

Mohawk Valley Community Grange



Serving the Mohawk Valley and Its Communities

SPRING EDITION • MARCH, 2023

25 Years of Publication! Thanks, Mohawk Valley!

"If you are more fortunate than others, build a longer table, not a taller fence!"

MARCOLA SCHOOL DISTRICT FAMILIES AND COMMUNITY MEMBERS



In each of our schools we follow the 3 basic school rules; Be Safe, Be Respectful and Be Responsible. These rules are universal and span over multiple areas and subjects at every level.

The first rule we teach

"Be Safe" is by design. Our primary responsibility is to BE SAFE and keep all of our students, staff and community members as safe as possible while on our campus.

Given the amount of debate and discussion recently, I would like to take a moment to address some of the feedback we've heard about the new security fencing we are installing around our campus.

I will take this opportunity to group share some of the questions we have received.

Q: Why do we have locks on our school doors?

A: Locks are obvious and they are used as an added layer of security to prevent outside intruders from entering inside the building(s).

Q: Why is the security fence so tall?

A: These panels we ordered 6+' tall on purpose - to slow down and delay any outside intruder or threat from quickly jumping the fence to gain inside perimeter access. *I agree they are a bit to get used to seeing and maybe a bit intimidating in size. However this is also part of the point, to anyone thinking of ill thoughts towards entering our school seeking quick access to our kids or staff.

Q: Will this fence stop a person from gaining access INSIDE our campus perimeter?

A: No - this fence WILL NOT GUARANTEE that an intruder won't make it inside our campus perimeter to possibly do us harm. HOWEVER this fence serves as an additional "layer of security" to deter and prevent an intruder from GAINING

EASY ACCESS by breaching our security perimeter.

Q: Can students, staff and visitors exit quickly out of these gates?

A: Yes. While inside the fencing/gates - any person from within can easily exit by pushing on the "crash bars" at each gate and it will open to exit. These crash bar systems are the same units we already have on the exterior doors around campus.

Q: Will elementary playground and field areas be OFF-LIMITS on the weekends because of the fencing?

A: NO - full and easy access will be available for use of the playground facilities. We are able to program when the gates are opened and accessible. We have also designed that security section to be fully accessible for after hour use.

Q: In the event of an emergency - will our students and staff be able to exit quickly from the buildings and security area?

A: Yes - Once the fencing is completely installed, the district will set up a series of practice drills to train our students and staff on the most efficient evacuation and exit routes.

Q: When needing to access campus during regular school hours - will visitors be able to do so?

A: Yes - once fencing is installed and gates are operational, signage and access areas will be clearly marked. All visitors will be instructed to check in at the front offices at each building, once staff have cleared them they will be granted access inside our campus.

Q: What happens if my student is tardy or late to school?

A: Instructions and access areas will be clearly indicated, students will be instructed how to access through the gates and get to class.

Q: MS/HS after school hour games - will families be able to access gyms and fields?

A: Absolutely - full signage and access routes will be clearly indicated and access will be opened.

Q: Will the community have an opportunity to tour the new security system to learn how to access campus in the future?

A: Yes - absolutely we plan to host an OPEN HOUSE for the community in April or May.

*We want to invite the entire community on campus to explore all of the new projects and additions that have taken place over the past 2 years. New Security Systems, New Bus/Tractor Garage, Weight Room, New Classrooms, New Middle School Area, New Commons and New Bus Parking Yard.

Q: Will the Marcola community be able to provide feedback and suggestions on future projects the district is considering?

A: YES. The school district will be sharing a full Stakeholders Community Engagement Feedback form in the near future.

Stakeholders Community Engagement Feedback form will be available to anyone living in the Marcola community. Look for it out soon.

We want to hear from everyone. We will soon have a link on our district website <https://www.marcola.k12.or.us/>, we will also have posted QR Codes located at local businesses in town and even hard copies to complete for those folks that want to provide input in written form.

Marcola School District Jobs postings still available: CDL Bus Driver, HS Baseball Head Coach, MS Track & Field Head Coach.



POSTAL
CUSTOMER
ECRWSS

PRSRT STD
US POSTAGE
PAID
PORTLAND, OR
PERMIT NO. 3142

DRIVE THROUGH WIN-
DOW OPEN



LOCATED ON MARCOLA ROAD, NEAR CAMP CREEK ROAD

LOWER TOBACCO PRICES!!



FULL ESPRESSO BAR
OVER 50 VARIETIES OF WINE
LARGE BEER SELECTION

PIZZA
HOT FOOD & SANDWICHES



LANE COUNTY PARK PASSES
DAY FISHING LICENSES
PROPANE EXCHANGE
LOTTERY-ATM-EBT

541-747-0321

COUPON for 50¢ off
A 20 oz. Espresso drink
Expires April 30, 2023

For details and to apply, visit www.epud.org/scholarships

EMPOWERING SCHOLARSHIPS

We're offering five \$3,000 scholarships to any EPUD customer or family member pursuing a field of study used in the utility industry.

Graduating high school seniors, new and returning students in college or trade school, and adults seeking new career training are eligible.

APPLICATIONS DUE APRIL 17, 2023



541-746-1583
www.epud.org

Board: Charles Kimball, Curt Offenbacher, Patti Chappel, Ron Davis, Brian Parker



FROM LINDA MOONEY, EDITOR:

Yes, the paper is smaller! We can only afford to print what our advertisers can pay for. We are working to include more advertisers and then we can add pages! Thanks for understanding!

SPRING IS COMING! I'm sure you all are as eager as we are for its arrival! It's snowing here as I work!!

