

Mohawk Valley Community Grange



Serving the Mohawk Valley and Its Communities

**FALL EDITION • SEPTEMBER, 2023**

25 Years of Publication! Thanks, Mohawk Valley!

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



**Fall 2023: News from the Friends of the Marcola Schools Media Center & Library**

**Open to All, Borrowing Privileges for All!!**

**All Valley residents, not only District students, may borrow books from the Media Center.**

By arrangement with the School District, the Friends staff the Media Center for public use every Wednesday, 4-7pm, and every second Saturday of the month, 10a-1p. We also will be continuing to open the Media Center one lunch per week for Middle School & High School students. Come on in, sign up for an account, and borrow books for all ages.

**New books are added to the shelves weekly.**

You'll find mysteries, science fiction, and drama for adults, teens, tweens, younger readers, and so much more. Our nonfiction section has grown with the addition of books on photography and geology, and a variety of Oregon guidebooks and field guides.

All are available for you to check out.

Media Center location: 38300 Wendling Road, East end of the El-

ementary School.

**Nurture Your Inner Library Geek**  
Join the Friends and a wealth of volunteer opportunities will be available for you. We plan programs, conduct book sales, staff Media Center public hours, process new books, apply for grants, and so much more. Contact us (see be-



low) to join our next volunteer orientation or just stop by during open hours to discuss the possibilities.

**December Book and Vinyl Sale: Save the Date!**

Our August Book & Vinyl Sale was a great success, adding to our funds for free book giveaways for students throughout the year. Thank you to all who donated books, bought books, and

made the sale happen.

Our next Book and Vinyl Sale will be December 2nd & 3rd at the Marcola Schools Media Center. In addition to a great selection of used books, we will have 5 new bins of gently used vinyl to inspire you.

Donations of books for the sale can be made during Media Center open hours.

**FREE Books for newborns to age 5, Mailed to You**

Dolly Parton's Imagination Library mails FREE, high quality, age-appropriate books to children, from birth to age five, regardless of family income. Registration: [www.imaginationlibrary.com](http://www.imaginationlibrary.com).

**Little Free Library**

Our Little Free Library, by the Lions' Lee Downing Park, has books available, night and day. There is a rapidly rotating selection of books for all ages. The Friends refresh the books weekly.

Contact the Friends  
See our Facebook page: [facebook.com/friendsofmarcolamediacycenter/](https://facebook.com/friendsofmarcolamediacycenter/)  
Email us: [friendsofmarcolalibrary@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofmarcolalibrary@gmail.com) OR Phone: Cindy Miska 541-953-3725



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541-747-0321

COUPON for 50¢ off  
A 20 oz. Espresso drink  
Expires October 31, 2023

## PHIL'S HILLTOP PRODUCE STAND

By Peggy Schultz

Indeed, Phil is back again this year and is currently opened for business seven days a week 10am to 6pm. He is located before the golf course, coming from Springfield. Turn right at Alderbranch Road... there is a sign for his hilltop produce. Follow the road, up the hill and his home and stand are on the right.... there's another sign there!



He has limited produce, but expects things to be ripening and a lot more available soon. Phil has lots of different veggies... I did a raid on the pickling cukes this morning. (Editor's Note: He has the best big ripe and wonderful TOMATOES!!)

He also has his home canned goodies such as dill pickles, salsa, dilly beans, pickled jalapeños, jellies, and other great treats. If you've not tried his personal sauerkraut, you don't know what you are missing. He keeps it in the fridge in his canning room, so don't forget to ask him for a jar.

Call for special orders, such as boxes of tomatoes for canning or cucumbers for pickling... 541-430-2154. Leave a message and Phil's wife, Linda will get back to you within a couple hours. SUPPORT OUR LOCAL GARDENERS!!





## FROM LINDA MOONEY, EDITOR:

WOW, it's August and the smell of wildfires is in the air!! I am so nervous about fires! Be careful out there, Everyone!

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

Thanks to this newspaper's

ever-so-generous Sponsors:

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

## 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
  - **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 79 Board Meetings:** 2nd Monday of every month in Marcola Elementary Media Center at 6PM
  - **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 Wednesday 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.
  - **Mohawk Valley Lions Club Meetings:** 2nd TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH at Marcola Christian Church, 92419 Marcola Rd, Contact Bob Leeper @ 541-515-6907.
  - **Mohawk Valley Rural Fire District -** 2nd TUESDAY 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!
- FYI:** Contact info for all of our elected officials can be found at this website: <https://lwvlc.org/publications-2/represent/>

**ATTENTION ADVERTISERS!** Oregon Lithoprint has agreed to allow us to bill for ads AFTER the paper comes out... as we previously did with our other publisher.

Kay will invoice all advertisers and sponsors by the 15th of the month in which the paper comes to you, the Winter issue deadline is by mid DECEMBER. We will need payments as soon as possible after that. We cannot pay our bills until you all pay for your ads!

Mail checks made out to Linda Mooney, Editor or Kay Allen, Treasurer to MOHAWK MESSENGER, P.O. BOX 1133, MARCOLA, OR 97454. **PLEASE DO NOT MAKE YOUR CHECKS PAYABLE TO THE MOHAWK MESSENGER!** I cannot cash them and they will have to be redone! Thanks!

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 continued support!**

## 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 have started a group here!**

If you have an interest, text me to be added to the contact list OR just come to the Mohawk Grange Fridays at 11:00AM!



