



# MICHIGAN GRANGE NEWS



Volume XXI NO. 4

USPS 345-580

JULY-AUGUST, 2015

## MICHIGAN SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF 2015 GRADUATION



*The 2015 Graduating Class of Michigan School for the Deaf consisted of fifteen graduates this year performing their Class Song.... "Time of our Lives" by Tyrone Wells  
Class Flower: Carnations and Roses      Class Colors: Green and Blue  
Class Motto: "We came together as strangers but we leave as eternal friends!"*

**ALL SECRETARIES:** Please send a complete list of members, addresses, tel. #, email addresses to the MSG office. ASAP!

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Upcoming Annual Convention	MSD Graduation	Health Tips	THANK YOU!	Rain: Take a Break	Midwest Youth Conference



# Michigan Grange News

(USPS 345-580)

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Michigan Grange News is published bi-monthly for the members of the Michigan State Grange.

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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

- July 4      INDEPENDENCE DAY**
  
- July 4      HOME GRANGE 4TH  
              OF JULY PARADE  
              11:00 A.M.**
  
- July 31,    YOUTH/YOUNG  
August 1    ADULTS & JUNIOR  
& 2         CAMP — OCEANA  
              CENTER GRANGE**
  
- August 10   MSG EXECUTIVE  
               COMMITTEE  
               MEETING**
  
- Sept. 10    MSG Reports due!**

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

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6 issues per year, bi-monthly  
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## Chaplain

## See God's Grace

Kathryn Strouse, Chaplain      P.O. Box 84, North Star, MI 48862  
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Summer has arrived. And so has the heat and the storms. I pray that all of you are safe and able to go on with your lives.

I needed some uplifting time and found that I just had to drive around. Yes, gas is not really cheap, much cheaper than a year ago, but still costly when it goes into a big SUV. But I need to open my car windows, turn on the Christian radio station and look at God's handy work. Boy, did he show off for me.

I traveled down back country roads that were not paved and had the sounds of birds singing, flies flying through my windows, the wind stroking my face and the deer eating in the fields. I saw mothers feeding their young, deer standing in the road or beside the road watching me and checking me out like I was checking them out. I saw crops rising out of the earth that they had been planted in and large trees with new leaves on them. I saw tall pine trees waving their tops in the air. Some clouds in the bright blue sky and a sun that was on its way to the edge of the earth.

A peace came over me during this time and I was able to forget the rush and hurry of the world outside of my country area. I was able to forget the pain I have had because of the shootings, deaths and fights between loved ones. I was able to look with new eyes at the wonders around me. The little chipmunk that ran across the road in front of me. The little bunny that was scared of my car and the sound it made. Of the fawn that continued to nurse even though I was driving close by. All God's wonders.

I was able to return to the rush of people driving through orange cones on the road. I was able to return to an area that people were cussing out each other. I was able hear about people having problems not just here but all over the world because I knew that God's wonder was just down the road and still in me.

I pray for you that you might also be able to find this quiet spot in your life and use it. Open your eyes and see God's grace.

### In Memory of



**Anita Mudd**  
*Wife of the "late" past*  
**Michigan State Grange Executive Committee**  
*Member: Carl Mudd*

Anita was a member of the Studley Grange in Midland.

She was 93 years old and passed away on Friday, May 29th. On June 1, 1941 she married Carl R. Mudd in Midland and he preceded her in death on April 13, 1990. Anita was a very warm and giving woman, always thinking of the other person. She was also a member of the Homer United Methodist Church and the Ladies Circle.

She is survived by her sons Mitchell Mudd, Kelly Joe (Janet) Mudd and daughter Peggi (Scott) Woodby all of Midland. Five grandsons and two great grandchildren also survive her along with three brothers and four sisters. Funeral services were held on Tuesday, June 2nd with burial in Mid-

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

**CONVENTION**

First I want to say can you believe we are half way through the year already? Seems like just yesterday we were blowing snow and dealing with the freezing cold temperatures. Funny how time flies when you get older.