Please send your comments, suggestions and, yes, even your criticisms to us at:
lindamooney39361@gmail.com

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

ATTENTION ADVERTISERS! Oregon Lithoprint has agreed to allow us to bill for ads AFTER the paper comes out....as we used to do previously. Kay will invoice all advertisers and sponsors by the 15th of the month in which the paper comes to you, currently by May 15, 2023 for the Summer Issue in early June. We will need payments ASAP after that.

Mail checks made out to Linda Mooney, Editor or Kay Allen, Treasurer to MOHAWK MESSENGER, P.O. BOX 1133, MARCOLA, OR 97454

OR

Advertisers may pay directly to Linda using PayPal or Venmo. Email her at lindamooney39361@gmail.com for details on this method. Thank You for your support!

Thanks to this newspaper's
ever-so-generous

Sponsors:

Marcola School District #79
Mohawk Valley Rural Fire District

Meetings (Alphabetical) in the Community

Organizations: Please contact me if your information changes.
lindamooney39361@gmail.com OR 541-913-3799

• 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

day of every month. 6PM

More information, check website or call Linda Mooney 541-913-3799

• Mohawk High School Booster Club:

1st Monday of every month. Check with HS for specific times and locations. Members needed.

• 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.

• Mohawk Valley Lions Club Meetings:

2nd TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH at Marcola Christian Church, 92419 Marcola Rd, Contact Bob Leeper @ 541-515-6907.

• Marcola Christian Church

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

• Mohawk Valley Rural Fire District -

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

• Marcola School District 79 Board Meetings:

2nd Monday of every month in Marcola Elementary Media Center at 6PM

• Tai Chi Classes:

Contact Julia Mooney 541-915-9392

• 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

• 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!

• Mohawk Community Church

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

FYI: Contact info for all of our elected officials can be found at this website: <https://lwvlc.org/publications-2/represent/>

• Mohawk Valley Community Grange

Regular meetings on the 3rd Wednesday

CLASSES OR POSSIBLE CLASSES AT THE MOHAWK VALLEY COMMUNITY GRANGE



OPEN ART EVENING

6-9PM Tuesdays at the Mohawk Grange
Work on your own projects in your favorite media including yarn and fabric. FREE to anyone who would like to work individually or in a small group. Tables and chairs available. A model poses at a shared costs for those wishing to draw or do sculpture. 18 and under with permission. For more information, call or text: Erica Shetsline, 541-505-4788

NAMASTE MOHAWK VALLEY~



I teach yoga & I'm ready to start a group here!

If you have an interest, text me to be added to the contact list!

ALL LEVELS,
ALL ARE WELCOME!

~Jaya Devi~ 541-844-9143

(if you don't text, email Linda at address below)

OTHER POSSIBLE CLASSES

*How to Tie Dye

*Indian Cooking Class

This one will cost \$60 for each person!

Let us know if you are interested or if you have a class you would be interested in teaching.

Email Linda at lindamooney39361@gmail.com for questions, comments or suggestions!



WE NEED VOLUNTEERS! PLEASE COME JOIN US! MEET NEW PEOPLE AND HAVE FUN!

By Donna Heath

If you made a resolution to volunteer this year, this article will give you info on some of the many organizations that would appreciate your time and energy. For questions, email or call them.

Friends of the Marcola Schools Media Center & Library. Cindy Miska, cindymiska53@gmail.com or leave me a message on FB Friends page. We will train you Wednesdays 4 - 7 p.m. or the second Saturday of the month to help with shelving and prepping books for the collection as well as work during the 3-day book sales usually June & December.

Helping Hand Food Pantry. Michele Freese, 541 359 9648. Volunteers must be able to lift 50 pounds continuously for 1 1/2 hours on the 2nd Monday of each month. No need at this time.

Marcola Education Foundation. Rick Ericson, ricke@marcola.k12.or.us. This new non-profit "is focused on expanding post high school scholarships, enhancing current educational opportunities in each classroom by building a strong sense of cultural identity..."

Marcola Pioneer Cemetery. Sharon Jakeways, 541 517 8025. I can always use help cleaning up the cemetery the Saturday before Memorial Day weekend [May 20 this year] from 11 - 1, as well as mapping the vegetation and writing articles for the Messenger with stories about your relatives buried there.

Marcola Youth Center. Delana Hansen, delanahansen@msn.com. We need people with a talent or skill, like cooking, tying flies for fishing, etc. to teach these youths; the classes would be free but we will pay for materials. If you want to supervise, you will need to fill out an application including a background check.

Mohawk Elementary PTO. President Leecole Sloeck,

lsloeckmarcola.k12.or.us

MHS FFA [Future Farmers of America], Kelli Fisher, kfishermarcola.k12.or.us

Mohawk Middle and High School Booster Club. Charity Litle, President, clittle@marcola.k12.or.us; Carrie Robinson, VP, crobinson@marcola.k12.or.us.

Mohawk Valley Community Grange. Linda Mooney, lindamooney39361@gmail.com.

Come and join us for community service! We always need help with Open House, BINGO, Road Clean up (Twice a year), Marcola Christmas Party, Music in the Park, and some projects we've yet to think of!

Mohawk Valley Lions Club. Bob Leeper, President, 541 515 6907. We could also use your help with our road clean up on a 2-mile stretch south of Marcola, maintaining the Lee Downing Memorial Park, and putting up the Holiday decorations along Marcola Road as well as flags for Flag Day [June 14], July 4th and Veterans Day. We also administer vision screening to the Marcola students. BTW, anyone who needs hearing or vision testing can call us to set up an appointment free of charge.

