



Serving the Mohawk Valley and Its Communities

**WINTER EDITION • DECEMBER, 2021**

24 Years of Publication! Thanks, Mohawk Valley!

*"We don't win by attacking what we hate,  
but by strengthening and protecting what we love!"*



MARCOLA  
**MUSTANGS**

PO Box 820, Marcola, OR 97454 Phone: 541-933-2512 Fax: 541-933-2338

## WHAT'S HAPPENING AT MOHAWK HIGH SCHOOL?

Mohawk Junior Senior High School has been hopping the past few months! With students back on campus this year, we were able to have Homecoming Week activities, sports events, FFA competitions, PBIS activities and more this fall. Here is a sample of some of the great activities going on around the school:



Students Abri Roberts and Kallee Eck work with their model skeleton in Anatomy and Physiology class.



Mr. Eric Fritsche instructs Trevor Thompson and Damien Delorme-Smith on the electric guitar in band class.

Trinity Sepulveda dumps water on Blair Riley as part of a scene in Theater class.



We added a weight room back to the high school using grant funds. Classes and teams have been using the equipment multiple times every day to improve their strength and fitness. (



Photo credit Janelyn Sibayan)



Quinn Devenport, Hunter Rockwell, and Jay Andrews start a new project in Makerspace class.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2



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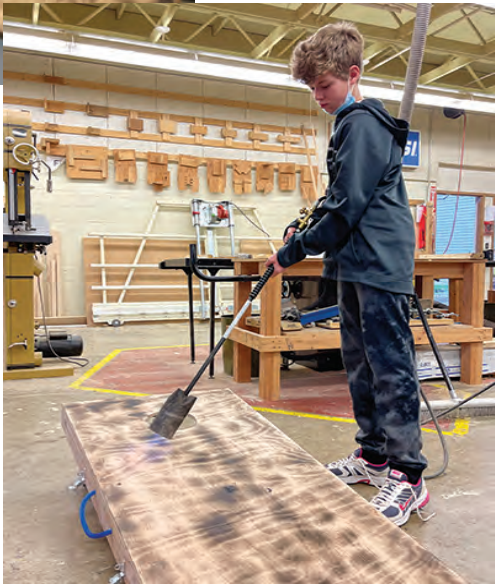
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Woodworking class designed and built custom cornhole boards.

Joseph Meray  
Wood burning was added to create a custom finish for each matching set.



(Photo credit Stacey Whaley)



Two sheds at the school were rotten and needed to be torn down so our construction class took the opportunity to learn about JHA's (Job Hazard Analysis) and how to properly demolish a structure and reclaim usable material. We are happy to report that our students did an amazing job with the project, and are currently putting some of the reclaimed material to use in preparation for their shed build project to support

Sheds of Hope up the Mckenzie Valley. (Photo credit Andy Rice)



Mohawk students participating in the Riot Night event during Homecoming Week. Class competitions all week culminate in Riot Night and the class with the

most points has their Homecoming Court members crowned as Royalty.  
**Congratulations Seniors!**



(Photo credit Jeremiah Tanael)



Superintendent and Elementary Principal, Terry Augustadt (aka Bob Barker), leads students during a Price is Right PBIS activity.



Assistant Principal, Rex Hoffman, displays products to students for the Price is Right event.



The Mohawk volleyball team was League and District Champion and had multiple players win individual all-league awards. Congratulations to Natalie VanderPloeg for earning league Player of the Year; Kallee Eck, Erin Holvey, Ashley Roser, and Natalie VanderPloeg. Congrats to Alexis Robinson for making 2nd team All-League and Hanna VanderPloeg for making 3rd team. (Photo credit Heather VanderPloeg)

**INTRODUCING OUR NEW MARCOLA SCHOOL DISTRICT TEACHERS:**

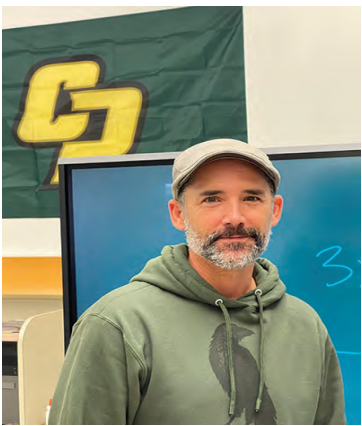


**James Tharp- PE, Health, Health Sciences Pathway**

I grew up in Pleasant Hill, OR where I attended and graduated from PHHS. I was a member of the 3A state championship basketball team in 1999 and he went on to play basketball at Southern Oregon University. After graduating and earning my Masters degree at SOU I taught Health and P.E. internationally for 8 years in South Korea, Dominican Republic and Pakistan. Over the course of my 14 year teaching career I have also taught in a few Oregon public school districts before settling here in Marcola. My wife and I have settled down in the Eugene area and we have our hands full with three children (twin 2 year-olds and a 5 year-old). I am very excited about joining the Marcola community and working with this team of great educators here at Mohawk MS/HS.

**Stan Mercer- Math, Makerspace, Coding**

I grew up in a small town on the Oregon coast and graduated high school in 1988. My high school experience was centered around athletics and I have enjoyed sports my whole life. I went to Western Oregon State College following graduation and earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Business there. After leaving college I became a golf professional for several years. In 1996 I spent the winter months



**CONTINUED ON PAGE 7**



## HOMEOWNERS WINTER HAZARDS

By Corkey Gourley  
State Farm Agent-Springfield, Oregon

As we approach this winter and the weather hazards we have to face here in the Willamette Valley, two major items come to mind that we have to deal with when the temperatures drop and we have freezing rain. These issues are the frozen pipes and ice dams that can form on the gutters of our homes.