In just three short months we will once again be gathering together to set forth the legislative policy of the Michigan State Grange for the next year. Now, over the last few years I have heard members say how the way we do things is stupid, or needs to be changed, that they are so outdated; however, I have yet to see resolutions presented to the delegate body requesting such things be changed. Also, I have not seen the members that want the different things changed coming to the convention or their respective Granges being represented at the convention to voice their opinion on changing the way the business of the Michigan State Grange operates. One detail I find myself constantly reminding our members is that we are a GRASS ROOTS ORGANIZATION!! Change requests in the form of resolutions have to be brought forth from the lowest levels of the Grange before the upper levels can make the changes. We are not the Federal or State Government; we do not make the changes and then tell the states or the local municipalities how they are going to operate.

October 15-18 we will be converging once again on the city of Adrian, in Lenawee County for the location of our Convention. The meetings will be held at the community center of the Fairgrounds, details for the rest of the functions are still in the process of being worked out. I look forward to having more representatives from more Granges this year than we have had the last few years. It seems that over the last couple years our number of members in attendance is down and the number of Granges being represented is down. I hope this is the year we turn that around. We are looking into having some entertainment from the local home school band that is renting a former Grange hall in Lenawee County, as well as a representative from the Rover pipeline project to discuss the benefits of the pipeline coming through parts of South East Michigan.

**ELECTIONS**

By now most of your Granges that have elections this year should be completed. I encourage you to get your officer and chairman list completed and returned to the State Secretary so that the proper changes can be made to the next Roster. I also encourage you to include your meeting times and locations on your list so that it may also be changed or included in the Roster.

**TOUCHY SUBJECT**

Recently the Supreme Court of the United States has made a ruling in regards to same sex marriage. I have read many, many comments on Facebook in regards to this subject, all from different points of view. I am merely reminding those of our members that are the Admins on Grange supported pages that we as an organization do not have policy regarding this topic and therefore we do not place personal opinions on Grange supported pages. This also applies to the potential banning of the Rebel Flag.

Enjoy your summer and be safe

Until next time.....



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



**Tiffany Cordell**

The Graduation ceremony at the Michigan School for the Deaf was on Thursday, June 4th. Peggy Johnston, Sharon Popler, Dale Moore and my husband Phil joined me at the ceremony. I had the privilege of presenting the \$500.00 scholarship to the Valedictorian, Tiffany Cordell. This award is presented to an outstanding student who will be going on to higher education.

Tiffany had spent the last 4 years at the school. She was a very active girl. She was the Senior Class Treasurer. She was involved in the Singing Hands, on the Varsity Track team, competed in Field Day which involved the Elementary, Middle School, and High

School students along with the staff and alumni. She was a staff member of the Michigan Mirror Yearbook. This yearbook has received honors which is quite an accomplishment. I received a yearbook and it is amazing on what is put into it. (I will bring it to the Michigan State Grange session for everyone to look at). In the Mock Election she was voted the Most Spirited.

Some of the scholarships and certificates she received, besides ours, was a \$100.00 scholarship in the Cathy



**Tiffany signing her Valedictorian Speech**

Cottrell Award. This award is presented to a graduate who is going onto higher education in the accounting or computer field. In the Quota Club of Flint she received a \$1000.00 scholarship. This scholarship is to be used towards college tuition and/or expenses for a student with outstanding citizenship, a positive outlook on life and strives to be the best they can be. This is given to a student with a high GPA during high school and demonstrates leadership qualities. The Earl Jones Award is presented to the Valedictorian of the Class of 2015. This represents academic excellence and is determined by the highest cumulative GPA while attending Michigan School for the Deaf from 9th-12th grades.

She also received a 1 year free membership in the Michigan Deaf Association.

She said her biggest role model was her mother. She was always there for me 24/7 no matter what. She will be attending Macomb Community College for accounting for 4 years. We wish her the best!



**Luanna Swainston, presenting scholarship to Tiffany**



**Mark Ramirez giving the Commencement Speech.**

The Commencement Guests were Michael P. Flanagan, the State Superintendent and Pamela Pugh Smith from the State Board of Education. Mark Ramirez who is the Director of Youth Leadership Camp was the Commencement Speaker.