Mohawk Valley Rural Fire District, Chief Steven Wallace, 541 933 2907. In addition to the cadet program for high school students ages 16-18 learning to be a firefighter and first responder, there is training for anyone at least 18 years old as either a firefighter and/or emergency medical provider. We have support roles as well to accommodate all individuals interested in volunteering. If you have questions or want an application, call our main station at (541) 933-2907, or email Faith Huff at fhuff@mohawkvalleyfire.com.

And although she's not in our valley, if you're a cat lover:

Community Cat Advocacy Team Springfield. Toni Ray, 541 606 3987 or message on Facebook.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

(Editor's Note: In Response to last issue's article by Britt Sheflin called **Iconic Mohawk Valley, Virginia**

Some answers about the bridge, which is The Earnest Bridge on Paschelke road: The barn in the background was the Walter Polley property, then Stevens and now has a third owner.

The landowner in the picture with Jimmy Stewart is my father, Russell William Earnest. I am his daughter, Cleo J. Rogers

The movie, Shenandoah was also filmed up Camp Creek area. It's the part where the cow went across the field.

The Downing cornfield scene, which is now Jerry Jensen's property, was on the road near the Earnest Bridge.

Hope this clears up a few things, Cleo J. Rogers

Editor's Note: Thank You to Cleo J. Rogers for her input!

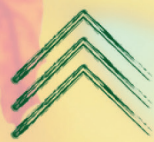
Editor's Apology: I received the following note right after the paper came out last time. I diligently copied the message, but I don't know who sent it. If it is yours, please email me and I'll credit you in the Summer issue. Thanks!

In the article by Britt Sheflin with Jimmy Stewart... It's taken from the east side of Earnest Bridge looking toward Marcola Road.

Jimmy Stewart is standing with Russel Earnest, whom the bridge was named after and whose home stands just at that first corner where you turn onto Paschelke Road.

You can see Louie Polley's barn as you look through the bridge behind them, which sat up on a hillside field there on the west side of Marcola Road.





TRIPLE OAKS REALTY
PREMIER REAL ESTATE PROFESSIONALS

I live in your community and love it here, just like you do. When you're looking for someone local to help you with buying or selling real estate in Lane and Linn Counties, please consider me!

Autumn Larson
Broker

541.272.2599

AutumnLarson@tripleoaksrealty.com

Licensed in the State of Oregon | www.tripleoaksrealty.com



Join the
Grow This!

Oregon Garden Challenge



From microgreens to pole beans! Home gardening is part of Oregon's history, but more than ever before, Oregonians can benefit from growing gardens and sharing garden knowledge and skills. The *Grow This!* Oregon Garden Challenge is a call to action to families, schools and other groups to garden together and eat what we grow.

What is the 2023 Challenge?

While supplies last, Oregonians who sign up and request seeds will be mailed seeds free of charge:

- **Households:** five seed types (herbs, lettuce, another leafy green, tomatoes, zinnias)
- **Teachers (pre-K through high school):** a seed-starting classroom kit plus, while supplies last, an option to add a potato-growing classroom kit
- **All other groups:** seed packets to meet your needs

Anyone can join using their own seeds! Garden videos, tips and how-to handouts are posted on the Food Hero [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/foodhero) page and added to the Food Hero garden tips website page ([foodhero.org/garden-tips](https://www.foodhero.org/garden-tips)).

Once a month, Oregon State University garden, nutrition and bee experts will email participants a fun letter with new, simple ideas for growing; tips on harvesting, seed-starting, seed-saving and pollinators; recipes; and more.

Who can join?

Anyone from anywhere can join the Challenge! Current participants are the first invited to sign up for the following year.

How do I join?

Starting on February 6, 2023, fill out a very short survey at this link: <https://foodhero.org/growthis>.

Want to know more?

- Watch a 30-second video: <https://foodhero.org/growthis>
- Leave a phone message: 541-737-1017
- Email: food.hero@oregonstate.edu



Oregon State University
Extension Service
Master Gardener™

BI-MART

The *Grow This!* Oregon Garden Challenge has been adapted from the *Grow This!* West Virginia Garden Challenge through a partnership with West Virginia University.
This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer. This material was funded in part by USDA's Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program.



MARCOLA MUSTANGS

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

MARCOLA SCHOOL DISTRICT HIRES A FARMER!



Hi, I am Brian Silva! I am the Farm Education Coordinator! I graduated from Mohawk High School in 1996, providing me a foundation of understanding of the unique dynamics of rural living and the local culture that makes up the Mohawk Valley.

I have heavily assisted in the operation of my family's professional, local organic farm since 2003. During my extensive farming experience,

I have overseen a soil/fertilization program, managed the soil development and have worked extensively with plant production and farming from the farm's inception to our highly successful crops of today.

I enjoy working hard, putting in an "honest day's work," and tackling challenging problems with both professionalism and the tenacity to get the job done!! I thoroughly enjoy working with children. I have mentored and coached various groups of children, ranging from all socio-economic and cultural backgrounds.

My goal, for this Farm, is to build a self-sustainable working farm with a 'seed to table' model to serve both the students of Marcola Schools and the Greater Mohawk valley



Thank you Curtis Irish!

support and shared involvement.

Progress is now occurring with a new Irish Farm building that will secure Curt's donated tractor and farm equipment. It will be staffed by 1-2 people servicing both our Marcola School District Campus and Farm. This building was made possible in part by Mr. Curtis Irish's generous donation and his vision left to future generations of Marcola School District children.