First time is FREE, there are mats available, so come and check it out!  
**ALL LEVELS, ALL ARE WELCOME!**

~Jaya Devi~ 541-844-9143  
(if you don't text, email Linda at address below lindamooney39361@gmail.com)





# MOHAWK VALLEY LIONS CLUB NEWS

By Bob Leeper

Thank you to all who were able to attend and enjoy the Mohawk Valley Lions Chicken BBQ, live music by our local band Down &



Dirty and the Flag Day Celebration at the Lee Downing Veteran's Memorial Park. We sold out our supply of chicken halves and will do better next year about that not happening again. We had a lot of help from The Springfield Lions Club,

especially early with cooking the chicken. We felt that the tickets and serving line worked great. We even managed to sell some raffle tickets.

Our annual Raffle went very well also. We have raised enough funds this year to finance a sprinkler system for the park and hope to



have that installed before next summer. Of course, that just means more mowing for members who volunteer their time and expenses to keep the park looking sharp. It is satisfying to know that a small Lions Club from a small community can provide this beautiful park for everyone's enjoyment.

We have a work party scheduled in October to freshen up our Christmas Candles for display along Marcola Road through town. We also decorate for the Thanksgiving season. If anyone would like to coordinate a crowd to build, display and maintain displays beyond our current area, contact us for support. Maybe a Halloween display contest?

Remember, we are not an incorporated community and we do not pay taxes for these kinds of projects. So much of what makes the area so special comes directly from the folks who live here - Helping Hands, The Media Center, The Christmas Celebration, the Youth Center, Boy Scouts and so much more!

Thank you all.  
Bob Leeper  
President  
MVLC  
541 515 6807

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The following email is referencing the article about clotheslines in the Summer Issue. Also, read the article on the following page.

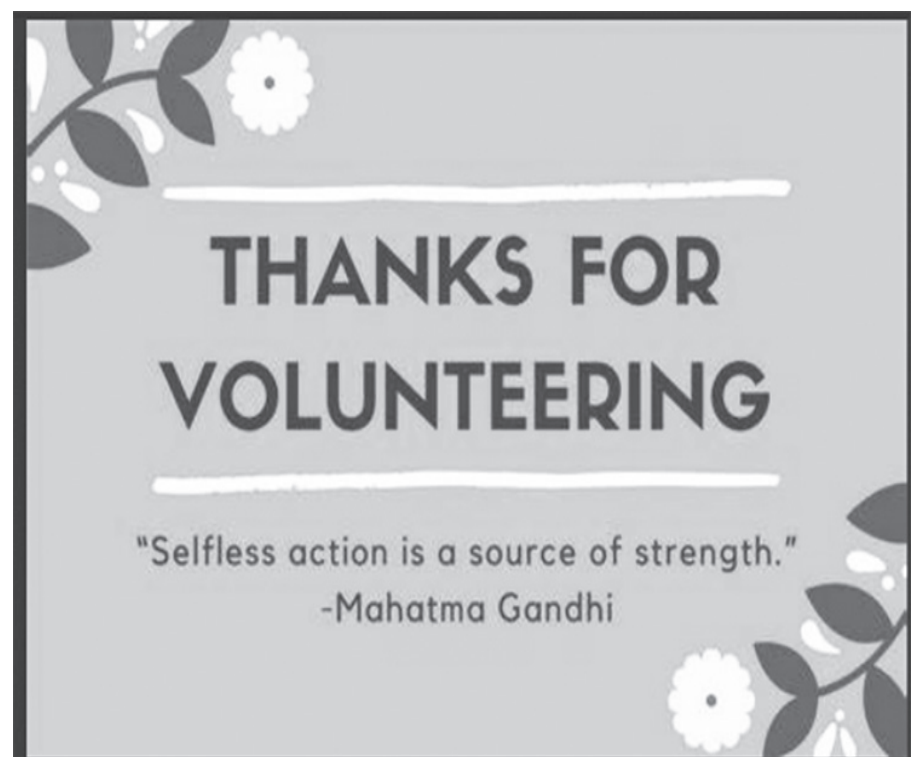
Linda, thank you for this great article! I concur!!! I am a big proponent for clotheslines. In our moves, My husband has built 5!

Years ago I bought an old drying rack for cheap and keep it in a spare bedroom; and seldom use my dryer heat. I use that closet for hanging tops and shirts; drape sheets around the bedroom.

If I have to finish drying clothes from the line, I toss them on low in the dryer with a dryer sheet to finish. Guess I cheat because I use the fluff setting on stiff items. Being frugal, I reuse dryer sheets a few times.

Neither my husband nor I care what people think about clotheslines in neighborhoods. Might be some envy! There are much worse sights! Even if people are time-crunched, they can hang out the things you mentioned and be thankful for that primitive clothesline!

Thanks!!!  
Anonymous Mohawk Valley Resident



### FYI: WHICH ARE YOU? GENERATION NAMES

- The Greatest Generation - born 1901-1924.
- The Silent Generation - born 1925-1945
- The Baby Boomer Generation - born 1946-1964.
- Generation X - born 1965-1979.
- Millennials - born 1980-1994. ...
- Generation Z - born 1995-2012.
- Generation Alpha - born 2013 - 2025.



## AIR DRYING LAUNDRY COMMENTARY

I recently found my Oct. 2022, letter to Southern Living. I don't have the original SL article, however, and never received a response from the magazine. It figures...

To clarify a couple things in my letter to them, the author referred to old users of clothesline as 'memaws', which is why I used it. I stated my age, but I wouldn't use it again. The subsequent "60 years" is enough!