The 15 graduation seniors signed their Class Song "Times of Our Lives". What an amazing presentation. Their Class Motto says it all — "We came together as strangers, but we leave as eternal friends!"

Of the 15 graduating seniors, 5 were involved in our Adopt-a-child program at Christmas time. It was great to see them graduate too!

**Benefits of Cucumbers**

1. Relieves joint pain (arthritis/gout)
2. Reduces Cholesterol
3. Aids in Weight loss
4. Promotes Digestion
5. Prevents Headaches
6. Fights Cancer
7. Rehydrates & Re-mineralizes the body
8. High silica content for silky hair
9. Cures Diabetes



**Benefits of Strawberries**

- ◆ 1 cup contains 21% manganese
- ◆ 1 cup = 43 calories
- ◆ Red color is from phenol anthocyanin anti-inflammatory
- ◆ Inhibits COX enzyme
- ◆ Promotes eye health
- ◆ Boosts immune system
- ◆ Defends against cataracts & muscular degeneration
- ◆ High in Vitamin C
- ◆ Aids in bone health
- ◆ Ellagic acid prevents collagen destruction —aka wrinkles
- ◆ Promotes pre-natal health
- ◆ Improves ulcerative colitis & Crohn’s disease
- ◆ Aids in weight management
- ◆ Helps to reduce high cholesterol
- ◆ Helps reduce oxidative damage.
- ◆ Helps regulate blood pressure
- ◆ Lessens cellular inflammation
- ◆ Enhances cognitive function
- ◆ Defends against cancer cells



**Important Health Tips**

- ◆ Don’t take your medicine with cold water.
- ◆ Don’t eat heavy meals after 5 p.m.
- ◆ Drink more water in morning, less at night.
- ◆ Best sleeping time is 10 p.m.to 4 a.m.
- ◆ Don’t lie down immediately after taking meal.
- ◆ Answer phone calls from left ear.
- ◆ When phone’s battery is low to last bar, don’t answer the call because the radiation is 1000 times stronger.

**Best Foods for Perfect Skin**

- ◆ Almonds: Almonds are seeds not nuts and they are stuffed with Vitamin E. Acts like an antioxidant that helps protect skin cells from UV lights.
- ◆ Carrots: Think of them as Orange wonder wands, contains Vitamin A. Good for clearing up breakouts. Helps prevent the overproduction of cells in skins outer layer.
- ◆ Dark Chocolates: It’s a medicine so of course you need it. Contains antioxidants which reduces roughness in the skin and protect against sun damage.
- ◆ Green Tea: When its hot, the bionic brew releases catechins, a type of antioxidants with proven anti-cancer properties. Helps prevent skin cancer.
- ◆ Tomatoes: Cook them down and these plump little beauties can save your skin. Lycopene, Photochemical makes it red, helps eliminate skin-aging free radicals caused by UV Rays.

**Health Tips — Super Fruits**

What are they? Why do we call them so? Look at the list below and you will find out.

- ◆ Kiwi: Tiny but Mighty! It is a good source of Potassium, magnesium, Vitamin # and fiber. It’s Vitamin C content is twice that of an orange.
- ◆ Apple: An apple a day keeps the doctor away. Although an apple has low Vitamin C content, it has antioxidants and flavonoids which enhance the activity of Vitamin C thereby helping to lower the risk of colon cancer, heart attack and stroke.
- ◆ Orange: The sweetest Medicine. Taking 2 to 4 oranges a day may help keep colds away, lower cholesterol, prevent and dissolve kidney stones, as well as lessen the risk of colon cancer.
- ◆ Watermelon: The coolest thirst quencher, 92% of it is water, but it boosts our immune system and fights cancer. It also contains Vitamin C and Potassium.
- ◆ Guava and Papaya: High Vitamin C content. Guava is also high in fiber which helps to prevent constipation. Papaya is rich in carotene which is good for your eyes.