Charles Kimball and myself set up and managed a community cider pressing in the fall. I had the macerator chopper that cut the apples into small pieces and Charles had the hydraulic press. I went to Lochmead Dairy and got 100 - 1 gallon milk containers. They were sanitary and people took the cider home to drink or freeze!

community. I envision year in and year out being able to use the school farm's harvest to enrich the school cafeteria as well as to enrich the lives of our students, while providing them work skills and a realistic farming experience. I also look forward to coordinating with community members to build a solid foundation of

FRIENDS OF THE MARCOLA SCHOOLS MEDIA CENTER

Open Hours at the Media Center and Library

The Friends staff open hours for the community every Wednesday, 4-7pm, and every second Saturday of the month, 10a-1p. There are new books added to our shelves weekly. We have a great selection of mysteries, science fiction, and classics for adults, teens, tweens, and our younger readers.

COME IN AND

WOW, did you know that all Valley residents are eligible to borrow books, not just District students or families with kids in school? **THAT MEANS THAT WE HAVE AN ACTUAL LIBRARY HERE IN THE VALLEY WE CAN ALL USE!!**

CHECK IT OUT!

The Media Center is located at 38300 Wendling Road, at the East end of the Elementary School. We are accepting book donations during our open hours. **Volunteer Opportunities at the Media Center, Reception on March 15th**

Are you looking for an opportunity to volunteer in our valley? We are hosting a reception for prospective Media Center volunteers on Wednesday, March 15th, 5-7pm. Meet members of the Friends, share some light refreshments, and ask us any questions you may have about volunteering at the Media Center, whether on an occasional or recurring basis.

Oregon Rocks! for Families, Wednesday, June 7th

The Friends are delighted to present a program for families with elementary-age children, Oregon Rocks!, from UO's Museum of Natural and Cultural History. It begins at 3pm, on Wednesday, June 7th, and will take place in the Elementary School Gymnasium.

Presented by a museum educator, the 60- to 90- minute experience begins with an interactive

presentation for approximately 20 minutes, followed by time at activity tables featuring fun, hands-on activities, and touchable specimens.

Take off on a geology adventure and explore our ever-changing planet Earth. Dig into rocks, fossils, earthquakes, and volcanoes through hands-on activities and rockin' specimens, discovering the dynamic forces that have shaped Oregon's landscape over time.

Book and Vinyl Sale, Save the Date!!

Our next Book and Vinyl Sale will be Saturday and Sunday, June 24th & 25th, at the Marcola Elementary School Media Center. There will be Gift Book Bundles available for purchase, as well as a large, eclectic, selection of gently used books and vinyl. We are looking forward to seeing everyone!

Did you know that proceeds from our Book & Vinyl Sales help the Friends give a new book to each Elementary School student, twice a year, before Summer Vacation and before Winter Break?

Dolly Parton's Imagination Library, Free Books

Dolly Parton's Imagination Library is a program that mails a monthly, FREE, high-quality, age-appropriate book to children from birth to age five, no matter their family's income. Registration is at the website: www.imaginationlibrary.com

What a great way to expand your home library!

Little Free Library

The Little Free Library by the Lion's Lee Downing Park has books available, night and day. There is a rapidly rotating selection of books for all ages. Friends of the Media Center and Library are also stocking it with new books weekly. Stop by and take a book and/or leave a book. Please feel free to check it out!

Contact the Friends

See our Facebook page: facebook.com/friendsofmarcolamediacenter/

Email us: friendsofmarcolalibrary@gmail.com

Phone: Cindy Miska
541-953-3725

WAGONS HO

By Juanita Turner Paslay

A long time ago (before Facebook and YouTube), in August 1993, my husband and I left the comforts of home in our red GMC pickup to join the official Oregon Trail Sesquicentennial Wagon Train. The excursion celebrated one hundred fifty years since the great westward migration left Independence MO.

We traveled northeast to Pendleton, arriving five o'clock in the afternoon. The next morning, we ate a hardy breakfast at six o'clock and the wagon master shouted, "Wagons Ho!" at seven. Bathroom duties caused us to break camp late. We had to run to catch up with our covered wagon sponsored by Craig's employer the Bureau of Land Management.



It was slowly pulling out of the parking lot without us. How embarrassing! Enthusiastic townspeople with cameras clicking lined the city streets as we celebrities waved back. I dressed for the occasion in my newly made, authentic-looking pioneer dress and bonnet, all but the tennis shoes. Craig wore his suspenders and a funny straw hat.

For this portion of the westward trip, we had joined ten other covered wagons, forty rough and tough cowboys, and fifty dedicated walkers for this once-in-a-lifetime experience. The comforts of home followed us: two buses for those who tired from walking, a warm shower truck, two outhouse trucks, and three catering trucks brought up the rear. All the comforts of home – almost. Each night, chauffeurs drove the men back to the last parking lot to bring our vehicles forward.

The first morning on the trail, a state police escort led us down the freeway and a secondary highway to the historic town of Echo, twenty-five miles west of Pendleton. Five miles of this section of the trip twisted through wheat fields, taking us over original wagon trail ruts. Our wagon, built without springs, created a very rough ride as I sat on thinly padded seats. Imagine the early pioneers traveling with metal or wooden wheels over the rocky trails. My comfortable sedan became a distant memory! A friendly cowboy wearing a silly old cowboy hat rode alongside our wagon and conversed with our driver. The morning rain had made the pavement dangerously slippery. Without warning, his horse slipped

on the wet freeway and dropped to two legs. When the horse fell, it scraped one leg and leaned heavily against our wagon, but the experienced rider remained in the saddle. The animal narrowly missed falling under our wagon wheel. Thus, I recorded the first accident of my first day on the trail.

The second accident of the day happened when an energetic gray horse bucked off his rider. The cowboy received only minor injuries, but the event gave him a story to write home about.