Frozen pipes that burst can cause significant damage to your home and keepsakes and a few simple precautions may help you save yourself the mess, money, and aggravation. Let's take a look at some tips for preventing frozen pipe damage and what you can do to protect your home and save you an insurance loss.

- Insulate pipes located in your home's crawl space, basement and attic
  - Heat tape or thermostatically controlled cables can be used to keep pipes warm.
  - Seal leaks that allow cold air to flow near pipes.
  - Disconnect garden hoses and use indoor valve to shut off drain water leading to outside faucets.
  - Trickle hot and cold water from our facets overnight to keep pipes from freezing.
  - Open cabinet doors to allow heat to get to piping under sinks and vanities near exterior walls.
  - Set the thermostat in your house to 55 degrees or warmer (12 degrees Celsius), when away.
  - Ask a friend or neighbor to check your house and make sure it's staying warm, and shut off and drain the water system when away.
  - If your pipes freeze or burst shut the water off at the main and don't use a torch to thaw frozen pipes.
- Remember to not use electrical appliances in areas of standing water.

### PREVENTING AND UNDERSTANDING ICE DAMS

Iceicles add to the beauty of a wintery wonderland, but they can also be a sign of an ice dam forming on your roof. Taking the right steps may help you prevent potential damage to your home during the cold weather months.

### WHAT ARE ICE DAMS?

- Ice dams can form as snow melts and refreezes on your roof. Ice that builds above the soffit area traps the snow above it.
- As the trapped snow melts, it can leak under the shingles and into your home causing damage.

### TIPS FOR PREVENTING ICE DAMS

- Ventilation helps release warm air from your attic.
- Ceiling insulation helps prevent warm air from rising into the attic.
- Airtight ceiling barriers like caulk or foam sealant also helps prevent warm air from getting into the attic.

Keeping homes well ventilated can save any homeowner a lot of money.

### SIGNS OF POOR VENTILATION AND INSULATION.

- Musty odors in the attic.
- Mold growing on the underside of the roof deck or roof trusses.
- Snow melts off of your roof, while neighboring houses still have snow on their roofs.
- Icicles forming on gutters or eaves.
- Roof and /or soffits vents are absent or too few. Water stains on walls or ceiling near exterior walls

Your home is one of your most valued asset and financial investment that we all have. Protecting pipes from freezing and preventing Ice dams from forming on your gutters or roof edges are positive measures that one can take to avoid a costly homeowner's claim. If you have any questions, reach out to a qualified insulation contractor to have your home inspected and to give you peace of mind.

# FIRE HOUSE UP-DATE

The Mohawk Valley Rural Fire Department has been working to establish an Emergency Preparedness Plan for the Valley since the snow storm a couple of years ago and then of course the wild fire of last year. Working with members of the public we have established three committees to help with this process. We have a Large Animal Rescue and Assistance committee, a Supplies and Resources committee, and an Emergency Communications Committee.

The Large Animal Committee is there for help with moving large animals/livestock during an emergency. Supplies and Resources are establishing a list of supplies and resources we have in the valley that could be used to assist our citizens in the event of a major disaster.

The Communication Committee, which had a public meeting this week, is tasked with establishing an Emergency Communications process in the valley when we have lost power and services from our service provider. In researching what is available and seemingly the easiest we found the GRM (General Mobile Radio) radio fit this bill. These radios are public use radios that do require an FCC license. We have found them to have a very good range but do get limited by the topography of the valley. We have divided the valley up into five communication zones, identified people in those zones that have GRM and are attempting to create an emergency radio net using this outline. Each zone will have two pre-programmed GRM channels to talk with each other in that zone and then two channels identified as valley emergency communication traffic only channels. These two channels will be monitored by a GRM radio operator at the Fire Department or designated Incident Command Post. Information can then be disseminated up and down the valley using the radio zones as a human repeater system until we are able to resource actual radio repeaters for this purpose.

Anyone can purchase one of these radios and can find them in the \$60 dollar range online. It does require a one time \$70 FCC License that is good for 10 years and covers all immediate family members. You can find this information by going to the FCC/GRM radio page. It will include all the FCC rules and regulations that go along with the licensing. **(Eitor's Note: The picture below is from Amazon.com)**

We will be working on the Communications plan and soon will have the Zone map up on the Mohawk Valley Emergency Preparedness Committee FaceBook Page. This is a page open to anyone wishing to join and will be the main source of any preparedness information this committee puts out, so if you are interested in this topic, please join this page.

Kevin Woodworth, President  
Mohawk Rural Valley Fire Department  
Board of Directors



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**FROM LINDA MOONEY, EDITOR:**

It's WINTER and THE HOLIDAY SEASON! I am looking forward to spending time with family and friends.

Let's then start the New Year with a fresh resolve to help our community in whatever ways we are able. There are volunteer opportunities in this issue that include joining the fire department, working in the Marcola Media Center, helping with the Christmas Party for the kids, joining the Grange and the Lions groups and much more! The more we work together the stronger and happier our community becomes!

**PLEASE, GET VACCINATED and BOOSTED ASAP!**

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Kay Allen: Financial Director

Our SUPER Publisher: Western Oregon Web Press

All checks **FROM NOW ON must be made out to Kay Allen, our treasurer.** She will be invoicing all advertisers and sponsors by the 15th of the month in which the paper comes to you, currently by September 15, 2021

In the memo slot of your checks, please note  
Mohawk Messenger, FALL Ad.

Please mail checks to: MOHAWK MESSENGER, P.O. BOX 1133,  
MARCOLA, OR 97454 THANK YOU!

