiety is that it can certainly make you feel productive. At least you're keeping a running tally in your mind of things to do, scenarios that could go wrong, or new ideas to explore, right? But the problem is this: you can't keep going all the time. Your mind and body need a break. You need a break. Your boss needs a break. Even the president needs a break sometimes.

The best thing you can do for yourself is take time to rest. True rest doesn't look like collapsing into bed, nerves fried and adrenaline pumping, either. It looks like letting your mind, body, and soul rest in the palm of the Lord.

True rest always involves surrendering to God.

God doesn't tell us to rest for His own good — He tells us to rest for our own good. God worked six days and rested the seventh. He was — and is — the mastermind behind the entire world, yet He took time to give Himself a break. To cease from working, to cease from creating, cease from doing.

Emulate the Lord's pattern of work and rest tonight.

**REMEMBER
TO BRING
SILENT AUCTION
ITEMS TO THE
CONVENTION**

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8gr, 8gs, 8gt, 8gu, 8gv, 8gw, 8gx, 8gy, 8gz, 8ha, 8hb, 8hc, 8hd, 8he, 8hf, 8hg, 8hh, 8hi, 8hj, 8hk, 8hl, 8hm, 8hn, 8ho, 8hp, 8hq, 8hr, 8hs, 8ht, 8hu, 8hv, 8hw, 8hx, 8hy, 8hz, 8ia, 8ib, 8ic, 8id, 8ie, 8if, 8ig, 8ih, 8ii, 8ij, 8ik, 8il, 8im, 8in, 8io, 8ip, 8iq, 8ir, 8is, 8it, 8iu, 8iv, 8iw, 8ix, 8iy, 8iz, 8ja, 8jb, 8jc, 8jd, 8je, 8jf, 8jg, 8jh, 8ji, 8jj, 8jk, 8jl, 8jm, 8jn, 8jo, 8jp, 8jq, 8jr, 8js, 8jt, 8ju, 8jv, 8jw, 8jx, 8jy, 8jz, 8ka, 8kb, 8kc, 8kd, 8ke, 8kf, 8kg, 8kh, 8ki, 8kj, 8kk, 8kl, 8km, 8kn, 8ko, 8kp, 8kq, 8kr, 8ks, 8kt, 8ku, 8kv, 8kw, 8kx, 8ky, 8kz, 8la, 8lb, 8lc, 8ld, 8le, 8lf, 8lg, 8lh, 8li, 8lj, 8lk, 8ll, 8lm, 8ln, 8lo, 8lp, 8lq, 8lr, 8ls, 8lt, 8lu, 8lv, 8lw, 8lx, 8ly, 8lz, 8ma, 8mb, 8mc, 8md, 8me, 8mf, 8mg, 8mh, 8mi, 8mj, 8mk, 8ml, 8mm, 8mn, 8mo, 8mp, 8mq, 8mr, 8ms, 8mt, 8mu, 8mv, 8mw, 8mx, 8my, 8mz, 8na, 8nb, 8nc, 8nd, 8ne, 8nf, 8ng, 8nh, 8ni, 8nj, 8nk, 8nl, 8nm, 8nn, 8no, 8np, 8nq, 8nr, 8ns, 8nt, 8nu, 8nv, 8nw, 8nx, 8ny, 8nz, 8oa, 8ob, 8oc, 8od, 8oe, 8of, 8og, 8oh, 8oi, 8oj, 8ok, 8ol, 8om, 8on, 8oo, 8op, 8oq, 8or, 8os, 8ot, 8ou, 8ov, 8ow, 8ox, 8oy, 8oz, 8pa, 8pb, 8pc, 8pd, 8pe, 8pf, 8pg, 8ph, 8pi, 8pj, 8pk, 8pl, 8pm, 8pn, 8po, 8pp, 8pq, 8pr, 8ps, 8pt, 8pu, 8pv, 8pw, 8px, 8py, 8pz, 8qa, 8qb, 8qc, 