My article for the last Grange paper had been written before the GLGL Conference in April, so I'd like to tell everyone that we had a really nice turnout for it. It was in Vicksburg, Michigan this year and we had a Wonderful group of Michigan Grangers attend!!! We learned about community service projects and how important they are. Social Media is an up and coming topic for the Grange. I did a power point on the proper way of doing the 4th Degree. One of the workshops was on Membership and how we all need to work on getting more members. On Saturday we had a little bit of a break, several went outside and explored the camp grounds, while others had a great time visiting with each other. We had a puzzle table and many helped put the puzzle together over the weekend. ( This is an every year thing that's done. A great way to get people talking and laughing). I'd like to Thank all who attend and gave their support!!!! It was over a year in the making, a few trips to get the camp picked out that was located so it wasn't too far for all the other states to attend.

**THANK YOU      THANK YOU      THANK YOU**  
**MICHIGAN GRANGERS**

~~~~~  
**HEART ATTACKS AND WATER**

How many of us say we don't want to drink too much water before going to bed? Well it's very important. Gravity holds water in the lower part of our bodies when we're upright. ( Legs swell) When you lie down and the lower body (legs etc.) are level with the kidneys, it is then that the kidneys remove the water. You need your minimum water input to flush the toxins out of your body . Doctors say that the correct times to drink water to maximize its effectiveness on the body are:

2 glasses of water after waking up– helps activate internal organs

1 glass of water 30 minutes before a meal– helps digestion

1 glass of water before taking a bath– helps lower blood pressure

1 glass of water before going to bed - avoids stroke or heart attack. Most heart attacks occur in the day time, usually between 6 am and noon. Having one during the night when the heart should be most at rest, means that something unusual has happened. Researcher's from the Mayo Clinic for decades have found that sleep apnea is usually to blame.

1 glass of water before bed time hydrates the leg muscles so you don't get leg cramps also.

**MYTHS AND FACTS ABOUT YOUR MICROWAVE**

**MYTH: Microwaving food is a danger to nutrients** –There is no specific harm of microwaving in regard to nutrient levels. Nutrients leach out into cooking water while you use less water when cooking in a micro wave, your food might be even better.

**FACT: You should be careful with plastics**—This is a definite no-no! It causes chemicals to leach into your food. The microwave safe containers still leached out. Studies found links of obesity and some forms of cancer caused by these.

**MYTH: Microwaves cook food all the way through**— Microwaving only cooks food to a depth of 1 to 1.5 inches. Heat doesn't reach the center of really thick pieces of food. This is dangerous for poultry or red meat because you can get food poisoning. Use your microwave as an assistant in your kitchen, for re-heating food you already cooked or thawing something you're about to cook.

**FACT: Microwave's are safe** –They emit microwaves, a type of electromagnetic radiation to heat your food. They cause the molecules in food to move and the molecular motion is what causes the heat. Also you can't get cancer by standing next to a microwave oven, and **IF** any leaked out it would be far below what could actually hurt you.

Tricia Eidsmoe 1451 Grey Road, Midland, MI 48640  
 Tel: 989-631-0079 E-mail: tennisbums@charter.net  
 Helen Mudd 1757 Stewart Road, Midland, MI 48640  
 Tel: 989-631-3708

Welcome to summer! Believe it or not another Grange year is almost over. Hopefully you have found 1 or 2 projects to use for the community service program. They do not have to be huge projects. Anything that helps your community counts. We just want the Grange name to get out in your community so people know you exist. You will be surprised at how many people and organizations will recognize your Grange after a while!

Pete Pompper, National Grange Community Service Coordinator, is inquiring into how many Granges award a scholarship. Studley Grange gives a scholarship to a high school senior pursuing an education in the field of agriculture. Our criteria is a broad area of what we feel constitutes a study in agriculture. We allow agriculture to be soil conservation, forestry, pre-vet medicine, horticulture or environmental science.

If your Grange gives a scholarship, would you please send me some information (by late July) that I can pass along to Pete? He is looking for how long you have been giving the award and what the specific criteria is to receive the award.