**Thanks to this newspaper's  
ever-so-generous**

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Marcola School District #79  
Mohawk Valley Rural Fire District

**HELPING HAND FOOD PANTRY**

2ND TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH  
92170 MARCOLA ROAD  
(in front of the Marcola Community Market)

Hours: 9-10 - number pickup  
10-12 Doors open  
Michele Freese, Manager  
541-517-7499

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*Editor's Note: One' (pronounced "Onay") has done numerous jobs for me at my home on Haward Rd. He is efficient, diligent, a hard-working professional and a very nice guy!*

**Mohawk Valley Sanitation's Guide  
To Garbage And Recycling-**

**Accepted items in your regular recycling:**

**Cardboard-** Breakdown and flatten. PLEASE DON'T SMASH THEM WITH YOUR FEET!

**Thin cardboard** (cereal boxes, etc)- Breakdown and Flatten and can be put with paper

**Paper, Newspaper and Magazines-** Put together in paper bag or bundle/stack together if possible, NO SHREDDED PAPER

**Glass-** Rinse and remove food, throw lid away, don't peel labels

**Aluminum-** Rinse and remove food, Lid is recyclable, don't peel labels

**Plastic-** Rinse and remove food, Transparent HDPE 2 plastic such as milk jugs and juice containers, don't peel labels

Make sure to thoroughly clean, dry, and remove all food debris! DIRTY recycling will now be charged for! Please put your recycling out every pickup day. Do not save it and put it out all at once. This creates a space issue in the truck.

**Special Plastics:**

Please put out your special plastics with every pickup. Put them in a separate bag with your recycling. If possible separate into each category: #2 Tubs/Lids, #2 Bottles/Jugs, #4 Bottles/Tubs/Lids, #5 Bottles/Tubs/Lids.

**READ CAREFULLY! WE CAN ONLY ACCEPT:** #2, #4 and #5 tubs, jugs, bottles, lids that are %100 CLEAN and adhesive labels must be removed. To remove labels: Spray Goo Gone Spray Gel to adhesive and wipe with a cloth or

paper towel. You can soak labels in hot water, or fill tubs/ jugs/bottles with hot water to loosen the adhesive. You can use a hairdryer to heat the label and then peel. The last option is to apply a generous coating of old cooking oil to the label and let it sit overnight. By morning it's easy to remove and can be wiped away. Try your best to remove all adhesive labels. Any tubs or jugs that have labels printed on (laundry detergent, etc.), do not need to be removed. Clear labels like those found on shampoo bottles need to be removed, so check carefully.

**Garbage Rules:**

Please bag all garbage! No loose items in your can unless they are big, sharp or will tear the bag. Do not overfill the bags. Please do not dump your vacuum cannister contents or dustpan directly into the can, because it blows everywhere and Corey inhales it. Put into a small grocery bag and tie it. Please do not put anything sharp, pointy, pokey in your regular garbage. Put it into a separate bag or container with a note. We do not have a lift truck and Corey does this

all by hand! If you have extra garbage or recycling, then please contact us! Corey might have to make adjustments to accommodate extra garbage bags, large items, and extra recycling.

Thank You!





# Meetings (Alphabetical) in the Community

DUE TO COVID PANDEMIC, CALL ORGANIZATIONS ABOUT  
WHETHER MEETINGS ARE IN-PERSON OR VIRTUAL

● **Boy Scout Troop 51**

Scout Troop 51 meets each Thursday at 6:30 pm at McKenzie Church of Christ, 250 51st Street in Springfield. Many of the Scouts in this Troop are from both Mohawk Valley and Springfield. Come join our Camping trips and adventures! POC is Tom Snyder at 541 729-7736



● **Cub Scout Pack 450, Marcola**, Contact is Richard Davey 541 510-9192 meets in the Marcola Media Center on Tuesdays weekly at 6:30 pm.

● **Marcola Christian Church**

Contact Brenda 541-933-3040 for updated times of services

● **Marcola School District 19 Board Meetings:**

2nd Monday of every month in Marcola Elementary Media Center at 6PM SEE ARTICLE ON PAGE

● **Marcola Water District Meeting**

6:00PM @ the Marcola Fire Station  
3rd Wednesday of every month

Contact: Jill Lindsay  
Rainbow & Marcola Water Districts  
541-746-1676  
jill@rwdonline.net

● **Mohawk Community Church**

Sunday School 9:30 AM; Worship 10:00 AM

● **Mohawk Valley Community Grange**

Regular meetings on the 3rd Sunday of every month. 6PM  
More information, check website or call Linda Mooney 541-933-2511

● **Mohawk High School Booster Club:** 1st Monday of every month.  
Check with HS for specific times and locations. Members needed.

● **Mohawk Valley Lions Club Meetings**

We are temporarily meeting only on the second Tuesday at 5pm and are rotating member's homes. WE hope to settle back in our old routine by late fall. Contact Bob Leeper @ 541-515-6907.

● **Mohawk Valley Rural Fire District -**

2nd Wednesday of the month, 7:00 PM at Fire Station #1

● **Tai Chi Classes:** Contact Julia Mooney 541-915-9392

● **Valley Yoga Classes:** Contact Julia at 541-915-9392 for information!

● **VFW Post 4166** meets at our Mohawk Valley Community Grange at 7:30 pm every 2nd Monday Monthly. VFW remains active in Community events and new members are always welcome!



## HELLO GRANGERS AND COMMUNITY MEMBERS!

### HAPPY HOLIDAYS, EVERYONE!

By Linda Mooney, Grange President

The Mohawk Valley Community Grange is starting to open up again. On December 4th we had a BINGO EVENT. This was our first indoor event in 2 years. The Grange has been dormant, waiting out this pandemic. YAY!! WE'RE BACK.....well, slowly anyway!