8qd, 8qe, 8qf, 8qg, 8qh, 8qi, 8qj, 8qk, 8ql, 8qm, 8qn, 8qo, 8qp, 8qq, 8qr, 8qs, 8qt, 8qu, 8qv, 8qw, 8qx, 8qy, 8qz, 8ra, 8rb, 8rc, 8rd, 8re, 8rf, 8rg, 8rh, 8ri, 8rj, 8rk, 8rl, 8rm, 8rn, 8ro, 8rp, 8rq, 8rr, 8rs, 8rt, 8ru, 8rv, 8rw, 8rx, 8ry, 8rz, 8sa, 8sb, 8sc, 8sd, 8se, 8sf, 8sg, 8sh, 8si, 8sj, 8sk, 8sl, 8sm, 8sn, 8so, 8sp, 8sq, 8sr, 8ss, 8st, 8su, 8sv, 8sw, 8sx, 8sy, 8sz, 8ta, 8tb, 8tc, 8td, 8te, 8tf, 8tg, 8th, 8ti, 8tj, 8tk, 8tl, 8tm, 8tn, 8to, 8tp, 8tq, 8tr, 8ts, 8tt, 8tu, 8tv, 8tw, 8tx, 8ty, 8tz, 8ua, 8ub, 8uc, 8ud, 8ue, 8uf, 8ug, 8uh, 8ui, 8uj, 8uk, 8ul, 8um, 8un, 8uo, 8up, 8uq, 8ur, 8us, 8ut, 8uu, 8uv, 8uw, 8ux, 8uy, 8uz, 8va, 8vb, 8vc, 8vd, 8ve, 8vf, 8vg, 8vh, 8vi, 8vj, 8vk, 8vl, 8vm, 8vn, 8vo, 8vp, 8vq, 8vr, 8vs, 8vt, 8vu, 8vv, 8vw, 8vx, 8vy, 8vz, 8wa, 8wb, 8wc, 8wd, 8we, 8wf, 8wg, 8wh, 8wi, 8wj, 8wk, 8wl, 8wm, 8wn, 8wo, 8wp, 8wq, 8wr, 8ws, 8wt, 8wu, 8wv, 8ww, 8wx, 8wy, 8wz, 8xa, 8xb, 8xc, 8xd, 8xe, 8xf, 8xg, 8xh, 8xi, 8xj, 8xk, 8xl, 8xm, 8xn, 8xo, 8xp, 8xq, 8xr, 8xs, 8xt, 8xu, 8xv, 8xw, 8xx, 8xy, 8xz, 8ya, 8yb, 8yc, 8yd, 8ye, 8yf, 8yg, 8yh, 8yi, 8yj, 8yk, 8yl, 8ym, 8yn, 8yo, 8yp, 8yq, 8yr, 8ys, 8yt, 8yu, 8yv, 8yw, 8yx, 8yy, 8yz, 8za, 8zb, 8zc, 8zd, 8ze, 8zf, 8zg, 8zh, 8zi, 8zj, 8zk, 8zl, 8zm, 8zn, 8zo, 8zp, 8zq, 8zr, 8zs, 8zt, 8zu, 8zv, 8zw, 8zx, 8zy, 8zz, 8aa, 8ab, 8ac, 8ad, 8ae, 8af, 8ag, 8ah, 8ai, 8aj, 8ak, 8al, 8am, 8an, 8ao, 8ap, 8aq, 8ar, 8as, 8at, 8au, 8av, 8aw, 8ax, 8ay, 8az, 8ba, 8bb, 8bc, 8bd, 8be, 8bf, 8bg, 8bh, 8bi, 8bj, 8bk, 8bl, 8bm, 8bn, 8bo, 8bp, 8bq, 8br, 8bs, 8bt, 8bu, 8bv, 8bw, 8bx, 8by, 8bz, 8ca, 8cb, 8cc, 8cd, 8ce, 8cf, 8cg, 8ch, 8ci, 8cj, 8ck, 8cl, 8cm, 8cn, 8co, 8cp, 8cq, 8cr, 8cs, 8ct, 8cu, 8cv, 8cw, 8cx, 8cy, 8cz, 8da, 8db, 8dc, 8dd, 8de, 8df, 8dg, 8dh, 8di, 8dj, 8dk, 8dl, 8dm, 8dn, 8do, 8dp, 8dq, 8dr, 8ds, 8dt, 8du, 8dv, 8dw, 8dx, 8dy, 8dz, 8ea, 8eb, 8ec, 8ed, 8ee, 8ef, 8eg, 8eh, 8ei, 8ej, 8ek, 8el, 8em, 8en, 8eo, 8ep, 8eq, 8er, 8es, 8et, 8eu, 8ev, 8ew, 8ex, 8ey, 8ez, 8fa, 8fb, 8fc, 8fd, 8fe, 8ff, 8fg, 8fh, 8fi, 8fj, 8fk, 8fl, 8fm, 8fn, 8fo, 8fp, 8fq, 8fr, 8fs, 8ft, 8fu, 8fv, 8fw, 8fx, 8fy, 8fz, 8ga, 8gb, 8gc, 8gd, 8ge, 8gf, 8gg, 8gh, 8gi, 8gj, 8gk, 8gl, 8gm, 8gn, 8go, 8gp, 8gq, 8gr, 8gs, 8gt, 8gu, 8gv, 8gw, 8gx, 8gy, 8gz, 8ha, 8hb, 8hc, 8hd, 8he, 8hf, 8hg, 8hh, 8hi, 8hj, 8hk, 8hl, 8hm, 8hn, 8ho, 8hp, 8hq, 8hr, 8hs, 8ht, 8hu, 8hv, 8hw, 8hx, 8hy, 8hz, 8ia, 8ib, 8ic, 8id, 