Pete is also looking for community service projects done by Granges related to Memorial Day, the 4<sup>th</sup> of July or honoring veterans in any way. For example, one Grange had a memorial dedicated to WW2 veterans repainted and a new flag pole installed.

## Reports

I want to emphasize how important it is for every Grange to send in a community service report. Even completing only the form that is mailed to you helps. The National Grange wants 25% of the Subordinate Granges in Michigan to submit a report, so each and every one of you counts in my report to them!

Just a reminder that the due date for your community service book or form is Thursday, September 10. You can include projects from August 31, 2014 thru August 31, 2015. Please send your report to Tricia at the above address. If you have any questions or need special delivery arrangements, please contact Tricia at the above phone number or email.

Wishing you a wonderful & safe summer!

Tricia & Helen

Connie Johnston, Director 6241 Grand River Road, Bancroft, MI 48414  
 Tel: 989-634-9350 E-mail ckream27@yahoo.com

## Summer Camp, July 31<sup>st</sup> – August 2<sup>nd</sup> at Oceana Center Grange #1047. FREE!!

You won't want to miss out this summer!! Many things are in the works for this year's summer camp!



We are looking into a tour at a dairy farm (with an ice cream treat). Plan to get wet as well! Several crafts will be mixed in with games and fun! Saturday night we will have a program for the members of Oceana Center Grange, followed by our usual bedtime movie.

Remember to bring your friends! They don't have to be Grange members to attend.

## Address and Directions

Oceana Center Grange address is: possibly 57 W. Scout Road (?? Not positive on that number)

Directions are: Coming from the South or North on US 31, take the Hart exit, turn East on Polk Rd and continue East on Polk Rd past Hart, across Oceana Drive and East to 100th Ave., turn right on 100th which turns into York Rd. Continue on York to 112th Av. , turn right on 112th Ave., and right again on Scout. Hall up ahead. If you are coming from Hesperia on MI 20, go West until you come to 132nd or Ferry sign, turn North or right, Follow 132nd to the T and turn left, turn right at the next corner and follow this curvey road until you come to 112th Ave., turn left, then right onto Scout.

## What to Bring

Items to bring: tennis shoes, sleeping bag, pillow, clothes, swim suit, towel, toiletries, sun screen, bug spray.

I would like to THANK our hosts in advance!!



**YOUTH/YOUNG ADULTS  
 AGES 14-35 ARE ALSO INVITED  
 TO THIS CAMP!**

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

Okay so enough with the April Showers that have been on going into the month of June!! I don't mind the rain but when you have chances almost every day, it makes it hard to plan when you can mow your grass and weed your gardens and flower beds. I feel for the farmers that try to make hay during this type of weather.

Well my family's chicken adventure was put on hold because of the Avian Flu outbreak. We have everything almost ready to go in regards to the coop, outdoor run and security features so things you don't want in with the chickens can't get in. All we have to do is purchase the feeders and waters and then figure when it is safe to purchase our hens. We are going the easy route and not getting day old hatchlings. ;-) We are hoping to be able to get a nice variety of hens for our flock of hens. It sure will seem different at all the county fairs this year to not hear or see all the poultry, fowl, etc. But it is for safety of all the birds there and back at the home locations. I sure hope it calms down soon so we can get our chickens and start seeing the rewards of raising laying hens.

Even though we got our garden planted a few weeks later than I would have liked, with all this rain it sure has taken off. I hope everyone else that planted gardens or garden boxes this year are seeing nice growth as well.

Please keep supporting our local farmers and summer crop growers by buying local. This not only helps them out but also keeps your valuable money local!

Well short and sweet... so until next time. Keep those green thumbs working!

**Tips on How to Stay Young**

- Laugh and Have fun. Don't be gloomy.
- Let bygones be bygones.
- Early to bed, early to rise is healthy and wise.
- Stay lean. Being just 20% overweight is bad.
- Keep working, doing something you like.
- Be the boss of your own life.
- To much medicine ruins your body.
- Exercise and eat less fatty foods.
- Do not worry about health and death, just get on with it and enjoy it.