The third accident developed when a runaway wagon, due to a broken rein, caused

the horses to gallop in a circle. A small child on board screamed. Brave cowboys to the rescue! They controlled the horse in a matter of minutes. Screaming gets everyone's attention on a wagon train.

We buried no one that day as happened so many times on original wagon train expeditions.

When we arrived in Echo (population 510), the townsfolk joined us at the city park with their potluck dinners, and our chuck wagon served us a hardy meal. I enjoyed a warm summer evening with delicious food and friendly conversation.

I labeled the first day's trip extremely hot and tiring. I thanked God that I was not an original pioneer woman. I slept soundly in our tent until heavy rains woke me in the middle of the night.

When a sleeping bag rests against the side of a tent in a rainstorm, guess what happens. The bag soaks up water. More trail tribulations! Those brave walking pioneers who slept under the stars that night woke up soaked to the skin and their shoes filled with rainwater. Dreaded blisters probably developed the next day as they continued their journey on foot in wet leather hiking boots.

Our second day produced cold temperatures, rain, and wind. The breakfast triangle bell sounded again at six o'clock, and the train pulled out an hour later. The sides of our covered wagon hung down all day, obstructing our anticipated view as we traveled over original pioneer trails. We rode sixteen miles from Echo to Butter Creek

Junction. The weather cleared in the afternoon in time for dinner and an after-dinner show at the Hawkins Ranch. The guest singers told jokes and sang silly western songs. A very relaxing evening.

After breakfast on the third day, the wagon train continued west. We took movies of the train winding up the road without us. I almost wished we were going with them, but two days on the rough trail produced too much inconvenience for this city gal. No favorite foods, no electricity for my curling iron, and damp sleeping bags. Riding (bouncing) in the covered wagon tired my bottom side. I shall not call the trip fun, but definitely a once-in-a-lifetime experience. My husband and I headed east in our GMC Sierra with comfortable seats and air conditioning to visit the Interpretive Center at Baker City. The museum depicts the real hardships and sacrifices the pioneers made to come West. We had a taste of their challenges and hazards. I am glad my relatives and the other pioneers ventured west to Oregon, and I am very glad I was born in modern-day Oregon.

PERFECTION IS NOT EASY

By Juanita Paslay, Gideon Aux. Chaplain

We think we are perfect; then we blow it. By the time we reach three score and ten years, we are beyond making mistakes. Or so we think.

My red Cadillac sat covered with pollen from pine trees and desperately needed a car wash. I have gone to this business many times, and the operator's final words are always the same: close your window and place the transmission in neutral. Easy instructions.

Recently, I experienced the fastest car wash ever! The shift lever was accidentally in drive and the vehicle sped forward on the moving tracks through water, soap and brushes like I had entered a horse race. I had never been so embarrassed! The understanding attendant said that it happens all the time, and he kindly sent me through the wash again. I am not sure if I shall have courage to swallow my pride and return for another car wash.

Pride goes before destruction,
and haughtiness before a fall.

Proverbs 16:18 NLT

Wounded pride can be mortifying, but sinful arrogance will affect my relationship with God. God desires everyone to repent of their ungodly pride, ask His forgiveness, turn from sin and seek the Lord's divine guidance in their daily lives.

Search my heart, O God! Help me live with a humble attitude. I must rely on Your grace instead of my human abilities.

Hello and Happy Almost Spring....as I sit here watching it snow!!

By Linda Mooney

We had our election of officers at the Mohawk Valley Community Grange in January. Donna Heath and myself will share the presidency, with Dan and Julia Mooney sharing the Secretary position and Teresa Hill and Juliana Connell still handling the treasurer position. We are all about sharing here at the Grange! Gail Weathers has become our lecturer.

Congratulations to all and thanks for your willingness to serve!



Your Mohawk Valley Community Grange has been very busy! We have hosted a very successful and FUN Bingo event, on February 11th. We had 47 happy smiling and some-very-lucky people show up! It was great fun! We hope to

do another **BINGO** on May 20th Times TBA... watch for the notices on bulletin boards, our web-site, and the Reader Board across from the Post Office in Marcola.

In March we 'Spring Forward' to Daylight Savings time, so make a note so you don't miss our March 15th at 6:00PM Grange meeting! Hope to see you there!



April is always a fun time as our annual **OPEN HOUSE** will be on April 15th 3-7PM. We will be eating well (Bring your favorite soups, salads, or breads), plants for sale including our annual **GORGEOUS Flower Baskets**, Music, Door Prizes, and a Dessert Contest, bring yours and see if it wins! Watch the Reader Board across from the Post Office for more info.

In May besides the BINGO event, we will be scheduling our twice-annual **Road CleanUp**. We can always use help with this valuable service to the valley. Again, watch the Reader Board across from the Post Office for more info.

May 15th is the deadline for the June issue of this paper, so more about our summer of fun in that issue!

Thanks so much to all of you who support and/or attend our events!!



**92178 Marcola Road
541-933-2828**

HOURS

**MONDAY-FRIDAY
RESTAURANT:
11AM-8PM
BAR IS OPEN
TIL
MIDNIGHT**

**WEEKENDS
RESTAURANT:
9AM-8PM
BAR IS OPEN
TIL
MIDNIGHT**

**Down and Dirty,
our local rockstars are playing
on
March 4th, March 31st,
April 22nd, May 20th,
June 10th**



**WE ARE OFFERING KARAOKE IN THE BAR
FRIDAYS FROM 9PM UNTIL CLOSE.
DJ DIRTY FURR
IS BACK FOR EVERY FRIDAY NIGHT
COME AND HAVE FUN!**

KARREN LANSKY'S 1/2 PAGE

Although I cannot think of many things I actually enjoy about winter in the Mohawk Valley, being able to observe the various birds and squirrels that are easier to see in the leafless trees and shrubs. Some of the most common birds that visit our backyards belong to the family Corvidae. This area of the Pacific Northwest has many of the very best conditions available to attract large numbers and varieties of birds.