8ie, 8if, 8ig, 8ih, 8ii, 8ij, 8ik, 8il, 8im, 8in, 8io, 8ip, 8iq, 8ir, 8is, 8it, 8iu, 8iv, 8iw, 8ix, 8iy, 8iz, 8ja, 8jb, 8jc, 8jd, 8je, 8jf, 8jg, 8jh, 8ji, 8jj, 8jk, 8jl, 8jm, 8jn, 8jo, 8jp, 8jq, 8jr, 8js, 8jt, 8ju, 8jv, 8jw, 8jx, 8jy, 8jz, 8ka, 8kb, 8kc, 8kd, 8ke, 8kf, 8kg, 8kh, 8ki, 8kj, 8kk, 8kl, 8km, 8kn, 8ko, 8kp, 8kq, 8kr, 8ks, 8kt, 8ku, 8kv, 8kw, 8kx, 8ky, 8kz, 8la, 8lb, 8lc, 8ld, 8le, 8lf, 8lg, 8lh, 8li, 8lj, 8lk, 8ll, 8lm, 8ln, 8lo, 8lp, 8lq, 8lr, 8ls, 8lt, 8lu, 8lv, 8lw, 8lx, 8ly, 8lz, 8ma, 8mb, 8mc, 8md, 8me, 8mf, 8mg, 8mh, 8mi, 8mj, 8mk, 8ml, 8mm, 8mn, 8mo, 8mp, 8mq, 8mr, 8ms, 8mt, 8mu, 8mv, 8mw, 8mx, 8my, 8mz, 8na, 8nb, 8nc, 8nd, 8ne, 8nf, 8ng, 8nh, 8ni, 8nj, 8nk, 8nl, 8nm, 8nn, 8no, 8np, 8nq, 8nr, 8ns, 8nt, 8nu, 8nv, 8nw, 8nx, 8ny, 8nz, 8oa, 8ob, 8oc, 8od, 8oe, 8of, 8og, 8oh, 8oi, 8oj, 8ok, 8ol, 8om, 8on, 8oo, 8op, 8oq, 8or, 8os, 8ot, 8ou, 8ov, 8ow, 8ox, 8oy, 8oz, 8pa, 8pb, 8pc, 8pd, 8pe, 8pf, 8pg, 8ph, 8pi, 8pj, 8pk, 8pl, 8pm, 8pn, 8po, 8pp, 8pq, 8pr, 8ps, 8pt, 8pu, 8pv, 8pw, 8px, 8py, 8pz, 8qa, 8qb, 8qc, 8qd, 8qe, 8qf, 8qg, 8qh, 8qi, 8qj, 8qk, 8ql, 8qm, 8qn, 8qo, 8qp, 8qq, 8qr, 8qs, 8qt, 8qu, 8qv, 8qw, 8qx, 8qy, 8qz, 8ra, 8rb, 8rc, 8rd, 8re, 8rf, 8rg, 8rh, 8ri, 8rj, 8rk, 8rl, 8rm, 8rn, 8ro, 8rp, 8rq, 8rr, 8rs, 8rt, 8ru, 8rv, 8rw, 8rx, 8ry, 8rz, 8sa, 8sb, 8sc, 8sd, 8se, 8sf, 8sg, 8sh, 8si, 8sj, 8sk, 8sl, 8sm, 8sn, 8so, 8sp, 8sq, 8sr, 8ss, 8st, 8su, 8sv, 8sw, 8sx, 8sy, 8sz, 8ta, 8tb, 8tc, 8td, 8te, 8tf, 8tg, 8th, 8ti, 8tj, 8tk, 8tl, 8tm, 8tn, 8to, 8tp, 8tq, 8tr, 8ts, 8tt, 8tu, 8tv, 8tw, 8tx, 8ty, 8tz, 8ua, 8ub, 8uc, 8ud, 8ue, 8uf, 8ug, 8uh, 8ui, 8uj, 8uk, 8ul, 8um, 8un, 8uo, 8up, 8uq, 8ur, 8us, 8ut, 8uu, 8uv, 8uw, 8ux, 8uy, 8uz, 8va, 8vb, 8vc, 8vd, 8ve, 8vf, 8vg, 8vh, 8vi, 8vj, 8vk, 8vl, 8vm, 8vn, 8vo, 8vp, 8vq, 8vr, 8vs, 8vt, 8vu, 8vv, 8vw, 8vx, 8vy, 8vz, 8wa, 8wb, 8wc, 8wd, 8we, 8wf, 8wg, 8wh, 8wi, 8wj, 8wk, 8wl, 8wm, 8wn, 8wo, 8wp, 8wq, 8wr, 8ws, 8wt, 8wu, 8wv, 8ww, 8wx, 8wy, 8wz, 8xa, 8xb, 8xc, 8xd, 8xe, 8xf, 8xg, 8xh, 8xi, 8xj, 8xk, 8xl, 8xm, 8xn, 8xo, 8xp, 8xq, 8xr, 8xs, 8xt, 8xu, 8xv, 8xw, 8xx, 8xy, 8xz, 8ya, 8yb, 8yc, 8yd, 8ye, 8yf, 8yg, 8yh, 8yi, 8yj, 8yk, 8yl, 8ym, 8yn, 8yo, 8yp, 8yq, 8yr, 8ys, 8yt, 8yu, 8yv, 8yw, 8yx, 8yy, 8yz, 8za, 8zb, 8zc, 8zd, 8ze, 8zf, 8zg, 8zh, 8zi, 8zj, 8zk, 8zl, 8zm, 8zn, 8zo, 8zp, 8zq, 8zr, 8zs, 8zt, 8zu, 8zv, 8zw, 8zx, 8zy, 8zz, 8aa, 8ab, 8ac, 8ad, 8ae, 