**Kinney Grange #754 has Popcorn Booth at the Grand Rapids Festival of Arts.**

This was our 9th year of manning a booth at the Festival of the Arts. The Festival days were June 5 -8, 2015. Our booth consists of the aroma of freshly popped popcorn along with Caramel corn, Golden Cheddar Corn and Coke, products as well as water and Powerade.

The weather for the weekend was iffy at times but we made it though without much rain. We had 11 Kinney Grange members, 2 Junior Members, 4 members from other Granges, (including 3 State Grange Offices) and 2 non-Grangers helping. As usual, it was a lot of work but everyone pitched in and made it fun and successful. As a result of the State Officers helping out, a donation is made to the Michigan State Grange for their services.

The profits help our Grange in purchasing dictionaries for the 3rd Graders in the Kenowa Hills Public Elementary Schools through the Words for Thirds Dictionary Project. We even had donations from some of our customers to help us with this project. This will be our 5th year doing the dictionaries.

Our plans are to do the Festival again next year with planning already in the "works."



**Kinney Grange Booth: l-r: Arnette Welsh, Nancy Swainston, Michelle Abbott, Lois & Bob Nichols, Rodney Wagner**

**New way of "drinking" pop, Nancy Swainston?**



**Popcorn "Kings": - Harry Brown and Rodney Wanger.**

**L-r: Peggy Johnston, Michelle Abbott, Arnette Welsh, Sharon Popler, Dale Moore, Rodney Wagner, Brittany Welsh, and Nancy Swainston.**

## Congratulations 2015 High School Graduates



**Nicholas Eidsmoe  
Studley #1174**



**Taya Bower  
Colon #215**



**Jessica Swainston  
Kinney #754**



**Elizabeth Kurburski  
Harbor Springs #730**

### FOUNDATION

### Support

Roland Winter 15150 A Drive North Marshall, MI 49068  
Tel: 269-781-2500 E-mail rbwin129@comcast.net

When representing the Michigan State Grange Foundation, Board members are often asked why the Foundation does not provide greater financial support to the Michigan State Grange. This seems to be a near constant source of confusion for Grange members and Foundation donors. The answer is relatively straightforward, in that it is related to the legal manner in which the Foundation is constructed and incorporated. Specifically, the Foundation is incorporated as a charitable non-profit organization, with a focus on educational and healthcare-related matters. Because of the restrictions that are created by the Foundation's manner of incorporation (the same incorporation that allows the donations made to it to be tax-deductible), very specific circumstances are necessary, in order for the Foundation to provide financial support to any other organization, the Michigan State Grange included.

When the Foundation receives requests for funding, the Board must carefully consider the proposed use of any monies provided, or risk the loss of the Foundation's incorporation, as charitable. As a result of our legally mandated focus on health, education, and charity, any donations made by the Foundation must fit in at least one of those categories. At times, activities of the Michigan State Grange fall within those parameters. Unfor-

tunately, the Michigan State Grange is not inherently charitable, despite the fact that many of us might view it as such. Given that the Grange is also an advocacy organization, with active legislative positions on a variety of subjects impacting rural America and our society at large, it is not able to be considered strictly charitable. This means that its activities are not wholly open to support by the Foundation. However, some of the activities of the Lecturer's Department, which maintains a focus on education, can be supported. Similarly, the Deaf Awareness Department has a clear orientation toward key healthcare issues, opening it to support by the Foundation.

What cannot be supported are State Grange costs associated with membership growth, legislative activities, or administrative costs. These are all outside of the ability of the Foundation or the Board to support, given that they are unrelated to the criteria mandated by the Foundation's incorporation. Things like National Grange dues, publicity, fundraising projects, salaries, and office supplies are all State Grange expenses that do not relate to either education or healthcare, and therefore cannot be supported by the Foundation. Although this may be a source of frustration at times, there are mandatory considerations that must be given, in order to maintain a Foundation, as a tax-deductible organization open for support by our donors.

We thank everyone for their support of the Michigan State Grange Foundation, and for their interest in providing a charitable outlet for all of our donors, both within the Grange and outside it.