My response to the magazine:

Moments ago I read this opinion piece in my email. I've noticed, sadly, how clotheslines have been denigrated throughout the past decades. I suggest the writer do some polling research before publicly insulting those of us "memaws" who use a clothesline and clothes rack. No doubt, 'anti-clothesliners' got some good laughs from it. Kudos for that cleverness. I am a "young" and active "memaw", and it is fair to say I have used clotheslines--including my parents' as a child--for around 60 years. My husband has built several, in the city and in the country. I suspect the young and old folk users enjoy the exercise and the routine of letting nature work for us. I sure do. It becomes routine. If the writer had given it as much thought as being funny, consider this: I never have to worry about shrinkage. If stiff laundry is a problem, no big deal; set the dryer on air fluff and toss in a dryer sheet for several minutes. (or use a liquid softener in the wash cycle) If laundry is still not fully dry, set the dryer on low or medium heat for several minutes. It saves on our electricity bill. It saves our dryer. It extends the life of laundry. Air dried sheets smell good. I suppose I am an environmentalist by nature. I can't imagine not having a clothesline or drying rack. I understand clotheslines would be a luxury and an obstacle for city dwellers. I did it working full time with a family. Admittedly, there were times in those harrowing days when laundry went directly from the washer to the dryer. (No, I never had the luxury of domestic helpers either.)

Instead of poking fun at "air drying" laundry, a good idea is to ENCOURAGE this routine. In this era of saving energy, I bet more people would take the leap if they weren't so afraid of snooty neighbors and insulting remarks.

How about a magazine article on the history of doing laundry and the ways to dry laundry today. Get an encouraging word out!

Sincerely,  
Dianne Stewart  
Oregon

TEACH 'EM  
YOUNG AND  
HELP SAVE THE  
PLANET!



## Gleaning Blueberries

By Julia Mooney and Carrie Jackson

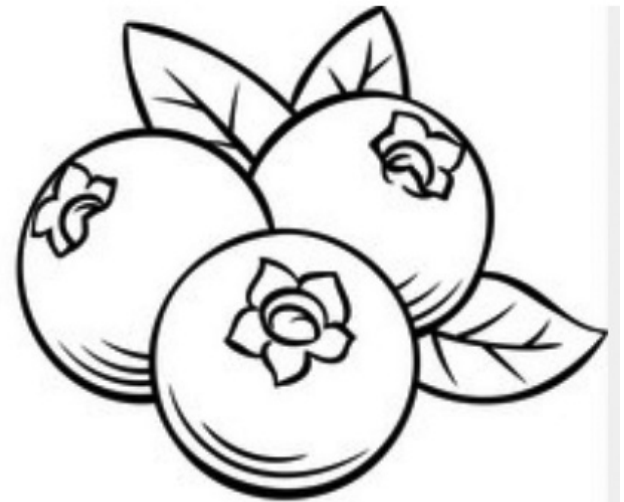
On Thursday 7/27, after meeting for our Tai Chi class, I heard Carrie say she was going to purchase a flat of Blueberries at the Silva Blueberry Farm on Wendling Rd. I wanted to get some blueberries too as my blueberries did nothing this year. So off we went down Wendling Rd. to find the blueberry farm.

We drove back and forth a couple of times on Wendling Rd. looking for a sign and ended up down at the Irish gardens across from the high school. We were able to talk with Brian Silva who gave us the information we needed. On Friday we returned and found the farm.

The driveway was just past the retired Wendling Nursery greenhouse with some blue and yellow flags hanging on some bushes at the entrance to the driveway. Down we went to the farm. Nancy Silva was

out in the yard busy with some pickers from the Positive Community Kitchen (PCK) for their food baskets.

The blueberry farm donated berries to this wonderful organization.



**BLUEBERRY**  
*Organic Fruit*

From their website "Positive Community Kitchen provides beautiful, delicious, and nourishing meals to people in our community experiencing a health crisis due to a life-threatening illness such as cancer. When facing a serious illness, being well-nourished is very important. These meals are designed to support you when your health and appetite are compromised."

We explained that we were looking to buy some blueberries. Unfortunately the prime time to buy blueberries is around July 4th, but she handed us a bucket and showed us the rows where we could glean. Though it was late in the season, we didn't have any problem filling our buckets.

Next year, we'll be back - think blueberry pie for 4th of July!



## Hello and, YIPPEE, IT'S FALL ALREADY!! Fire Season is nearly over!!!

Keeping my fingers and toes crossed that we get through to the rains with no fires! Yes, it's difficult to walk and type LOL!



Our Grange is swinging back into gear! Summers are so busy that we find it difficult to schedule activities...family obligations and FUN!

First, let's recap what has happened since our last issue. The local Lions organization held its Flag Day Celebration on June 11th. It was well attended with music by Down 'n Dirty! Lots of BBQ chicken with all the fixins that was delicious!

We at the Grange came through with many different yummy desserts. We mostly sold out and earned money for our Hall Maintenance....a very wonderful community activity!

### THE DEER CAR

We want to show off a fun creative project that is ongoing. Our wonderful caretaker, Thorp McClellan is making a small train to be towed with small passengers at events. He has 2 cars completed (shown here) and hopes to have more finished by our Harvest Festival so he can drive the little kids around the Grange property!

### THE ELEPHANT CAR

Should be great fun!! We so appreciate Thorp and Kelly!!