At our recent "Save the Grange" meeting at my house, we came up with a wonderful list of possible events and fundraising efforts:

#### COMMUNITY SUPPORT & FUN

Plastic recycling **SOON!**  
Blood drive  
Heart of Marcola  
Pet adoptions  
Seniors lunch  
Community & Kids craft Fair  
Talent Show

#### FUNDRAISING

Dance with DJ, maybe outside?  
Dinner - Valentines Day BASKETS to purchase  
Cooking Contest  
Baking/Pie Contest  
Silent Auction  
Raffle (prize such as Weekend at Coast) Working on this!  
BINGO ✓ hope to schedule more dates!

We are planning our Plastics Recycling event. No date as yet as this is dependent on Lane County Waste Management's schedule. In the meantime, keep on saving your CLEAN, DRY #2, #4, AND #5 containers. Store your prepared plastic away from any well

meaning family member, who might add unprepared plastic to your prepared ones. So try to store your CLEAN, DRY #2, #4, AND #5 containers where they will stay that way and be patient! Watch our website, mohawkgrange.org, our readerboard across from the post office and flyers around town.! **PLEASE DO NOT DROP OFF PLASTIC CONTAINERS AT THE GRANGE!** Our awesome caretakers will be there to make sure that doesn't happen!

#### Fundraiser: VALENTINES DAY IS COMING SOON.

The Grange members will each be creating gift baskets with food, candles plus surprises. These beautiful gift baskets will be available to purchase on Saturday, February 12th. Pick up hours will be announced later. Prices will be in the \$20 - \$40+ range and will be well worth the money!

Here's some possible basket ideas, if you want to create & donate a basket:



As the pandemic eases and more people feel comfortable with social activities, we will have more events. Watch this column in the next Mohawk Messenger, due out in early March!

Gift purchasers, save your money, support your grange and we'll see you on February 12th! Hours to be announced later.

**HAPPY HOLIDAYS AND HAPPY 2022!!**



## A WELCOME VISITOR

By Juanita Turner Paslay

I looked up from my book at the perfect moment. I gasped as his eye-catching tail disappeared up the golden cedar tree. I leaned forward in my cozy red library chair to see which thick branch he would climb. I have not seen his kind in twenty years. His relatives were plentiful when we grew our filbert orchard, but sadly, they moved away when we changed the landscape.

Four young deer and a buck resting on the grassy knoll in the sunshine didn't flinch at his presence but continued to chew their cud in contentment and twitch their ears. They didn't appear to share my morning excitement.

I have learned while reading in the library to keep one eye on nature. I hope and pray this visitor will make its home here along with the abundant brown tree squirrels. To me, there is nothing more beautiful than a gray squirrel and his long fluffy tail floating behind him as he scampers from tree to tree.



A silver Eurasian collared dove flew by my window as I finished writing about this morning's adventure.

Now back to my inspirational book by Max Lucado.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all of you!

## ENJOY THE GLOW

. . . This is a sacred day before our Lord.  
Don't be dejected and sad,  
for the joy of the Lord is your strength!"  
Nehemiah 8:10 NLT

The red twig dogwood bush in our yard does not display its name until the leaves drop off and chilly winter weather arrives. The colder the air, the brighter glows the branches. The morning sun aims its rays across the naked bush and turns the red-orange color up two notches. The amazing scene performs all winter. The contrast is even more beautiful with snow on the ground.

I recognize a spiritual comparison here. Cold, stormy days can drain a person's enthusiasm. The icy winds of adversity can rob our joy and bring doubts and confusion if we do not focus on God's Word for our spiritual strength.

The more hardships we endure, the greater the need to look to our Lord and His promises. Praising the Lord aloud always brings joy to my spirit, rain or shine.

The 'warmth' of reading and trusting in the Word of God puts a glow in our spirit that will reflect on our face for friends to enjoy.

May our souls be full of joy and "Heavenly Sunshine" today and every day in the coming year.

. . . Each morning I will sing with joy  
about your unfailing love . . .  
Psalm 59:16 NLT

Excerpt from As The Deer ©2018 by Juanita Turner Paslay

## THE COLORS OF WINTER

Winter brings bossy blackbirds and  
chatty blue jays seeking meager fare;  
bay horses grazing and creamy lambs  
romping on green hills they share;  
and purple smoke spiraling from  
golden fires into the cold, damp air.

Winter bares bright red berries on  
limbs where robin red-breast feeds;  
cedar boughs laden with pure white  
snow to ensure all nature's needs;  
and stormy isles where blue herons  
and white terns feed in flaxen reeds.

Winter paints violet peaks a splash  
of white across an azure sky;  
faded pink petals on mums, jasmines,  
and pansies before they die;  
and thick warm coats on red squirrels  
and silver foxes to keep them dry.

Winter holds weeping skies filled with  
abundant shades of gloomy gray;  
gushing brown rivers carrying rain,  
silt, and melting snow far away;  
and God's faithful promise of yellow  
jonquils on a late winter day!

~ Dianne S. Stewart, 2018 ~







# MARCOLA MUSTANGS

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as an assistant basketball coach at Creswell High School. That experience taught me a lot about how much I enjoyed working with young people. That inspired me to return to school at Pacific University and earn a Masters Degree in Education in January of 1999. The following school year I accepted a job at Creswell Middle School where I worked for 22 years before coming to Mohawk High. While there I taught just about every subject we had with the exception of Music. My goal as a teacher at Mohawk is to help every student see that their life holds endless possibilities and that they leave high school confidently equipped to take advantage of those opportunities.