Jeff & Nancy Swainston, 2589 144th Ave., Dorr, MI 49323  
Tel: 616-813-8746 E-mail jeff@jnsphoto.biz

## MIDWEST YOUTH CONFERENCE

**LOCATION: WALCAMP FAMILY CAMPGROUND  
32653 FIVE POINTS ROAD  
KINGSTON, IL 60145**

**DATE: JULY 24-26, 2015**

**HOST: ILLINOIS STATE GRANGE YOUTH**

*MICHIGAN STATE GRANGE YOUTH AND  
JUNIOR CAMP — OCEANA CENTER GRANGE,  
HART, MI*

*JULY 31—AUGUST 2ND.*

*SEE JUNIOR PAGE FOR MORE INFORMATION*

As the snow is melting, we are getting excited about the Midwestern Youth Leadership Conference this summer. The weekend is not the same as the original one that was announced, but was changed because of conflicts from multiple states. We hope that allows more people to attend, but understand if you have conflicts.

There is a variety of lodging options so please contact Karie Blasingame at (815) 299-0313 or email to [kblasingame77@gmail.com](mailto:kblasingame77@gmail.com) if you have any questions about the accommodations.

We have access to 6 cabins each with 2 beds which can sleep 6 people. We have 3 tent spaces available or if you have your own RV and wish to use one of the RV spots at the campground, please contact Karie Blasingame as soon as possible.

### **COST IS AS FOLLOWS:**

\$140 family cabin weekend (one family per cabin) (cost for entire family up to 6 people)

\$125 family RV weekend (one family per RV) (Cost for entire family up to 6 people)

\$100 family tent weekend (one family per tent) (Cost for entire family up to 6 people)

\$65 person cabin weekend (you will share one cabin with other youth, please indicate if you would be willing to share a bed and with who)

\$60 person tent weekend ( I will provide the tent, you will share with other youth, you need to provide and air mattress or something to sleep on.)

Family rates apply to the cost of camp: for instance if 3 members of an immediate family are attending and they would like to share a cabin the cost would be full price for 1st family member and 1/2 price for every family member after that. (\$65. + \$32.50 + \$32.50 = \$130.00)

There will be Junior Grange activities beginning Saturday morning and continuing throughout the weekend. This is a fun event to attend as an entire family. Juniors may attend all day Saturday without spending the night, but please discuss with either the State Grange Youth director (Karie) or the State Grange Junior director (Sarah Meyers) as we might need more adults to stay to help with extra juniors.

We have the opportunity for those ages 6th grade and above to participate in paintball **depending on the interest of this activity**. If you are under 18 years of age and interested in the paintball activities, please contact Karie Blasingame for a parental permission form. Anyone without a parental permission form will not be able to participate in the paintball activities.

## In Memory Of...



*Betty Foust  
Adams #286*

*Marcella Fisher  
Harbor Springs #730*

*Hugh White  
Home #129*

*Becky MacKay  
Platte #1328*

### Secretary

### Instructions

Peggy Johnston, Secretary 404 S. Oak Street, Durand, MI 48429  
Tel: 989-288-4546 msgrange1873@yahoo.com

#### NOTICE TO ALL SECRETARIES, SUBORDINATE OR POMONA:

Each December, I mail out a packet of quarterly report forms, eight total to each Secretary along with envelopes to mail the reports back in. This is enough for you to fill **one** out for your own records and **one** to send to the State Grange along with your check, for **each** quarter. Please do this! If you are in a Grange where you are listed as secretary but you have another person doing the quarterly reports, please give them that packet to save us from having to send them to someone else.

If you are for some unknown reason sending reports for more than one quarter at a time, please fill out a form for each quarter.

If you remember, the State Grange has to pay dues to the National Grange on a quarterly basis as well, and it is **very important** that you pay your dues **each quarter**, not once or twice a year. This way do we not only have your money to help pay those dues, but we have hopefully an accurate record of how many members you have each quarter. There is no reason for the State Grange to pay National Grange on members that you may have taken off your records six, nine or twelve months ago.

When filling out the quarterly report forms, please fill them out completely and legibly. If you have regular, golden sheaf pay, golden sheaf no pay, family or associate members those columns should be filled in. Be sure to fill out the top of your report forms front and back