That brings me to plans for our **Harvest Festival!**

It will be October 14th from 3-7PM. We are changing our cooking contest for the best chili, cornbread, and desserts. We are asking all contest participants to have their dish ready and at the Grange for



judging by 4:30PM. After that time, our newly appointed judges will begin tasting all entries, collaborating on which are best and then choosing our winners. We feel this method will be more fair and easier than our previous method. Dinner will be served at 5:00PM, and the winners announced then.

Other activities at the Festival will be apple pressing with Charles Kimball, tables with fun things to buy from community members (call me if you wish to reserve a space, no charge (541-913-3799), special guest speaker TBA, The Bubble Guy (we hope!), Live music with Dan, Eve and Friends, plus who knows what else...it's early! Watch the ReaderBoard across from the Post Office and bulletin board spaces after Oct. 1st for flyers with more definite information. It's gonna be great fun!

**Our semi-annual Road Cleanup will be Oct. 21st, 10-12** and we will meet at the Grange. Wear comfortable shoes, weather appropriate clothing and gloves. Bags, vests and picker-upper tools will be provided.

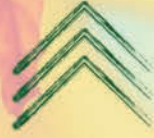
**BINGO returns to the Grange on November 4th.** 6-8PM. Watch for flyers in the usual places. We may have simple food for sale in addition to desserts and more great prizes!!!

**NEEDED: The Grange is once again asking for donations of insulation.** It can be new or gently used. Our amazing caretaker, Thorp, is insulating underneath the floor in the hall. We in the Yoga class will appreciate a not-freezing-cold floor this winter. If you have some, call the grange and we will arrange to pick it up!! Any amount is appreciated! Thanks in advance!

**FOR SALE!! The Grange is always raising money for hall maintenance, scholarships, community Christmas donations, etc.** BAT GUANO - The best fertilizer from our own bats in our belfry! \$15/bag with instructions for use! Super good for those fall plantings....plants love it!

**HAVE A SCARY AND FUN HALLOWEEN AND AN ENJOYABLE THANKSGIVING! HOPE TO SEE YOU AT ALL THE GRANGE EVENTS IN THE NEXT 3 MONTHS! COME AND JOIN US!!**





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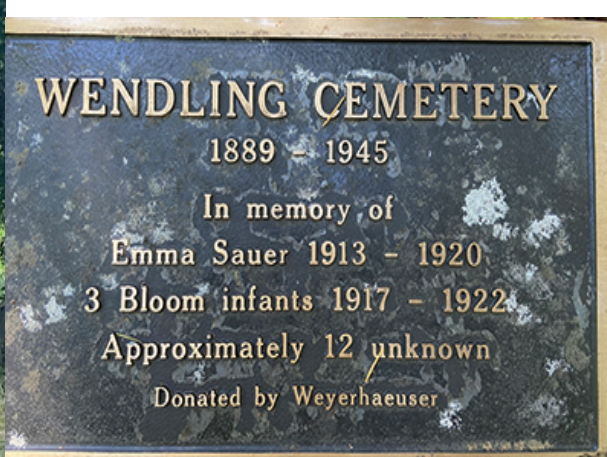
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*EPUD Board of Directors: Charles Kimball, Ron Davis, Curt Offenbacher, Brian Parker, Patti Chappel*



Thank you Springfield Pack 216 and Troop 51 Scouts & Scouters for working with VFW MArcola Post 4166 cleaning, cutting grass and posting flags on our Veterans Graves in Springfield and Mohawk Valley four Cemeteries this morning, **YOU ALL ROCK!**

Cemeteries included Springfield Pioneer Cemetery, Upper & Lower Mabel, Weyerhaeuser & Wendling Cemeteries and flags placed all to include Troop 179 & 4179 placing flags in Valley View Cemetery and Wendling Cemetery.



**THANKS TO JIM SMITH FOR THIS INFO & PHOTOS!**



## COME AND VISIT US!

By Brian Silva

Our focus has shifted significantly towards our farm stand, known as the Veducation Station, where we are dedicated to providing fresh vegetables, fruits, and herbs to our local community. In addition to fresh produce, we are also venturing into the world of canning and preserving, offering a variety of delicious canned goods made from our own harvest.

Currently, our team is putting in their best efforts to complete the construction of a state-of-the-art greenhouse, which will enable us to extend our growing season and provide even more variety to our customers.

Excitingly, starting next year, we will be partnering with a local school to offer college-level horticulture classes to students, fostering a deeper understanding of sustainable agriculture and the importance of fresh, locally grown produce.

The Veducation Station is not just a farm stand; it's a hub for education, sustainability, and community engagement, and we're thrilled to continue growing and serving our community in these meaningful ways.



# DO NOT DISTURB

By Dianne S. Stewart

At first start, a gasp, a recoil, a blank stare  
 at what clings to the deftly spun orb snare.  
 Long jointed black legs jut from a jumbo sphere;  
 four faux eyes in brilliant stripes evoke fear.

Smothered in gauzy silk, reddish eyes obtrude  
 from an obscure form: the predator's food.  
 Dangling nearby, two large opaque shapes keep;  
 speedily wrapped and bitten, safe to eat.

Sensing cues from a new dawn, she inches away  
 and spins a fresh covert trap for doomed prey.  
 Feasters of flies, wasps, and skeeters, let them be--  
 those shy spiders, friends to you and me.

The big spider really shows up! These pics are of 2 spiders, one a smaller and likely male, and the big lady and were both in my lavender. I hope people realize most spiders are harmless. They fear us and want nothing to do with us.