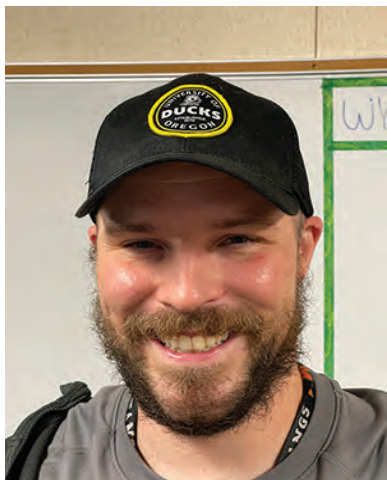


## Rob Jerome, Middle School Language Arts and Social Studies

I truly love teaching and inspiring a lifelong love of learning in my students. Prior to arriving at Mohawk at the start of this school year, I spent my teaching career at Creswell Middle School and also served as its School Improvement Specialist for many years. During my time at Creswell, I was very involved in the school community and was honored to receive the Creswell School District Educator of the Year Award and the VFW National Citizenship Education Teacher Post Recognition Award. When I'm not at school, I enjoy camping with my family and fishing in Oregon's beautiful lakes, rivers and streams. I am so happy to be working with the students and families of Marcola!

## Jenn Cancino, High School English, Art, Yearbook

I have been teaching English in rural Oregon for over a decade. I was the 2013 Teacher of the Year for the Oregon Small Schools Association. This fall, I excitedly took a teaching job at Mohawk High School and decided to enroll my five kids into the school district. We are so happy to be in this small district together. In my free time, I cook, read, garden, and spend time with my guy and our crazy bunch.



## Jason Milstead, Substitute Extraordinaire

I am in my second year with Mohawk High School. I moved to Oregon from Virginia a while back to study at the University of Oregon, where I majored in history and earned my teaching credentials. I enjoy watching football (Go Ducks/Go Raiders!), kayaking, gardening and lifting weights. I am fortunate to share my home with an amazing wife, a lazy dog and a mischievous cat!

## Fallon Woodruff, Counselor

This is my first year as a school counselor. Prior to this position I worked as an EA in behavior and special education. Being a counselor has been a dream of mine since I was a young girl. To be serving our Marcola community and students is an honor



to me. In my down time I spend time with my two daughters, husband, and our 3 fur babies (2 dogs and 1 cat.) I love being outdoors, baking with my girls, and finding time to exercise.



## Selene Konyn, 2nd Grade Teacher

My name is Ms. Konyn and I am the Second Grade teacher at Marcola Elementary School. I attended Western Oregon University where I obtained my Bachelors of Science in Elementary Education. I am so excited and grateful to be a part of this amazing Marcola Community. Go Mustangs!

## Mohawk FFA Update

Mohawk FFA has had an eventful Fall. We have been fortunate enough to have a blend of work and play. However, the work always comes first and started in October when our chapter hosted the District Soil Judging CDE (career development event) at R and J Stables. Soil is the basis of all agricultural practices and therefore a competition most students learn in their first year of ag courses. The objective is to evaluate their understanding of different types of soils and their ecological function and use. We would like to thank Ron and Janet Hogue for their hospitality and time. Students evaluate 4 large underground pits which were all dug by Ron. Thank you very much!

## Congratulations to both our advanced and beginning teams which took 2nd place.

(left to right) The advanced team consisted of Sawyer Ireland, Tyler Wallace, Alexis Robinson, and Cameron Andrews.)



On November 10th We had an advanced and beginning team



(left to right) The beginning team consisted of Addison Barrowcliff, Avery Bigbee, Violet Eisele, and Lucy Barrowcliff (not pictured).)

compete in Ag Sales which was hosted by Lebanon FFA. Each student prepares and presents a sales presentation of a product of their choice, takes a knowledge test, prepares and presents an impromptu team sales presentation, and displays their telephone sales, advertising, and complaints skills. The competition requires a lot of preparation and dedication. A big congratulations to Quentin Makinson on his 2nd place overall individual placing and to the team for their 3rd place finish. Even though the beginning team did not place, they were very competitive and we are super proud of them.

CONCLUDED ON PAGE 8





# MARCOLA MUSTANGS

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(2nd place individual Advanced Ag Sales, Quentin Makinson.)



3rd place Advanced Ag Sales team Quentin Makinson, Henry Yi, Amelia Tulloch, and Brooke Whaley (left to right).

you to social chairman Abri Roberts for setting up the event.

All products of our adventure were used. The guts were fed to chickens and many of the seeds were roasted for eating. While the pumpkins themselves were used as decorations at home or in front of the ag classroom.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Our wreath sales are in full swing for the next month. If you would like one please contact the school or email Kelli Fisher (kfisher@marcola.k12.or.us) for an order form. We will hold our first formal and social event in December, in addition to doing a little ice skating together over winter break. Also, please come see us at the Springfield Christmas parade. The next CDE's are after the 1st of the year, I'm sure we will all appreciate a small break. Thanks to everyone who continues to support us and have an amazing holiday season.

## MARCOLA HIGH SCHOOL FARM TO SCHOOL INITIATIVE UPDATE

Even though we are not in the farming season, preparations for the future are in full swing. In the background, there are permits being prepped for a hoop house within the new fence for an early spring crop. The water supply and irrigation systems are in the planning stages. Wilco has granted \$1500 to build 2 chicken tractors. Currently the agriculture class is incubating eggs to fill the coops.

As a result of the previous article, multiple volunteers from the community stepped up to help in various ways. The community's generosity is greatly appreciated. It amazes me that a garden that isn't here yet, is already bringing the community together. All opportunities to volunteer will be posted on our Facebook page and shared through the Mohawk Messenger as much as possible.

**Thank you to Weyerhaeuser for the grant that allowed us to build the new deer fence to keep the critters out of the crops on the farm. We are looking forward to growing our first produce next spring now that we can protect it from hungry deer. (Photo credit Stacey Whaley)**

On the same day Mohawk FFA sponsored the Food Science CDE. Members demonstrate their knowledge of food product development, food presentation, sensory skills, and safety through tasting, smelling, and identifying safety issues.