8af, 8ag, 8ah, 8ai, 8aj, 8ak, 8al, 8am, 8an, 8ao, 8ap, 8aq, 8ar, 8as, 8at, 8au, 8av, 8aw, 8ax, 8ay, 8az, 8ba, 8bb, 8bc, 8bd, 8be, 8bf, 8bg, 8bh, 8bi, 8bj, 8bk, 8bl, 8bm, 8bn, 8bo, 8bp, 8bq, 8br, 8bs, 8bt, 8bu, 8bv, 8bw, 8bx, 8by, 8bz, 8ca, 8cb, 8cc, 8cd, 8ce, 8cf, 8cg, 8ch, 8ci, 8cj, 8ck, 8cl, 8cm, 8cn, 8co, 8cp, 8cq, 8cr, 8cs, 8ct, 8cu, 8cv, 8cw, 8cx, 8cy, 8cz, 8da, 8db, 8dc, 8dd, 8de, 8df, 8dg, 8dh, 8di, 8dj, 8dk, 8dl, 8dm, 8dn, 8do, 8dp, 8dq, 8dr, 8ds, 8dt, 8du, 8dv, 8dw, 8dx, 8dy, 8dz, 8ea, 8eb, 8ec, 8ed, 8ee, 8ef, 8eg, 8eh, 8ei, 8ej, 8ek, 8el, 8em, 8en, 8eo, 8ep, 8eq, 8er, 8es, 8et, 8eu, 8ev, 8ew, 8ex, 8ey, 8ez, 8fa, 8fb, 8fc, 8fd, 8fe, 8ff, 8fg, 8fh, 8fi, 8fj, 8fk, 8fl, 8fm, 8fn, 8fo, 8fp, 8fq, 8fr, 8fs, 8ft, 8fu, 8fv, 8fw, 8fx, 8fy, 8fz, 8ga, 8gb, 8gc, 8gd, 8ge, 8gf, 8gg, 8gh, 8gi, 8gj, 8gk, 8gl, 8gm, 8gn, 8go, 8gp, 8gq, 8gr, 8gs, 8gt, 8gu, 8gv, 8gw, 8gx, 8gy, 8gz, 8ha, 8hb, 8hc, 8hd, 8he, 8hf, 8hg, 8hh, 8hi, 8hj, 8hk, 8hl, 8hm, 8hn, 8ho, 8hp, 8hq, 8hr, 8hs, 8ht, 8hu, 8hv, 8hw, 8hx, 8hy, 8hz, 8ia, 8ib, 8ic, 8id, 8ie, 8if, 8ig, 8ih, 8ii, 8ij, 8ik, 8il, 8im, 8in, 8io, 8ip, 8iq, 8ir, 8is, 8it, 8iu, 8iv, 8iw, 8ix, 8iy, 8iz, 8ja, 8jb, 8jc, 8jd, 8je, 8jf, 8jg, 8jh, 8ji, 8jj, 8jk, 8jl, 8jm, 8jn, 8jo, 8jp, 8jq, 8jr, 8js, 8jt, 8ju, 8jv, 8jw, 8jx, 8jy, 8jz, 8ka, 8kb, 8kc, 8kd, 8ke, 8kf, 8kg, 8kh, 8ki, 8kj, 8kk, 8kl, 8km, 8kn, 8ko, 8kp, 8kq, 8kr, 8ks, 8kt, 8ku, 8kv, 8kw, 8kx, 8ky, 8kz, 8la, 8lb, 8lc, 8ld, 8le, 8lf, 8lg, 8lh, 8li, 8lj, 8lk, 8ll, 8lm, 8ln, 8lo, 8lp, 8lq, 8lr, 8ls, 8lt, 8lu, 8lv, 8lw, 8lx, 8ly, 8lz, 8ma, 8mb, 8mc, 8md, 8me, 8mf, 8mg, 8mh, 8mi, 8mj, 8mk, 8ml, 8mm, 8mn, 8mo, 8mp, 8mq, 8mr, 8ms, 8mt, 8mu, 8mv, 8mw, 8mx, 8my, 8mz, 8na, 8nb, 8nc, 8nd, 8ne, 8nf, 8ng, 8nh, 8ni, 8nj, 8nk, 8nl, 8nm, 8nn, 8no, 8np, 8nq, 8nr, 8ns, 8nt, 8nu, 8nv, 8nw, 8nx, 8ny, 8nz, 8oa, 8ob, 8oc, 8od, 8oe, 8of, 8og, 8oh, 8oi, 8oj, 8ok, 8ol, 8om, 8on, 8oo, 8op, 8oq, 8or, 8os, 8ot, 8ou, 8ov, 8ow, 8ox, 8oy, 8oz, 8pa, 8pb, 8pc, 8pd, 8pe, 8pf, 8pg, 8ph, 8pi, 8pj, 8pk, 8pl, 8pm, 8pn, 8po, 8pp, 8pq, 8pr, 8ps, 8pt, 8pu, 8pv, 8pw, 8px, 8py, 8pz, 8qa, 8qb, 8qc, 8qd, 8qe, 8qf, 8qg, 8qh, 8qi, 8qj, 8qk, 8ql, 8qm, 8qn, 8qo, 8qp, 8qq, 8qr, 8qs, 8qt, 8qu, 8qv, 8qw, 8qx, 8qy, 8qz, 8ra, 8rb, 8rc, 8rd, 8re, 8rf, 8rg, 8rh, 8ri, 8rj, 8rk, 8rl, 8rm, 8rn, 8ro, 8rp, 8rq, 8rr, 8rs, 8rt, 8ru, 8rv, 8rw, 8rx, 8ry, 8rz, 8sa, 8sb, 8sc, 8sd, 8se, 8sf, 