These orb weavers are wicked pretty. I watched a wasp land in a web, and immediately the spider twirled it around in silk to disable it and is custom, bite its venom into the now helpless body. Spiders do this to dangerous prey so they don't get stung or bitten themselves. Smart!



## EDITOR'S NOTE:

A Google Image Search yielded the following info:

### YELLOW GARDEN SPIDER

Category: Spiders

Actual Size: ¾ to 1.1"

Characteristics: The top side of the female abdomen is black with symmetrical patches of bright yellow. Males are smaller with brownish legs and less yellow coloration on their abdomens. Legs: 8



Habitat: Lives near open fields in higher brush and vegetation. They are also found in gardens and eaves on houses and buildings, selecting areas that are sunny with little to no wind.

Habits:

Produces venom that is harmless to humans. Females are brighter in color and three times larger than males.

Their presence helps rather than harms landscape and garden plants.



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

<b>MONDAY-FRIDAY</b> RESTAURANT: 11AM-8PM BAR IS OPEN TIL MIDNIGHT	<b>WEEKENDS</b> RESTAURANT: 9AM-9PM BAR IS OPEN TIL MIDNIGHT
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**FOOD SPECIAL DAYS**

Mondays - Mama Bears Meatloaf  
 Taco Tuesdays  
 Wednesdays - Pub nights with many quick pub food bites.  
 Thursdays - Italian Night

**MUSIC EVENT**  
**SEPTEMBER 16TH CONNECTARINE**

A grateful shout out to our Community for the amazing support on Saturday, Aug. 5th for the Marcola Summer Celebration!  
 Thank you everyone for the great time!

**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!**



## OUR WILD TURKEYS

By Karren A. Lansky

Well, they surely look to the entire world like they would be about the best looking thing on a great big platter in the middle of a well-designed Thanksgiving Day table. But, the ability to carve one -would challenge the sharpest knife and strongest person in our valley. Why would anyone even consider killing one? Because it's there? A much better one can be found at Albertson's - and it takes a whole lot less time to find a really good one!

Oregon's biggest game bird, and its remarkable recovery from near-extinction, is a story that is known to many, but should be well-considered when we decide the value of animals. There were enough wild turkeys at the time of the Pilgrims for the Native Americans to share the ones that they had already killed. By 1900, the wild turkey had almost disappeared. From the very few wild turkeys that remained, conservationist have expanded that small population to a number that has been estimated at close to 6 million birds. The various species are Eastern, Rio Grande, Merriams and the Osceola sub-species. Arizona has a population of the rare Goulds variety. Alaska is the only state that does not have any wild turkeys.

There are about 26,000 wild turkeys in Oregon, mainly Merriams and Rio Grandes. As our winter begins, the flocks can be seen in the open pastures and fields. These flocks can number up to as many as 50 to 70 birds. If you wish to see



these wild flocks, you might drive up Wendling Road, slowly, observe along the roadways, or up on the hillsides. If they fly across the road in front of you, remember to keep your hands on the wheel.

Benjamin Franklin wanted the Turkey as our national emblem, not the bald eagle. Many would agree that the turkey is an admirable bird; wild turkeys helped the pioneers in the early days of our country. But, anyone who would consider killing one, to serve it for Thanksgiving Dinner, should re-think the whole idea. Remember that this is a wild bird that has spent its whole life walking and climbing around. Not very much like the Honeysuckle Turkey that one could buy at Safeway. There is little, if any, white meat. The turkeys that we buy at the grocery market have walked about 2 inches to get either food or water, and nothing has ever chased them! So, they have never had to exert themselves- thus very little real muscle tissue- thus very little dark meat. Our wild turkeys- must use their wings, etc. to escape from predators, or danger.

Look along the edges of fields, and remember that in the fall the birds are often separated into separate bands. The hens and this year's young form large flocks, with mature gobblers in the smaller groups. We most often call a whole bunch of turkeys a flock- but- they are really known as a "RAFTER". Whatever they are called, I would still rather look at them, than try to cook one to eat.

---

## THANKS TO JAY SWOFFORD FOR HIS INCREDIBLE GLIMPSES INTO OUR VALLEY'S PAST!



**Upper Mabel School kids on the Merry-Go-Round,  
Mabel, Oregon c1931-1935**

Upper Mabel school district No 153 was located at the confluence of the Mohawk River and Log Creek in the upper Mohawk Valley. The school building was on the north side of Mohawk River Road and stood for many years. The school building can be seen on the far right of the picture, with a water fountain out front.

In the late 1920s early 1930s, Marcola, Wendling, Mabel and Upper Mabel all obtained merry-go-rounds. It will look familiar to many people who grew up here, as the one from the Wendling school was in the Wendling Park for many years.

The kids in the photo are unidentified at this time, but are the same kids as in an unlabeled but dated photo of the student body from 1933 hence the estimate of 1931-1935.

At the start of the 1935 school year, this district merged with the Mabel school district no. 64. High school kids were already being bussed to Mohawk Union High School Dist 8, so the bus also picked up the children of Upper Mabel and

dropped them off in Mabel as it stopped there to pick up the Mabel high schoolers.

**If you can identify any of the children in this photo, please comment.**

---

### Congregation of the Church of the Brethren at Mabel, Oregon circa 1935.

The Church of the Brethren, also known as the Dunkards, began a church in this locality in 1882. On November 18, 1883 they dedicated this building as their church. The dedication sermon was by Elder J. S. Flory, of Colorado. This church was located just southwest of the current Mabel cemetery near the confluence of Shotgun creek and the Mohawk river.