(Violet Eisele is completing the triangle test. Each contestant tries three samples. 2 are the same and one is different, they have to identify which one is

different.)

Tyler Wallace is completing the sensory evaluation. Each container has one of 40 different scents. They have to smell 10 samples and determine which scent. The look on his



face makes it clear it is not anise, black liquorice.

The Mohawk FFA team had a great showing. Congratulations to 2nd place individual Natalie VanderPloeg and 3rd place individual Tyler Wallace. The team

finished 3rd overall!



3rd place Advanced Food Science Team (left to right) Tyler Wallace, Natalie VanderPloeg, Violet Eisele, and Quinn Devenport

Mohawk FFA also has some fun activities. Engaging in art with agriculture products is one way we can express many of our members creativity, so the main social event in November was pumpkin carving. Thank



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10 yard, 15 yard, 20 yard and 30 yard sizes.

If you are planning to replace your roof or just need to spruce up the yard a bit just give a call for rates.





# Thank you for everything, Curtis Irish.



**THE MARCOLA YOUTH CENTER** is preparing for their invitation-only annual Marcola Community Christmas event on Dec 20th. This event is sponsored by local businesses, organizations, and local community members to help bring Christmas joy to some of our grade school students. We need your help to make this event successful.

Approximately 50 students from the Marcola Elementary School will attend this invitation-only event. We rely on over sixty local volunteers to ensure an organized and fun day. Students will get a picture with Santa, pick out and wrap gifts for every family member, do a special craft plus much more. They will go home with a complete food box including a turkey, potatoes, bread, rolls, cookies, fresh fruit and canned goods.

We are seeking donations of:

- New gift items for all age groups
- Canned food and meat
- Peanut butter and pasta
- Financial donation

This year with so many families struggling financially we believe it is necessary to continue our tradition of bringing the Christmas Spirit of giving to the kids in our community. With your help, we can make this happen.

Starting December 1st donations can be dropped off at the Marcola Christian Church on Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday from 8am to 12pm.



**Please let us know if you would like to volunteer to help with this event.**

Please send your financial donation to us at:  
Marcola Community Christmas  
Marcola Youth Center  
PO Box 902  
Marcola OR 97454

Thanks,  
DeLana Hansen  
delanahansen@msn.com  
541-933-3907



# KARREN LANSKY'S PAGE

## WENDLING

By Richard Raines Harlow

As they say in books and movies, there was a special place and time that is no more. That describes the mill town of Wendling that was about 20 miles up the Mohawk Valley from Eugene. It was a "company town" built and owned by Booth-Kelly Lumber Company at the site of their sawmill, which was one of the largest in the northwest. The town had several hundred houses. A store, barbershop, bowling alley, meeting hall, churches, schools, etc. – all owned by the Company. But that is not what made Wendling so special, it was the people, how they lived and the



events that took place there. The town had about 1000 people with 300 working in the mill and several hundred in the logging camps. My family and I used to visit Wendling many times every year. We had lots of relatives

and close friends there. Grandfather and Grandmother Harlow, two uncles, one aunt, and one married cousin lived there with their families. They were there for the work in the mill and the woods. Grandfather Harlow lost his sawmill to the creditors during a lumber recession. They had to seek employment elsewhere.

The town had modest wood houses, gravel or plank streets, and wooden sidewalks. No one was too poor or rich. However, some had better jobs, and the supervisors and managers lived in the bigger houses on "Silk Stocking Row." Others lived in "Poverty Flats, Battle Row," and "Oklahoma Heights." What descriptive terms! Everybody knew everybody and life ebbed and flowed with the operation of the mill. You could tell the time with the mill whistle and be alarmed when it signaled an accident or fire.

The mill and log pond were huge, and the shortest way to walk from the north side of town to "Oklahoma Heights" was across the pond on a walkway made of large logs chained together and flattened on the top. It had wooden handrails. To a little boy, walking across the pond on the logs was some adventure, especially when the wind was blowing or when they were moving logs in the pond and the walkway swayed. Of course, I could not go across the pond alone until I was older.

You could see directly into part of the mill when crossing the pond, and you

could feel and sense the power of the mill with the whine of the saws, the clanging of the conveyors, steam hissing, and the pounding of the headrig as it shot back and forth cutting those large old growth logs. The logs ranged from about two feet in diameter to over ten feet, and averaged over three feet.

Booth – Kelly owned an extensive area of timber and used railroads to haul the logs from the woods where they had logging camps. The houses (and even the school) were on railcars, as they had to be moved every so often. My dad's brother Charles ran the "speeder" and lived at a logging camp. The speeder was a self-propelled railcar that was used to transport people and supplies between Wendling and the logging camps. Several times I got to ride on the speeder with Uncle Charlie and stay with him and his wife Freddie at the camp. This was a real thrill. I got to see the end of the era of railroad logging, with those big steam engines hauling logs so large that sometimes only one could fit on a railcar. It was also the end of the era of the remote logging camps as roads replaced rails.

But most of my memories are of the times spent with my Grandfather and Grandmother Harlow, my aunts and uncles, and playing with my cousins Delores and Marjorie Raines and their friends. When we visited family in Wendling, dad and mother would usually return to Eugene the same day, but it was not so far away that Connie and I could not stay over for a few days. We were accepted as part of the Wendling kids, as we had so many relatives there and visited so often. We played lots of games and had lots of fun in the fields, woods, and streams around Wendling. One time the kids (with the help of some adults) built the most unique slide on a hill behind town. It was several hundred feet long and used wood planks as the base, with a 2x2 nailed to the center. The sled had two 2x4 nailed to the bottom that straddled the 2x2. The 2x2 and the plank were then greased, and when you went down the slide you knew what they meant by "greased lightening." Once when I was going down a 2x2 broke and speared me in the leg as I was going full speed. Fortunately, I was hit by the square end and not seriously

injured. It left more of a memory than a scar. My sister Connie was somewhat of a tomboy, so it was always special when she stayed with dad's sister Lulu, who would dress her in the feminine outfits she had made. Connie sure had to change clothes a lot when she visited Aunt Lulu.