Steller's Jay – This jay is slightly larger than a Robin, crested and a showy blue and black, it is the

There exist varying types of both food and shelter to encourage birds to remain in our region.

only bird in the Northwest so marked. This bird is the western equivalent of the Blue Jay so familiar to the eastern half of the continent. It has many of the characteristics of its powder-blue-and-white eastern counterpart, including a combination of both boldness and caution and a variety of noisy, raucous calls and screams. Steller's Jays imitate hawk calls. Unknown to most people, these Jays have a seldom-used soft, sweet song. This jay is frequently

LET'S CONGRATULATE:

John and Jenifer Walsh proudly announce the acceptance of their daughter, Emma into Magnificat High School, (Rocky River, OH) class of 2027.

Her great-aunts are Karren Lansky (Magnificat 1961), Leni Lansky (Lourdes Academy 1964) and Denise Lansky (Nazareth Academy 1970).

JAY SWOFFORD'S 1/2 PAGE FROM MOHAWK VALLEY HISTORY

FROM THE EDITOR: THANKS, JAY FOR THE ACCESS TO THESE WONDERFUL PICTURES

The Fischer Lumber Co was staple of Marcola, Oregon life for over 50 years. During those years, most of today's fire protocols were developed.

This is a picture of one of the Fischer Lumber Co.'s fire trucks parked on a logging road. The make and model of the vehicle is unknown at this time.

You can see that the driver has used chunks of waste wood as chocks under the tires, to prevent it from rolling back down the road. On the ground next to it is a Kiekhaefer Mercury two man chain saw. The Kiekhaefer Company was based out of Cedarburg, Wisconsin.

On the near end you can see the operators handles that are similar to an old bicycle's handlebars. On the far end you can see a grip for the second man with a single bar handle. This allowed two men to handle the saw as they were quite heavy. This model weighs in around 75 pounds. The engine put out 7 horsepower.



If you can identify the truck make/model or have additional data about this photo, please comment.



LADIES GROUP GATHERED IN FRONT OF FRANCIE'S BEAUTY SHOPPE IN WENDLING, OREGON, 1940S

Ladies are identified on the back of the photo as:

Squatting: Vada Mills, Margaret Wald Keeler, Alice Keeler, unknown Verna Skordahl, unknown, unknown, Elizabeth Sumner, Agnes Chandler, Lou Garrett

Standing: Flossie Abell, Bertha Cook, Ruth Bunch, Nellie Keeler, Lucille Kelly, unknown, Edna Bunch, Velma Bilderback, Eunice Raines, unknown, Ruth Wilt, Carrie Prickett, Loretta McKinney, Hazel Quigley, unknown

Note that the label on the picture has ten slots for names, but there are only nine women in the row.

There were many women's groups in Wendling. The groups covered every purpose from welfare to bridge club. At this time the specific group pictured here is unknown.

SPRINGFIELD UTILITY BOARD ATTEMPTS HOSTILE TAKEOVER OF EPUD TERRITORY....AGAIN!

By Charles Kimball

Board President, Emerald People's Utility District

Representing Subdistrict 5 for the Mohawk Valley, Coburg and Creswell

The Springfield Utility Board (SUB) is once again trying to seize service territory from Emerald People's Utility District in the SE Springfield area. In the early 2000's, the City of Springfield expanded their Urban Growth Boundary into Emerald's service area and offered to buy that portion of Emerald's system. Emerald refused the offer, explaining that we built the infrastructure in that area (an area of farms and fields in 1983) and have faithfully served those customer/owners for nearly 40 years. Subsequently, in 2005 SUB filed a lawsuit to Exclude and Eject Emerald from the exclusive service territory assigned by the Oregon PUC when Emerald was founded in 1983. The lawsuit made it's way through Lane County Circuit Court, the State Court of Appeals and the Oregon Supreme Court which ultimately denied SUB's action and confirmed Emerald's exclusive rights. The litigation costs in the mid-2000s were extensive, costing Emerald and SUB ratepayers money that should have been allocated to improving and updating our infrastructure.

Last year SUB once again filed a lawsuit attempting to seize the territory, this time around by trying to condemn our facilities via eminent domain. In late January, Lane County Circuit Court Judge Erin Fennerty denied the petition requesting that the court validate SUB's condemnation authority. This is the third consecutive court decision to deny SUB's attempts to take Emerald service territory, dating back to the State Appellate Court and Oregon State Supreme Court in the mid-2000s. Also, on January 26, 2022 SUB officials met with City of Springfield officials, informing them that they planned to initiate this action and requested that the City endorse or sanction it. The City declined to support the action, telling Emerald officials recently that they thought "it was a bad idea". As of today, the City of Springfield's position is that the matter does not involve them and they have no position on it. However, it is notable that SUB voters and Springfield city voters are exactly the same people.

Oregon has a dozen or so municipal public utilities that are surrounded in one fashion or another by 6 PUDs and 18 Electric Co-operatives. Generally speaking, the Co-ops came first in the 1920s and 30s to provide electric power in rural areas where none had previously existed. PUDs (public or people's utilities) came on the heels of the co-ops to provide power to underserved areas; that is, areas that were unprofitable for the investor-owned utilities (usually PGE or PacificCorp) and where the service was often atrocious as a result. Enabling statutes for PUDs in Oregon are enshrined in the state constitution. Emerald was voted into existence in 1978, had it's exclusive service territory designated by the Oregon PUC and began operating in 1983 after a protracted court battle to wrestle control from PacificCorp (then PP&L). The result of that process was that Emerald took a large area of unprofitable territory from PacificCorp, service territory they were likely glad to be rid of and paid them \$40 million for it. Emerald PUD is one of the youngest of Oregon's PUDs, turning 40 this year.