## 2015 Michigan State Grange Family Activities Quilt Raffle



This years quilt was donated by Helen Mudd of Studley Grange. She says the name of it is Fun and Done. It measures 74" x 89" and is beautiful!

Tickets are on sale to anyone that would like them and to those that might like to take some to sell. Drawing will be on Oct. 4th at Burns Grange.

We will be taking a day during various county fairs and selling tickets also.

Tickets sell for \$1.00 each or 6 for \$5.00. The proceeds of the raffle will go to help Region 5 with hosting of the 2015 convention.

For tickets or more information contact the State Grange office 989-288-4546 or msgrange1873@yahoo.com.

with your Granges information and the date of the quarter you are paying for.

Other report forms are sent to you for various things, such as Gold Star Grange, Officer/Chairmen lists, annual report form, etc. Check the dates they are due and please return them on time. It sure would make my job easier. I haven't mastered being a mind reader yet..

**MEMBERSHIP LISTS:** Awhile ago I asked for a complete membership list from each of the Subordinate Granges...I think I might have gotten four or five. **I really am in need of them now!** Please note if they are family, golden sheaf pay, no pay or associate members. Names, addresses, Tel: # and emails if possible. If you know that they would prefer their Michigan Grange News by email, please let me know that on the list. **Thank You!**

## PENNIES FROM HEAVEN COLLECTION



We have obtained a new container to collect pennies (or other forms of money) to help with the expenses that the Michigan State Grange will have when we again help to host the National Grange Convention in 2019.

Please save your coins, bills or even checks and either send them to the Michigan State Grange office at 404 S. Oak Street, Durand, MI 48429 or bring them to the Michigan State Grange Convention in Lenawee County this October. The jug will be on my station throughout the convention.

Expenses that we have vary from convention to convention but normally amount to a large sum. This is just one way we can help “in a small way” to come up with the amount needed. I’ve got the bottom covered!

**SAVE!**

**SAVE!**

**SAVE!**

**SAVE!**

**SAVE!**

## Rover Pipeline Good for Michigan Agriculture

It’s no secret that successful agriculture relies on energy to get the job done. Farmers of all shapes and sizes need fuel to power the tools used for planting, tending, harvesting, and delivering to market.

At a time of international uncertainty, especially in regions with high concentrations of oil and gas, it’s important for our nation’s energy security to find more domestic avenues for fuel production and delivery.

The proposed Rover Pipeline would provide a critical link for Midwestern farmers by helping to supply needed natural gas. It’s a \$4.2 billion project that will provide considerable benefits to all of Michigan, but particularly those of us who depend on fuel every day for our farms.

At the same time, the construction of the pipeline will respect the land that it travels across. The project managers have pledged to restore any land that is disturbed to the same or better condition when they’re done.

Quite often, the pipeline won’t require disturbing new land because it will follow existing utility rights of way and other similar routes as often as possible. The whole idea is to improve our nation’s energy infrastructure without having an unnecessary impact on the surrounding environment.

Of course, sometimes it will be necessary to work outside of the existing infrastructure areas. In those cases, there will be direct payments to landowners for easements – amounting to an estimated \$124 million of compensation.

The project will also employ a third-party firm to represent the landowners’ interests and insure that any impact is mitigated. That will help to ensure that the pledges the managers have made about the project will be enforced.

When complete, the Rover Pipeline will help to ensure easier, more affordable access to natural gas. It’s part of an overall evolution of domestic energy that will help to drive down electricity prices. In fact, increased production of natural gas will likely lead to a 10% decrease in electricity prices over the next 25 years.

But it’s not just electricity that depends on domestic fuel. It’s estimated that 59% of chemical fertilizers were nitrogen-based – and they depend on natural gas for production.

When you add up all of the benefits to Michigan agriculture and consider the formidable safeguards in place to protect our lands, the Rover Pipeline makes all the sense in the world. That’s why we’re so proud to support it here at the Michigan State Grange.