8sg, 8sh, 8si, 8sj, 8sk, 8sl, 8sm, 8sn, 8so, 8sp, 8sq, 8sr, 8ss, 8st, 8su, 8sv, 8sw, 8sx, 8sy, 8sz, 8ta, 8tb, 8tc, 8td, 8te, 8tf, 8tg, 8th, 8ti, 8tj, 8tk, 8tl, 8tm, 8tn, 8to, 8tp, 8tq, 8tr, 8ts, 8tt, 8tu, 8tv, 8tw, 8tx, 8ty, 8tz, 8ua, 8ub, 8uc, 8ud, 8ue, 8uf, 8ug, 8uh, 8ui, 8uj, 8uk, 8ul, 8um, 8un, 8uo, 8up, 8uq, 8ur, 8us, 8ut, 8uu, 8uv, 8uw, 8ux, 8uy, 8uz, 8va, 8vb, 8vc, 8vd, 8ve, 8vf, 8vg, 8vh, 8vi, 8vj, 8vk, 8vl, 8vm, 8vn, 8vo, 8vp, 8vq, 8vr, 8vs, 8vt, 8vu, 8vv, 8vw, 8vx, 8vy, 8vz, 8wa, 8wb, 8wc, 8wd, 8we, 8wf, 8wg, 8wh, 8wi, 8wj, 8wk, 8wl, 8wm, 8wn, 8wo, 8wp, 8wq, 8wr, 8ws, 8wt, 8wu, 8wv, 8ww, 8wx, 8wy, 8wz, 8xa, 8xb, 8xc, 8xd, 8xe, 8xf, 8xg, 8xh, 8xi, 8xj, 8xk, 8xl, 8xm, 8xn, 8xo, 8xp, 8xq, 8xr, 8xs, 8xt, 8xu, 8xv, 8xw, 8xx, 8xy, 8xz, 8ya, 8yb, 8yc, 8yd, 8ye, 8yf, 8yg, 8yh, 8yi, 8yj, 8yk, 8yl, 8ym, 8yn, 8yo, 8yp, 8yq, 8yr, 8ys, 8yt, 8yu, 8yv, 8yw, 8yx, 8yy, 8yz, 8za, 8zb, 8zc, 8zd, 8ze, 8zf, 8zg, 8zh, 8zi, 8zj, 8zk, 8zl, 8zm, 8zn, 8zo, 8zp, 8zq, 8zr, 8zs, 8zt, 8zu, 8zv, 8zw, 8zx, 8zy, 8zz, 8aa, 8ab, 8ac, 8ad, 8ae, 8af, 8ag, 8ah, 8ai, 8aj, 8ak, 8al, 8am, 8an, 8ao, 8ap, 8aq, 8ar, 8as, 8at, 8au, 8av, 8aw, 8ax, 8ay, 8az, 8ba, 8bb, 8bc, 8bd, 8be, 8bf, 8bg, 8bh, 8bi, 8bj, 8bk, 8bl, 8bm, 8bn, 8bo, 8bp, 8bq, 8br, 8bs, 8bt, 8bu, 8bv, 8bw, 8bx, 8by, 8bz, 8ca, 8cb, 8cc, 8cd, 8ce, 8cf, 8cg, 8ch, 8ci, 8cj, 8ck, 8cl, 8cm, 8cn, 8co, 8cp, 8cq, 8cr, 8cs, 8ct, 8cu, 8cv, 8cw, 8cx, 8cy, 8cz, 8da, 8db, 8dc, 8dd, 8de, 8df, 8dg, 8dh, 8di, 8dj, 8dk, 8dl, 8dm, 8dn, 8do, 8dp, 8dq, 8dr, 8ds, 8dt, 8du, 8dv, 8dw, 8dx, 8dy, 8dz, 8ea, 8eb, 8ec, 8ed, 8ee, 8ef, 8eg, 8eh, 8ei, 8ej, 8ek, 8el, 8em, 8en, 8eo, 8ep, 8eq, 8er, 8es, 8et, 8eu, 8ev, 8ew, 8ex, 8ey, 8ez, 8fa, 8fb, 8fc, 8fd, 8fe, 8ff, 8fg, 8fh, 8fi, 8fj, 8fk, 8fl, 8fm, 8fn, 8fo, 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8nh, 8ni, 8nj, 8nk, 8nl, 8nm, 8nn, 8no, 8np, 8nq, 8nr, 8ns, 8nt, 8nu, 8nv, 8nw, 8nx, 8ny, 8nz, 8oa, 8ob, 8oc, 8od, 8oe, 8of, 8og, 8oh, 8oi, 8oj, 8ok, 8ol, 8om, 8on, 8oo, 8op, 8oq, 8or, 8os, 8ot, 8ou, 8ov, 8ow, 8ox, 8oy, 8oz, 8pa, 8pb, 8pc, 8pd, 8pe, 8pf, 8pg, 8ph, 8pi, 8pj, 8pk, 8pl, 8pm, 8pn, 8po, 8pp, 8pq, 8pr, 8ps, 8pt, 8pu, 8pv, 8pw, 8px, 8py, 8pz, 8qa, 8qb, 8qc, 8qd, 8qe, 8qf, 8qg, 8qh, 8qi, 8qj, 8qk, 8ql, 8qm, 8qn, 8qo, 8qp, 8qq, 8qr, 8qs, 8qt, 8qu, 8qv, 8qw, 8qx, 8qy, 8qz, 8ra, 8rb, 8rc, 8rd, 8re, 8rf, 8rg, 8rh, 8ri, 8rj, 8rk, 8rl, 8rm, 8rn,