The growth of cities naturally results in Urban Growth Boundaries being pushed out into previously rural areas and is guided by Oregon land use planning. We at Emerald think this is a natural, organic process and we have no particular reason to oppose it. However, Oregon law makes no provision for one public electric utility to seize territory from another public electric utility. If that were the case, the implications for PUDs and Co-ops all over the state would be enormous. As the cities expand into PUD/Co-op exclusive service areas and attempt hostile takeovers, they would undermine the rural utilities entire business model. Costs for Mohawk Valley families and all EPUD customer/owners would rise as municipal utilities carve away our territory. Courts in Oregon, including the Supreme Court, have said no to this action. SUB seems to be undeterred, forcing Emerald and themselves to continue to spend ratepayer funds on legal fees, nearly a half million in the last year and millions more if SUB persists; money that would be better allocated to improving the lives of our customer/owners.



MOHAWK VALLEY LIONS NEWS

By Bob Leeper

I want to thank the Mohawk Valley community for responding and stepping forward to keep the Lions Club growing. We have 8 new members and several more very interested in serving the community. I haven't sought an okay to publish our members' names but I will seek that. We are not a secret club! Regardless, most of you have a closer connection to a local Lion than every one else having a degree of connection to Kevin Bacon.

We recently had our first social dinner meeting in 3 years and it was a wonderful evening of fellowship. Jay Swofford stepped up to tell us a great story from Wendling's past. And the food was awesome. We will have another social dinner meeting with a speaker on April 28th and all are welcome but you must give us a head count at least a week before the dinner.

And we are planning on bringing back the Flag Day Celebration in June with a barbecue and Music in The Park. Watch social media and local signs as we near June. Bring your picnic blankets or use our chairs and tables and enjoy a community day of fun. There is even talk of a Corn Hole tournament.

The Mohawk Valley Lions Club just recently assisted at the

school with the vision screening of all of the Elementary, Middle and High School students. Our District 36R leads the state and nation in the percentage of students tested annually! Our commitment years ago to Helen Keller to be there to help the visually challenged makes this a joyful annual occurrence. And our commitment has grown to include assistance for those suffering from hearing loss or diabetes. All Lions will help anyone financially stressed about getting help for any of these needs. We connect with other clubs and especially with the Oregon Lions Sight & Hearing Foundation to test, treat, and equip all who need our service. We are working on putting some posters up to let everyone know about the help that is available.

We will try to organize a work party when the weather turns to update and refurbish some of holiday displays, especially our candles. Time for paint, maybe some new ones, replace some of the hanging gear, work on the wreaths, etc. It is fun to brighten up Marcola Road through town!

We are acquiring a new MIA/POW flag for the park and a new American flag. And we are planning an update to the smaller flags we proudly assist in posting for July 4th, Veteran's Day & more.

Give me (541 515 6907) or any other Lion a call to volunteer to SERVE your community. Our next business meeting is 6 PM Tuesday March 14th at the Marcola Christian Church.

"SCHOOL DAYS! SCHOOL DAYS! GOOD OL' GOLDEN RULE DAYS..."*

by Lois Roberts

For all small children, the most exciting day of their young life is their first day of school.



Marcola Grade School building from early 1900s to 1970s when building was destroyed by fire.

Phil and I started First Grade together at Marcola Grade School in the fall of 1952.

Back then, our area had no Kindergarten. So children here started school in First Grade.



Early school days were filled with learning ABC's and 123's. Also, as the old song goes, "Readin', Writin', and 'Rithmetic."

One of the first events every school year in the fall was to have our class and individual



Philip Thomas Roberts and Lois Jean Young
- 1st graders together in 1952

student pictures taken. A photographer came out to our school from town. Each class and their teacher was lined up on the back steps of the schoolhouse and our class picture was taken. For individual pictures, we were each one set in a chair out in front of the school with pretty cedar boughs as the backdrop. We kids enjoyed exchanging our pictures with each other every year throughout grade school.

Our primary years were fun times when all through the nine months of each school year we celebrated national holidays and special events. Students could also have their moms bring treats to celebrate their birthdays during the last period of their own special day.

Halloween was fun as we kids either brought our costumes to school to dress up in, or some years we made fun and scary masks out of construction paper in class.

Thanksgiving was a time to study how the brave Pilgrims sailed to the east coast of this hemisphere from Europe and started colo-



Our Second Grade class in Fall of 1953, Left to Right...

Front Row: James Hammond, Joey Todd, Martin Conley, John Hammond, Unknown Girl, Joyce Osburn, Betty Pratt. **Middle Row:** Kim Anderson, Phil Roberts, Versal Meacham, Lois Jean Young, Unknown Boy, Mrs. Helen Harris, Teacher. **Top Row:** Gary Martin, Wanda Peck, Bill Hlebechuk, Emmagene Watts, Tommy Zipe

nies where the people created our earliest form of government "of the people, by the people, for the people," where liberty and justice and freedom were secured for all.

Christmas was a happy time of performing plays with much singing on stage in our gym for our parents and all the community. The Birth of Christ was celebrated with Nativity scenes, and also the tradition of Santa Claus and gift giving was enjoyed.

We learned to honor Abe Lincoln when we were taught that, as a young man, he walked many miles to return a book he had borrowed. And we learned honesty from the legend told about George Washington, as he answered his father's question, saying, "I cannot tell a lie, Father. I DID chop down the cherry tree!"