In the picture are:

Front row: Della Neff, Colleen Jaques, Eleanor Bell, Ronald Bell, Leota Casterline, Leta Mae Baarstad, Delbert Kester, Verle Baarstad

Middle row: Mrs. Arizona L. Evans, Mrs. Mary Ritter, Mrs. Alice Lewis, Mrs. Mildred Gwyn, Mrs. Ellen C. Bell

Back row: Reverend Herman H. Ritter, Dorthia Neff, Hiram Waldo,

Ruth Kellogg, Kenneth Kester, Leo Casterline, Mrs. Annette Casterline, Mrs. Laura Baarstad, Sebastian Kester.





# MARCOLA GRADE SCHOOL DAYS

By Lois Roberts

Back through the 1800s and into the 1900s, every small town had a one-room school where children of all ages attended and had one teacher teaching all grade levels.



Here is the series of books I have for The Sugar Creek Gang.



A wonderful story of country boys who grew up learning how to play hard and love one another.

Here in Marcola by the 1950s when we were young children, our town had Marcola Grade School with grades 1 through 8, and Mohawk High School, a four-year high school. Some schools in larger towns began to have separate schools for 7th and 8th graders, called Junior High.

Back then, most of our teachers and our principal and their families lived right here in Marcola. They were wonderful people with a love for children and for developing our imaginations and increasing our knowledge and understanding of our nation's history, learning of all our neighboring United States, and also helping us to study all parts of the earth, its geography and its various cultures.

Here is a list of our teachers from 1952, when Phil and I started First Grade together:

- 1st Grade - Mrs. Vina Pierson
- 2nd Grade - Mrs. Helen Harris
- 3rd Grade - Mrs. Carol Spicer
- 4th Grade - Mrs. Winters
- 5th Grade - Miss Neva Workman
- 6th Grade - Mrs. Blanche Grafe
- 7th Grade - Mr. Robert Loucks
- Also for our 7th Grade Music Teacher, Mrs. Hillyard
- 8th Grade - Mr. Dick Snider and Mr. Don Iverson

Mrs. Pierson lived in a pretty, two-story house at the corner at Murdock Lane.

This book was in the Marcola Grade School library when I was a child, and I checked it out many times to reread it!



She had a large goldfish bowl on a shelf in our classroom and we loved watching the goldfish swimming around in the water. We students got to take turns with daily duties, which included every afternoon erasing the big blackboards in our first grade classroom.

Mrs. Harris had two daughters just 2 and 4 years older than we were who also attended our school. We learned they had to call their mother "Mrs. Harris!" We all thought that was funny.

Mrs. Spicer and her husband lived on Spicer Lane, located on the hill as you're driving out of Marcola. Her daughter Carolyn was six years ahead of us in school here in Marcola. Mrs. Spicer showed us many movies in our class studies, which came on the old reels with a big projector that she ran from the back of our classroom, projecting the movie on a large screen at the front of our room. Anyone remember them? We got to take turns pulling down the window shades to make it dark while watching our movies.



These are the songbooks we grade school children sang from.

Mrs. Winters was a young teacher who came from town (Springfield or Eugene where she lived.) She taught us to eat steamed artichokes, peeling off the leaves and dipping them into mayonnaise. We learned to eat something new!

Miss Workman lived on her father's place up at the end of what was called Workman Road, now known as Honeybee

Lane, by the high school. She read stories to us every day after lunch, as we rested our heads on our desks. The best books she introduced us to were "The Sugar Creek Gang!" I have collected all 34 books in that series over the years, and read them to my own children also.

Mrs., Grafe lived in the nice white house you see on Railroad Lane, just as you leave downtown Marcola. She had each 6th grade class every year make "relief maps" of South America, which we drew and mounted on large plywood boards. They were made with homemade clay of salt and flour mixed with water, which was allowed to air dry. And then we painted them to show the mountain and lowland areas. Every year, she also marched her class over to her house to see her and her husband's magnificent rock collection. We had to be very orderly walking across town behind her. That was a fun field trip!

Mr. Loucks was an older man who drove over the mountain from Crawfordville. He played a big, banged-up tuba full of dents, and he was also the 7th and 8th grades' bandleader.

Two afternoons each week, Mrs. Hillyard came into our 7th grade classroom and taught us songs to sing. Each student got to choose a song. We especially enjoyed learning the songs that gave tribute to our holidays and our great country, and my favorites were America, The Beautiful, and My Country 'Tis Of Thee. I can still see Mrs. Hillyard sitting at the piano with her big smile,



We learned many patriotic songs that built our love for America in our hearts.

CONCLUDED ON THE FOLLOWING PAGE.



# MARCOLA GRADE SCHOOL DAYS CONCLUDED

teaching us songs that would ring in our heads all our lives long.

round, which was fun to ride and also fun to take turns pushing it around for others to ride.

## When we started 8th Grade,

Mr. Snider was our teacher. He came down with polio in September of that year. He was put in an iron lung and our whole class was bussed in to visit him. That was really something! At that time, his wife flew down to TV studios in Los Angeles and went on a new national television show that selected one woman from three contestants to win a grand prize. Mrs. Snider was named "Queen For A Day," and to meet her family's needs, she won a brand-new washer-and-dryer set.

Our new teacher was Mr. Iverson, who also went on to teach at the high school for many years and was loved by all his students and this community.