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

Here comes Fall

Though we have had a fairly mild Summer, I am ready for fall. The last few weeks have shown some intense weather across Michigan, and I pray that everyone has stayed as safe as possible and have only suffered minimal if any damage. With Fall on the horizon also means convention season is soon upon us. That means that by October 1st all resolutions, and credentials are due to the State Secretary. Make sure your reports are back to the respective Department Directors by their due date.

State Session

I look forward to seeing all of the regulars and am hopeful to see some we haven't seen in years. Or better yet some of the new members that are coming to better understand the organization and to be a part of our 150th celebration continuance.

National Session

In November we will be traveling to Niagara Falls, NY for the National Grange Convention. For those able to travel through Canada it is a very short trip. Next year we will be co-hosting with our surrounding states in the Great state of Iowa. So stay tuned to requests of assistance with our duties assigned to us to host.

Fundraising

During the convention we will be discussing the idea of bringing back the fundraising committee.

Contest Entries

In the past several years we have been lacking the number of entries we have had in prior years, it would be great to see those numbers return. If you have ideas for categories that you would like to see please pass that information along to the respective department directors.

Delegates

As a reminder that in order for your Granges delegates to be seated at the convention your dues must be paid in full through the third quarter, there are a couple Granges in arrears and those Granges will be getting charged a late fee, in accordance with the By-Laws



We are still selling these pins for \$5.00 each. If you are interested in one or two or more, please contact the State Grange office. If they can easily be delivered to you they will be...if not there will also be a charge for postage.

Get yours now. We only celebrate 150 years once in our lifetime. Let's clear these pins out so we don't have to store them.

MSG EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

To Michigan Grangers

The Executive Committee is still reaching out to the Grange Members for some ideas on some type of money making projects that have worked *Fundraising* for your Granges. The State Grange is in need of ways to increase their income.

We do still have our **Silent Auction at our State Convention** but are looking for more ways to increase the income. If you have ideas please reach out to the Executive Committee members, Tom Smith 269-858-8305, Dale Moore 989-430-6269 or Barbara Johnston 517-442-4555 or bring them to the convention.

We are asking you to please bring items for the Silent Auction at the State Convention October 19, 20, and 21 at the Lenawee County Fairgrounds in Adrian and be prepared to bid and big again.

Thank you, The Executive Committee

Support the Deaf Ecosystem!

Written by Melinda Acton

At DeafandHOH, we would like to support the Deaf Ecosystem which is created by investing and supporting deaf businesses to help them grow and thrive. Many deaf small-owned businesses offer a variety of incredible gifts for purchase. If you are interested in getting a gift for friends or family or want to browse the products, we have made a list for you!

Remember to purchase these gifts for their upcoming birthdays, graduations, Valentine's Day, Mother's Day, Christmas, etc.

Here is a concise list of several deaf businesses to check out:

- ◇ **Sisters in Style** —this is a clothing boutique in Maryland and Indiana run by deaf women and owned by a deaf business owner. They usually host a live video to display their current collections, such as Holiday clothing, Valentine's Day gifts, etc. Check them out at www.shopsisterinstyle.com
- ◇ **Deaf Ecosystem Directory:** ConvoRelay has developed a directory of Deaf-created products and services. There are many gifts to select from, such as art, apparel, jewelry, books, services, self-care, and last-minute gift cards, which can be found at <https://convorelay.com/shopdeaf/>.



STUDLEY GRANGE #1174 recently presented Dale Moore with a 60 Year Membership Seal and Ted and Helen Mudd with 55 year seals. Congratulations!!

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

Another Grange year is almost over. Which means summer is almost over. Time for the annual reports to the Michigan State Grange! Hopefully you have completed your membership report. It needs to be at my house by Sunday, September 10 or the September 11th due to the 10th being Sunday.

I hope Granges enjoyed the **Sister Grange Program**. I look forward to receiving reports and reading about the visits.

The new membership year has already started. The membership year runs July 1 to June 30. Now is the time to start planning a membership program for the upcoming year.

Enjoy the remaining days of summer! I hope to see many of you at state session in Adrian in October!

St. Joseph/Cass/Kalamazoo Pomona #4

Collects puzzles and books for VA Hospital

Giving gladly is a great joy for good Grangers! In past months the St. Joseph/Cass/Kalamazoo Pomona



Grange #4 has done collections of articles which are given to a agency or group to assist others in need.

We have collected foods, mittens, personal care items, used eyeglasses, plastic bread wrappers and more! Our latest effort was a collection of jigsaw puzzles and books. These will be given

to the V.A. Hospital in Battle Creek for their use.

Our members, though small in numbers really answered the call wit this effort. 46 jigsaw puzzles and 54 books were given. Eight members were present at our meeting and very pleased wit the response. Three out of our five local Granges took part.

The next collection will be school supplies which will be given to the Blossom Land Learning Center

Reported by Tom Smith, Lecturer

St. Joseph/Cass/Kalamazoo Pomona #4

State Grange Session is soon!**Are your contest entries completed or nearly done?**

I hope that everyone has been taking photographs all year for the “Farm Crops Scene”, “People“, “Animals”, and “Gardens” classes, as well as at your “County fair” to enter into the photography contest. I am looking forward to your entries in the photography contest at State Grange. We had the largest number of photography entries in the recent years at 64 last year – hoping to have even more this year.