In 1946, the mill closed as they ran out of old growth timber, and the second growth was not ready for harvest. Six months later the mill mysteriously burned down. It was never rebuilt, and the timberland was sold to another company with mills in the Eugene area and other places. The people moved away, the town was demolished, and the area leveled. Now, nothing remains but a small park and trees where the town and mill were located. But, oh those memories! When you speak of Wendling to those who lived and visited there, you can see a far away look in

their eyes and maybe a trace of a tear.

Richard Raines Harlow was a nephew of Lula Wicks and Loran Raines, cousin of Margie and Delores Raines and Ida Schutz and Walter Wicks.

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# MOHAWK GENERAL STORE



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## LIONS UPDATE

The Mohawk Valley Lions would like to thank the unknown good Samaritan(s) that stopped in the week of November 1st and cleaned up the leaves in the Lee Downing

Veteran's Memorial Park.

This was very much unexpected and appreciated. It made the final leaf cleanup much easier for the Lions. THANK YOU!

The Lions would like to invite those in the community that may be interested, to join us in collecting bottles and cans through the Bottle Drop program. We provide the barcoded blue bags for collection. Proceeds go the Lions projects such as Honor Flight for Veterans, Canine Companions for Veterans, and the Eugene Mission.

If you would like bags or more information, you may call Bob Weaver at 541-520-6609. The Lions continue to support the Helping Hand food bank, Oregon Sight and Hearing, Diabetic camps, the Lee Downing Veteran's Memorial Park, along with various other community projects.

We have recently decorated the park for the harvest season and posted flags for Veteran's Day. We look forward to the Christmas Season

to decorate Marcola and support the Community Christmas activities.

The Lions have now relocated to our new home. Thanks to the Marcola Christian Church we will be using their fine facility for our monthly meetings.

Bob Weaver, President  
Mohawk Valley Lions Club

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# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## LEAVING AFGHANISTAN

By Rep. Marty Wilde

The lives lost in Afghanistan demand an accounting from our national leadership. Every counterinsurgency is a battle for the loyalty of the people. Our leaders did not insist on an Afghan government, services, or a military worthy of the people’s loyalty. We failed in Afghanistan because we did not support an option better than the Taliban. We now see now the sobering consequences of that choice.

In 2011, I volunteered to serve in the Governance section of the international military headquarters, because Afghanistan was turning into a new Vietnam. The US was again backing a predatory government that did not serve the people. I hoped to help the Afghan people develop ground-level governance that made sense to them.

What I found was an Afghan government that was uninterested the people’s needs or priorities. How could the government in Kabul be worse for the Afghan people than the Taliban? The Afghan government routinely extorted bribes and failed to provide basic services. Corruption at every level was rampant. After two decades of abuse and neglect by their government, the people were ready to embrace any alternative – even one as loathsome as the Taliban.

At the heart of our failures was unwillingness to accept the necessity of building local capacity with small projects offering real value to the Afghan people, who would then support the government that provided them. We preferred meeting with people who talked like us and shared our belief in hierarchical governance, not the people actually doing the work in the communities. And, as in Vietnam, we refused to acknowledge

when our choices failed the people. The restrictions on American support also became obstacles. In 2011, if the Taliban attacked a US troop outpost, we could send another platoon out to defend it—a response that cost lives, injuries, and \$40 million a year. What we could not do was provide the nearby communities with small-scale water, power, and sewer services – costing \$1 million/year – to encourage people to be more invested in our presence and a sustainable future.

The military task in a counterinsurgency is to protect the people from violence. We focused on fielding the most Afghan soldiers and police as quickly as possible, but not as effectively as possible. Shortcuts in training failed to provide sustainable logistics and turned a blind eye toward corruption in their leadership. While I served, we piloted a cell phone banking system to pay troops directly; otherwise, much of their pay would be stolen by their officers. We churned out Afghan trainees in 16 weeks – about the same time spent on a US trainee – but, unlike US soldiers, the Afghans lacked basic literacy and numeracy. In a region where tribal affiliation was primary, they did not even have a shared identity as Afghans. We put quantity of trainees over quality and appropriateness of training, and we reaped what we sowed when Afghan military members deserted en masse.

As in Vietnam, our leaders believed that Afghanistan could be remade only in our image, not according to the vision of its own people. The lesson we should take from it is this: We should never again put our troops in harm’s way to support a government that its own people do not believe in.

Rep. Marty Wilde is a member of the Oregon Legislature and a Colonel in the Air National Guard. The views expressed herein are his own and not necessarily those of the Department of Defense or the Department of the Air Force.

## THOUGHTS FROM LOIS ROBERTS, MARCOLA

My dad, Bernard Walter Dagenham Young was the first Kalitan Editor at Mohawk High School. And the students in those first years were the singular ones who named us, “The Mohawk Indians.” It was a proud tribute to many of the people who had come to this valley from the well-known Mohawk Valley in northwest New York State.

They were significant pioneers who left everything to help settle and contribute to small communities in this area. They said, “Oh how wonderful! This valley reminds us of the homeland we left, to come out here and settle in Western Oregon.”