Many fun years were spent at Marcola Grade School. We remember such special times as putting on our brand-new tennis shoes when we had gym classes. I can still smell those new tennis shoes! The playgrounds were wonderful places for us to romp and play with our schoolmates. My favorite things were the swing sets with the long chains so you could learn to pump and swing clear up to the sky! And I also loved the rattle-banging merry-go-



In grade school, we learned how to enjoy being a kid. **And that childhood spirit has stayed with us all our lives!**

Here is our 8th grade class. Photo is taken on the front steps of our wonderful Marcola Grade School building:  
 Back row: Dennis Ellis, Bill Hlebechuk, Clell Goodwin, Theron Burch, Mr. Iverson.  
 Middle row: Mike Cavendar, Mike Healy, David Quantrill, Versal Meacham, Phil Roberts, Kim Anderson.  
 Front row: Mary Jane Kincaid, Wanda Peck, Mary Ann Walker, Lois Young, Jerry-Jo Matthews, Emmagene Watts.



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## OUR MARVELOUS GOD

Look up into the heavens.  
Who created all the stars?  
He brings them out like an army,  
one after another, calling each by its name.  
Because of his great power  
and incomparable strength,  
not a single one is missing.  
Isaiah 40:26 NLT



Both By Juanita Paslay

In December 1968, three Apollo 8 astronauts, James Lovell, Frank Borman, and Bill Anders had the privilege of seeing planet Earth from outer space. I would be speechless seeing this magnificent view of one of God's creations from that angle. They honored God as the Creator and recited the first ten verses of Genesis back to NASA. They read them on Christmas Eve. How appropriate!

I watched another phenomenon our God enjoyed creating for His pleasure and our amazement. He blessed me to witness a total solar eclipse on August 21, 2017.

For about an hour, the moon's shadow slowly moved in front of the sun. The shadow hid the sun for a minute or two (depending on where you watched), then for another hour slowly moved away from the sun.

I expected darkness like nighttime. However, I merely watched the shadows in the yard disappear, giving the appearance of dusk. I did not expect the temperature to drop, but the warm morning air must have lowered at least fifteen degrees.

During the event, my friend heard a donkey bray and a rooster crow. I heard neighbor's whoopees from across the street at the moment of totality. As I sat on the porch with our family in Redmond OR, I read aloud Scripture that praised the LORD.

I chose Psalm 9:1. I will praise You, O LORD, with my whole heart; I will tell of all Your marvelous works, and Psalm 19:1 The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament shows His handiwork.

We do not often observe God's artistry in action like an eclipse, though there is a total solar eclipse approximately every eighteen months somewhere on the Earth's surface. The sun, moon, and stars hang commonplace in our sky, but an eclipse is special to us. God creates beautiful events, and I know He enjoys displaying His creativity.

For God, who said, "Let there be light in the darkness,"  
has made this light shine in our hearts  
so we could know the glory of God  
that is seen in the face of Jesus Christ.  
2 Corinthians 4:6 NLT

## YOU ARE GUILTY

The jury returned and the verdict was pronounced. Guilty!

The one-man jury (actually a woman, myself to be exact) determined the inconceivable crime was not committed by a mere human. I'll admit that people are the usual culprit in a robbery case; but in my opinion, circumstantial evidence

against the masked bandit appears overwhelming.

The same night the electrical cord disappeared from overhead in the apple tree leading to the glass greenhouse, we were awakened in the wee hours of the morning by a loud metal bang. It's the same sleep-shattering noise heard when the raccoon cage door is tripped and slams shut.

The exact timeline is still to be determined to tell how the cord was successfully unplugged at both ends. Picture this: The cord ran from an outside outlet under our bedroom window, through branches of several trees, up the seven-foot wall, through the roof area, then down to the heat lamps inside which kept my red geraniums alive. I know that is a long sentence, but it was a long cord - seventy-five feet.

The door to the green house was closed, but there is a doggy door for an easy access and quick escape. One final question for the accused: Which plug end did your little hands disconnect first?

I read his mind and discovered his thought process. Even though the cage rested near the electrical outlet, he decided to relocate the cord first. Then he planned to return to the cage to investigate the shiny foil bait displayed in the light of the motion sensor overhead.

My closing argument: If a neighbor kid removed the bright orange electric line from the trees used as temporary power poles, he would have taken the item home to Mama. But upon searching our property for clues, I discovered the stolen object in question one hundred feet away from the green house, laying in a straight line as if dragged to a new home.

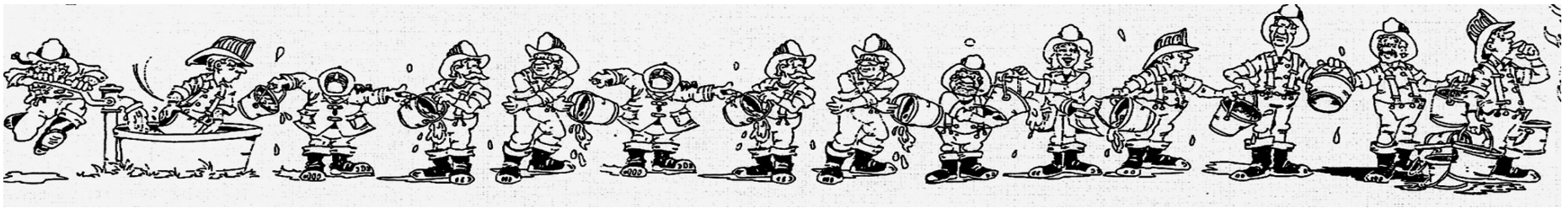
Let me remind you that if both ends were plugged in at the new site, I would suspect a different thief.