For those not photography-minded, consider entering the art contest in one of the following classes: two-dimensional items (flat pieces) or three-dimensional objects. Three-dimensional art objects could be almost anything. A few examples are ceramics, paper 3-dimensional objects, or perhaps jewelry.

For those who enjoy writing, the topic is “Past vs. Today”. Examples of your entry might include technology – what it was like 20 years ago compared to today, or it might be what cars were like in the past vs. today - any topic is good that compares something in the past to what that “something” is like in 2023. This contest has not had many entries recently. I hope to see at least five to ten entries this year. Entries only need to be 400 -600 words, which is only about 1 – 2 pages. This article is nearly 600 words as a guide.

Hand-Crafted Arts classes were previously in the Family Activities classes. Note that the classes are now by what medium the item is constructed with as opposed to what technique was used to create it. An example might be that an entrant has a crocheted item they want to enter. Instead of the class being “Crocheted items”, the article would be entered in Class A (Yarn) or perhaps Class D (thread).

New this year is “Jig Saw Puzzles”. This is meant to be a fun display to see what kinds of puzzles Michigan Grangers and friends have put together in the past year. Each entrant’s display should include one to three photos of the completed puzzle(s) mounted on card stock. For each photo displayed, a description that may include number of pieces, who participated in the puzzle, and an additional short comment about complexity of puzzle should be included in the display. These displays will not be judged, but will receive participant ribbon.

All contests are open to Grangers and Grange friends. In addition, contests are open to children through age fourteen.

See the Program Booklet for details for all contests. All entries (except home-made food) must be delivered to the state session by 9 am on Friday morning for display and judging. The food contest will be judged Thursday evening, so must be delivered no later than 5 pm. All entries must be labelled and each entrant should have an entry form that lists their items in the Lecturer’s/Family Activities contests. Your Lecturer should have these labels, but I will have extras at session. If you prefer to e-mail me or call, I could mail or e-mail the forms.

Special reminder to Lecturer’s: Your annual report forms are due to me by September 10, or as soon thereafter as possible. Certificates will be awarded at State Grange for completed annual reports showing Lecturer activity. I have received only about 5 annual reports so far, so hopefully this reminds Lecturers to submit the report via mail.

See you in Adrian! Can’t wait to see the talents of Michigan Grangers, Granger friends and children.



Burns Grange #160
Shiawassee County will Celebrate 150 Years
September 16, 2023

On September 16th, 2023, Burns Grange #160 will celebrate 150 years of service to the Shiawassee County community. A program is planned from 1-4 on that day.

- 1:00 p.m. — open house and refreshments
- 2:00 p.m. — Rededication of the Grange Hall
- 2:30 p.m.— Program in upper hall by Grange Members and friends.

Everyone is invited to attend and help us celebrate these past 150 years and what’s to come.

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



Fall is right around the corner. Pumpkin Spice Everything has filled our stores. Colored leaves and pumpkins will be here before we know it.

Hopefully you have completed your Community Service Report or are working on completing it. If you were not able to complete a Community Service booklet this year, you can still fill out the Community Service Summary Report Form and submit it as your Community Service Report without a booklet.

All nominations for the VIP Award, Law Enforcement Officer, Firefighter/EMT and Teacher of the Year nominees, along with your Community Service Report are due to me by September 10th or the 11th due to the 10th being on a Sunday. You may mail all your nominations and your Community Service Report in the same package.

I have tried to pass along information in previous Grange Newsletters as a guide and have mailed out your registration form along with the guidelines for your report. Your Community Service letter and

Nominations forms have also been posted on the Michigan Grange website. If you have any questions at all please give me a call or email me.

Remember your Community Service Report and

Award Nominations need to be to me in Battle Creek on or before September 10th, 2023 (Monday the 11th since the 10th falls on Sunday) to be judged.

With the start the new Grange calendar year, let's try and find a new Community Service Project to do this year.

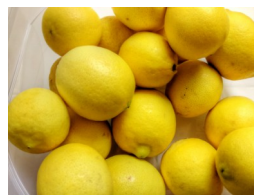
As you prepare for State Grange, remember to bring your Sesquicentennial Display Board of your Community Services and/or the History of your Grange, that you made for the Sesquicentennial Gala,

to State Convention in Adrian, Michigan. We will be displaying the boards at State Session along with other items for all to see.

Enjoy the remaining days of summer, and I'll see you at the Michigan State Grange convention.

A Few Things to Think About

- How can a slim chance and a fat chance be the same?
- While a wise man and a wise guy are opposite?
- You have to marvel at the unique lunacy of a language in which your house can burn up as it burns down.
- You fill in a form by filling it out.
- An alarm goes off by going on.
- There is no egg in eggplant.
- Or ham in hamburger.
- Neither apple nor pine in pineapple.
- English muffins weren't invented in England.
- Or French fries in France.
- Boxing rings are square.
- Guinea pig is neither from Guinea nor is it a pig.
- Writers write but fingers don't fing and grocers don't groce and hammers don't ham.
- If the plural of tooth is teeth, why isn't the plural of booth, beeth?
- One goose, two geese. So one moose, two meese? One index two indices?
- If teachers taught, why didn't preachers praught?
- If a vegetarian eats vegetables, what does a humanitarian eat?
- Only in our language do people recite at a play and play at a recital.
- Ship by truck and send cargo by ship.
- Have noses that run and feet that smell.