I have copies of my Dad’s Kalitan school newspaper, which includes his editorials and many fun reportings of the students and teachers back then. True Patriots all. Most families they reflected were as Christians who worshipped God and honored God and built all their community foundation on Scriptural and Biblical values.

To keep all the teachings of God as the Creator and Father of Mankind, and recognize Him as the Lord of earth and all the universe. And to extend love and help to thy neighbor as thyself. And to stand for liberty and truth for all citizens of this great country, The Republic of the United States of America.

My Dad and his two brothers, and many men and their wives and families, who were true historians of this Marcola-Mabel-Wendling area, had such wonderful stories to tell all us kids who also grew

up here, in the generations after them.

Phil and I have had our own lifelong adventures here since we were born in 1945 and 1946. And added to that are the childhoods of our three children, who also went through Marcola Grade School and Mohawk High School, with the continued honor given to this small town school system and the many fine students who contributed to the generations of American society down through the years.







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# CURTIS ROY IRISH

JULY 3, 1930 – NOVEMBER 20, 2021



The Irish family has been a staple of the Marcola community for 115 years, his father arriving in August 1906 to take a job in the Southern Pacific mill north of Marcola. Charles Irish married Edith Schroll on May 11, 1929. Curt's beginning starts with a small item in the Eugene Guard on page 11, column 8, buried near the bottom of the "Springfield Briefs". It simply stated, "Mr. and Mrs. Charles Irish of Marcola are the parents of a boy, born Thursday." A quite simple and

quiet beginning that would flourish and grow until it affected all of us.

Curt had an older brother and sister from his dad's first marriage, and a little sister Mary. Curt grew up, a normal kid, in Marcola. He played marbles for pennies, roamed the hills, fished, hunted, and did all the normal things of kids during the Great Depression. His father worked as a

timekeeper and tallyman in the mills, so Curt had a lot of exposure to that part of Marcola life. He attended school at Marcola, in the same building many of us attended (the one that burned down June 5, 1976). He attended Mohawk Union High School, graduating on June 3, 1949, amongst a class of fifteen.

Over his life, Curt worked jobs to make ends meet. However, it is the job that did not pay that we remember him most for. Curt spent over 40 years, meeting with people and taking pictures of their photos. For each photo, he would take notes on what the owner knew about it. Seems simple, until you realize that over those 40 years, he took more than 20,000 pictures, collecting them into a library of history.

While collecting pictures, he listened to the stories. He met with "old-timers" and asked them questions. He never quit.

He spent hundreds to thousands of hours in the forests and valleys, photographing and identifying plants. He spent time hunched over in the UO library looking over old newspapers collecting random articles about our history. He had a friend transcribe them. He shared this wonderful photo collection and documents online. He never quit collecting more information, even when it became a physical challenge to do so. He enlisted help in his endeavors.



Curt with a large Cottonwood Tree  
Wendling 10/2/11

We grew up with Curt at public functions taking new pictures to record the happenings of our town. He took care to ensure that his historical work would not only remain in the valley, but that it would continue to grow. He made a deal with the school district, so that they could purchase his farm and use it to educate our youth. His house was the Marcola one room schoolhouse from 1901 until 1907. Now it is part of the school again.



Curt always loved the children, especially at Halloween. Even when door to door trick or treating gave way to centralized safe havens for the

event, parents still took their children to Curt's house every Halloween.



Curt with part of the foundation for the water reservoir for fire protection  
Oklahoma Heights area of Wendling, OR

Curt is now resting in the Marcola cemetery with his family and those he knew personally or studied. Take time to remember Curt.

Many of you have at least one special memory of him. Whether it was Curt taking a picture, a Halloween, listening to his stories or enjoying his online posts, just take a moment, and remember a man who did so much for us beyond just living here.



Curt with a vestige of old Wendling

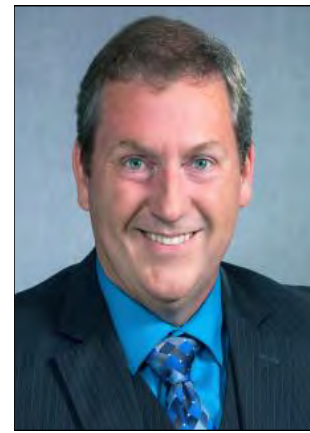
## Rest in Peace, Curt!

By Jay Swofford





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If a move is in your plans, call Cory T. Neu for a market analysis on your present home, and a LOOK AT YOUR IDEAL REPLACEMENT HOME & PROPERTY!



### Residential Highlights

New listings (482) decreased 5.7% from the 511 listed in October 2020, and decreased 3.2% from the 498 listed in September 2021.

Pending sales (461) decreased 5.9% from the 490 offers accepted in October 2020, and increased 1.8% from the 453 offers accepted in September 2021.

### Inventory and Market Time

Inventory decreased to 0.9 months in October. Total market time increased to 22 days.

### Year-To-Date Summary

Comparing the first ten months of 2021 to the same period in 2020, new listings (5,245) increased 4.7%, pending sales (4,506) increased 4.2%, and closed sales (4,259) increased 7.0%.

### Average and Median Sale Prices

Comparing 2021 to 2020 through October, the average sale price has increased 19.3% from \$361,700 to \$431,400. In the same comparison, the median sale price has increased 18.2% from \$334,300 to \$395,000.

Inventory in Months*			
	2019	2020	2021
January	2.2	1.9	0.8
February	2.0	1.6	0.9
March	1.8	1.7	0.6
April	1.7	2.0	0.7
May	1.5	2.0	0.7
June	1.6	1.3	0.7
July	1.5	0.9	0.8
August	1.6	1.0	0.9
September	1.8	1.1	1.0
October	1.8	0.9	0.9
November	1.7	0.8	
December	1.4	0.6	

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