Friends, I rest my case.

The judge is not convinced of this jury's decision, but the man of the house still issued the usual punishment for getting caught.

Don't ask...





## MOHAWK VALLEY RURAL FIRE DISTRICT

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** Reprinted in part from 2012.....some issues never change!!

### FIRE ISSUES AND VOLUNTEER NEEDS

By Steven Wallace

It is hard to believe that summer is ending with these hot temperatures we've all been experiencing. With this, your local fire department would like to remind everyone to stay hydrated and be on the lookout for potential hazards.

I would like to first start by introducing myself to all of you. My name is Steven Wallace and I have recently been hired by the Mohawk Valley Rural Fire District as the new Training Coordinator. (2012) With this position, I am not only responsible for the department's fire and EMS training, but I am also closely involved in the community, fire prevention, and education. I am a long time resident of the Mohawk Valley and a graduate of Mohawk High School. I look forward to meeting all of you, so if you see me around, or stop by the fire station, feel free to say hi and introduce yourself. It is important for us to remember that even though school is starting and the summer's drawing closer to an end, we have just started to reach the peak of our fire season. The threat of wildfires is still real and we need to think about all the ways we can protect our homes and families in that event. If you would like to find out more information on wildfires, or even ask some questions, feel free to stop by the department's main station in Marcola any time between 8 and 5 Monday through Friday.

One of the biggest ways you can help our local emergency responders during any type of emergency is to have your address clearly marked and your home accessible. If you need an address marker placed at the end of your driveway, please contact the station and we will get one out to you.

In addition, fire engines, ambulances, and rescue rigs are large vehicles. Remember to make sure that your driveway is passable for these different types of apparatus. Our local fire engines are in the range of 13 feet tall and 10 feet wide. If you have any questions about your driveway, please contact us here at the station and we would be happy to come and take a look for you.

I would like to end this issue's article by talking with you about a challenge facing volunteer fire departments throughout our country, and that is a lack of volunteers. As some of you may or may not know, your local fire department is made up of mostly volunteer firefighters. These are your neighbors in the community that answer the call for help and risk themselves without compensation. When you talk to the members of this department and ask them why they do it, you will most commonly hear one phrase, - To Help Others.

We are always looking for interested members of the community to volunteer at our local fire station. When you volunteer you not only get the opportunity to help others in need, but you also become part of the Mohawk Valley Rural Fire District Family. You will have the opportunity to make new friends and to do things you have never even imagined. When someone decides to volunteer with the department,

they fill out an application and go through a quick interview with other members of the department. After this interview, you are allowed to start coming to weekly training and meet the other members of the department to see what we do. The next step involves going through a Firefighter 1 academy that is put on and hosted by the department. In this five-weekend academy, you will learn the steps and the skills needed to become a firefighter. The academies are usually held 2 or 3 times a year and are on an every other weekend schedule. In addition, the department will teach an Emergency Medical Responder class that you are welcome to attend at no cost to you.

It is also important to remember that we are always looking for volunteers that can help even if they don't become a full firefighter. This includes: Support Services, Apparatus Operators, EMS Only, Personnel Cadet Firefighter (16 through 18 Years of Age) and Others

If you are interested in becoming a volunteer or would like more information, come by the station or contact me at 541-933-2907.

## MOHAWK VALLEY RURAL FIRE DISTRICT JOIN OUR TEAM

Mohawk Valley RFD is now looking for volunteers. No experience needed!

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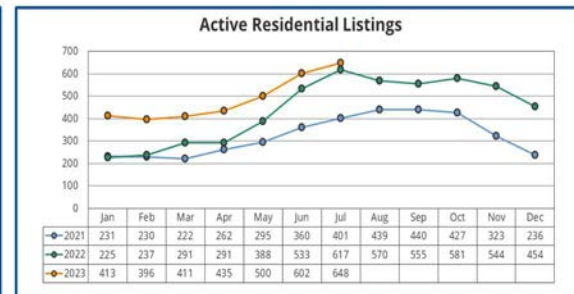
## Getting Ready To Sell Your Home?

Make it a priority to Declutter your home so it's easy for prospective buyers to imagine themselves living there. But don't completely Depersonalize your space. Leave a nice array of pictures and some décor on the walls - this says you have loved your home and that they will, too. You also don't want it to look like you have one foot out the door.

In most cases, you don't need to do major renovations. Unless there are glaring issues with your home's structure, roof, functionality and/or systems and fixtures (like heat, electrical, plumbing, etc.) you often will not get 100% return on that cost when selling, but there can be exceptions. It's also a great idea to get your own inspections, especially if you are on a well and septic system. This will help deal with possible unknown issues that may become a surprise if left until the buyer's due-diligence process.

Interest Rates have risen in the last 16 months, but prices are still strong, and it's still a great time to sell. Interest Rates due tend to stabilize, and sometimes dip, during an election year. So, it may also be a great time to begin the process of Buying as well. Call Cory, if you would like to talk more about this process.

Inventory in Months			
	2021	2022	2023
January	0.8	0.8	2.3
February	0.9	0.9	1.7
March	0.6	0.7	1.4
April	0.7	0.7	1.5
May	0.7	0.9	1.7
June	0.7	1.1	1.6
July	0.8	1.6	1.9
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	



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