"You can either see your life as filled with sour lemons that make your eyes water or filled with zest and energy of the refreshing juice that awakens your taste buds — how you see life is your choice"

AGRICULTURE

County Fairs

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

Wow! August is just about over as I write this article and another County Fair season is just about over for my area. The weather is up and down with temperatures and humidity, but it wouldn't be summer and fair season without that type of weather! The Berrien County Youth Fair just finished on Aug 19th and we had almost perfect weather, besides 2 days that had some rain. But once it stopped raining, it was great, and the people flocked to the grounds. There are only a few more fairs left in Michigan now with one of them being the St. Joseph County Grange Fair in Centreville and I believe the last one in Michigan being the Hillsdale County Fair.

We got our garden in around Memorial Day weekend this year, planting zucchini, tomatoes and a few jalapeno peppers. We had to put butternut squash in by seeds as we couldn't find anyone that had plants in our area. I am hoping we will have a few squash to enter in the Ag Department classes. We had a volunteer Sunflower grow on the edge of the garden, so we will have to see if any of the heads will be able to hold on until State Session in October. We also have seen a few volunteer potato plants as well. Maybe we will have some potatoes to enter as well. I hope others have had better luck and will have lots of items to enter in this year's classes. If there is a class suggestion for the 2024 State Session that you would like to share with me, please do. I am always up for making changes if it works with when our State Session is held.

As we move into the harvest season, please keep in mind that we will once again be sharing the roads with very large sized farm equipment. I know we are all in a hurry to get where we are going but we need to keep in mind that those big pieces of equipment help to put food on our families' tables.

I look forward to seeing everyone that will be coming to the Michigan State Grange Convention that is being held in late October at the Lenawee County Fairgrounds in Adrian. I hope everyone has been working on entries for the Departments so we have a great Grange Contest year!

See you at State Session!!



FOUNDATION

Memorials

Naomi Fletcher, President 14684 25.75 Road, Rapid City, MI 49878
Tel: 906-399-2815 Naomi.fletcher54@gmail.com

On behalf of the Michigan State Grange Foundation, I would like to thank you all for your generous contributions in memory of members past. Your donations will serve the Foundation in various ways, including Deaf Awareness and student education.

The Foundation's purpose is to support education, healthcare and charitable entities that meet the standards of the Foundation. Funds are distributed wisely with perpetuity in mind, either through interest earned, or connections made. We are still working to determine the fate of the Battle Creek Museum Donation and the John Woodman Memorial fund. More information will be available at state session

MSG FOUNDATION,
Kathryn Strouse, Sec/Treas.
P.O. Box 84
North Star, MI 48862

Please accept my donation to help support the Mission of the Michigan State Grange Foundation.

\$ _____

In Memory of: _____ In Memory

_____ Birthday

_____ Anniversary

Address _____

City/State _____ Zip _____ Deceased

Donations made by: _____ Other

Thank you for your Support!

“If life wanted to hand me lemons,
I was not only going to make
lemonade,
But I'd use the zest for
cookies,
Plant seeds for future fruit and
Turn the rind into compost to
grow flowers,
All the while giving thanks for lemons.”



ANNUAL SESSION 2023 TENTATIVE SCHEDULE (Subject to change)

Thursday, October 19

1:00 p.m. Registration
2:00 p.m. Display Room Opens for Entries
4:00 p.m. Committee Meetings
6:00 p.m. Baking Contest Judging
7:00 p.m. Welcome
Baking Contest Auction
Public Speaking Contest
State Officers/Department Directors Introductions
State Officer Practice

Friday, October 20

7:30 a.m. Registration
9:00 a.m. Open 150th Annual Session in 6th Degree
9:15 a.m. Lower to 4th Degree – Admit 4th Degree Members
Flag Presentation
Roll Call of Officers
Roll Call of Delegates
Welcome by City Officials
Executive Committee Response
Partial Report – Credentials Committee
Adopt Order of Business
9:30 a.m. Lecturer, Family Activities, Junior, Deaf Awareness Contest Judging
10:00 a.m. Report of Executive Committee
Financial Reports
Proposed Budget
Masters Address
Session Committee Reports
12:00 p.m. Lunch Break
12:45 p.m. Foundation Meeting

3:00 p.m. Budget Approval
Election
Speaker: TBA
Session Committee Reports
6:00 p.m. Awards Dinner
7:30 p.m. Call to Order Memorial Service
Session Committee Reports
Close in 4th Degree
6th Degree Practice
5th Degree Practice
Session Committee Meetings

Saturday, October 21

8:30 a.m. Open with 5th Degree
6th Degree
Feast Table
Roll Call of Officers
Session Committee Reports
12:00 p.m. Lunch Break
1:30 p.m. Call to Order
Roll Call of Officers
Adoption of Friday's Minutes
Unfinished Business
Installation of Officers
4:00 p.m. Closing of 150th Annual Session
7:30 p.m. Annual Banquet
VIP Announcement
50/50 Raffle