Before Valentine's Day, we decorated our classroom windows and walls with lots of Valentines we all made in class, from construction paper and white glue and using those little snub-nosed metal scissors. Anyone remember them? On the special day, we students all brought little Valentines from home, addressed to give to all of our other classmates. Our teacher had us also bring an empty cereal box, which we decorated in red, white, and pink construction paper with cut-out hearts. We put all our Valentines we received through a slot in the top and took our pretty cards home in our box!



Valentines

Of course, the much-anticipated week of

Spring Vacation came in late-March, as it does now. And following in April, Easter was a time of celebrating New Birth through Jesus and looking forward to the coming season of springtime. We colored and had fun hiding Easter Eggs, and decorated our classroom with pictures of baby bunnies and chicks. And everyone looked forward each year to the first smell of spring in the air! We used to say, "We all have Spring Fever!" After the long winter, when the sun began to shine, it was, from that moment on, hard to hold kids inside a classroom!

On the first day of May, we celebrated May Day. Each year, the First Graders made up the May Day Court, where one of the girls and one of the boys was selected by the teachers as "Queen and King of the May." I was May Queen that year! Our parents were invited in the afternoon



May Day Court, May 1st, 1953.

to assemble in the gym to see the little queen crowned!

Queen of the May: Lois Jean Young; **King of the May:** Ronald Beason; Court of First Grade princesses, princes, soldiers, and attendants

Our janitor Spud McDonald also set up a tall pole out in the back parking lot and ribbons were fastened to the top of the pole. We children each took a ribbon and danced and sang around the Maypole, weaving all the ribbons down the pole as we went around. Our teacher had a little phonograph and a 45 rpm record with the Mayday song playing on it, which we sang to. The words were:

Go in and out the Maypole, as we have done before.

The next verse was: Go in and out the window, as we have done before.

The last day of school was almost as fun as the first day...when all the students were released for Summer Vacation! At the end of the day, we took our last papers from our desks and grabbed our lunch pails and headed out to our bus, waving good-bye to each other and yelling, "See you next fall!" We were full of fun and laughter as we skipped down the sidewalk singing,

"School's out! School's out!"

The teachers let the mules out!" (*School Days song by Gus Edwards and Will D. Cobb)





A "NEU" Experience In Real Estate!

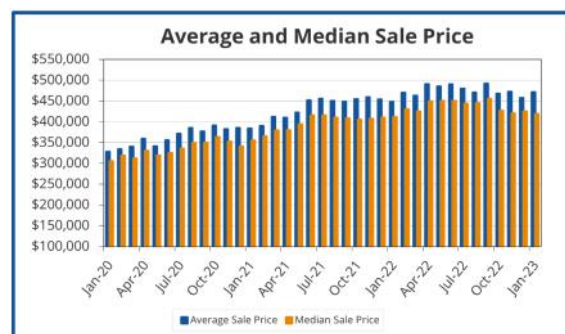
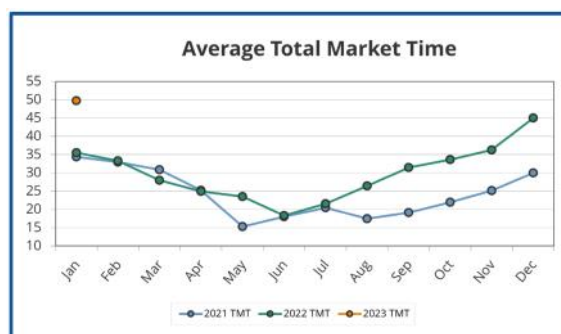


Cory T. Neu
Principle Broker

Are Home Buyers Calling The Shots?

Why are Buyers cooling on the market and sometimes even backing out of a pending sale? Rising rates and price shock are the two biggest reasons. A hurried decision made with a "choose or lose" mindset, when the property is first marketed, often results in a Buyer jumping into the purchase to be the first in line and not thoroughly thinking out the important details. With Spring approaching, inventory is likely on the rise (see chart to the right). Prior to making an offer on a home, consider meeting with Neu Real Estate and go over what else is available that also fits your needs & wants. Be sure the payments won't gouge your family's lifestyle and double check the schools, commute to work, and neighborhood perks. Call Cory at 541-746-6440 to help make the right decisions.

Inventory in Months			
	2021	2022	2023
January	0.8	0.8	2.3
February	0.9	0.9	
March	0.6	0.7	
April	0.7	0.7	
May	0.7	0.9	
June	0.7	1.1	
July	0.8	1.6	
August	0.9	1.2	
September	1.0	1.3	
October	0.9	1.6	
November	0.8	2.1	
December	0.6	1.9	



New Listings

New listings (303) decreased 10.1% from the 337 listed in January 2022, and increased 73.1% from the 175 listed in December 2022.

Closed Sales

Closed sales (177) decreased 35.2% from the 273 closings in January 2022, and decreased 24.4% from the 234 closings in December 2022.

Inventory and Time on Market

Inventory increased to 2.3 months in January. Total market time increased to 50 days.

Year-to-Date Summary

Comparing the first month of 2023 to the same period in 2022, new listings (303) decreased 10.1%, pending sales (303) decreased 9.6%, and closed sales (177) decreased 35.2%.

Pending Sales

Pending sales (303) decreased 9.6% from the 335 offers accepted in January 2022, and increased 53.8% from the 197 offers accepted in December 2022.

Office: 541-746-6440

741 Main Street, Suite B, Springfield, OR 97477 – Email To: Info@NeuRealty.com

www.NeuRealty.com

