

Mohawk Valley Community Grange

Mohawk



Messenger

Serving the Mohawk Valley and Its Communities

WINTER EDITION • DECEMBER, 2023

25 Years of Publication! Thanks, Mohawk Valley!

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



**ANNUAL MARCOLA
COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS EVENT**

The Marcola Youth Center is preparing for our Annual Marcola Community Christmas event on December 15th at the Marcola Elementary School. This event is sponsored by local businesses, organizations, and community members to help bring Christmas joy to some of our local students. We need your help to make this event successful.

Approximately 50 students from the Marcola Elementary School will attend this invitation-only event. We rely on over sixty local volunteers to ensure an

organized and fun day. Students will get a picture with Santa, pick out and wrap gifts for every family member, do a special craft plus much more. They will go home with a complete food box including a turkey, potatoes, bread, rolls, cookies, fresh fruit, and canned goods.

We are seeking donations of:

- New gift items for all age groups (Mom, Dad, brother, and sister)
- Canned/boxed food (vegetables, fruit, gravy, rice, potatoes, pasta, tuna)
- Peanut butter and jelly (kid food)
- Financial donation

We also need volunteers to help set up, take down and be student buddies. Let me know if you would like to volunteer.

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

Starting December 1st, donations can be dropped off at the Marcola Elementary or Marcola Christian Church on Tuesday through Thursday from 8am to 12pm. Please drop off all donations by December 15th.

Please make financial donations to:

Marcola Youth Center
PO Box 902
Marcola OR 97454
82-3909267

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



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Marcola Youth Center

Drink gifts for Marsh Community Christmas!

Drink can goods for holiday food boxes!

FAMILY PLAYGROUP

At Marcola Elementary School

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THURSDAY NOVEMBER 2ND, 9TH,
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2-3 PM

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- Adult led story time and songs to help language development and foster a love of reading
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- Child led play to strengthen social development
- Connect with other local parents and build friendships and community..

MARCOLA.K12.OR.US



FROM LINDA MOONEY, EDITOR:

The new year is nearly upon us. It's been a difficult year, but there is always hope for the future! Happy New Year to my beloved Mohawk Valley!

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

Meetings are held at 6:00 pm on the Thursday night following the 2nd Wednesday of every month at the Marcola Fire Station. Contact: Jamie Porter at 541-746-1676 for more information.

rwdonline.net/marcola

• Marcola Schools Media Center,

PUBLIC Hours: most Wednesdays, 4-7pm, and 2nd Saturdays, 10a-1p. Books for ALL ages, not only students. Check-out FREE to Mohawk Valley residents. www.facebook.com/friendsofmarcolamediacenter

• Mohawk Community Church

Sunday School 9:30 AM; Worship 10:00

• 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:** 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, this WINTER issue deadline for payment is by January 31st.

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~

Our yoga teacher is taking a break and we now have Jean Guidry who has agreed to lead our classes starting on January 5, 2024 on a temporary basis.



Mohawk Grange Fridays at 11:00AM!

These gatherings are free!

There are mats available, so come and check it out!

ALL LEVELS, ALL ARE WELCOME!

For more info, please call Linda at 541-913-3799....leave a message and I'll return your call

LOCAL WOMEN WILL BE MISSED

Karren Lansky

Born: 10/23/1942

Passed: 11/4/2023

Many of you readers have been entertained by

"Karren Lansky's

Page" over these many years, sadly, this is Karren Lansky's Last Page.

Karren gave you recipes, history, fauna and flora. This was Karren. (Sissy to me).

As the baby of the family, Karren was ten years older than me and influenced me in so many ways. Growing up we shared a bedroom, many a night I would wake to a soft glow of a reading light...Karren, reading late into the night. To this day, I have two or three books that I read at a time. In her high school years, some of the experiments I remember she carried out with clipboard in hand recording progress, were growing bacteria (or mold or something) on common store-bought yeast, she even incubated chicken eggs. Can't remember the outcome of that project. When she got her first microscope for Christmas one year, well, that opened a whole new world for me and the pin prick of blood she made me give up.

She involved me in caring for a retired harness racing "trotter" horse. Grooming, cleaning the stall, watering and feeding...all the fun stuff. (Shout out to Oregon Horse Rescue). She coached my CYO grade school basketball and softball teams, dismayed but not discouraged that I was not the athlete she hoped me to be.

I would not be the person I am today if I never had my Sissy.

My big sister Leni adds:

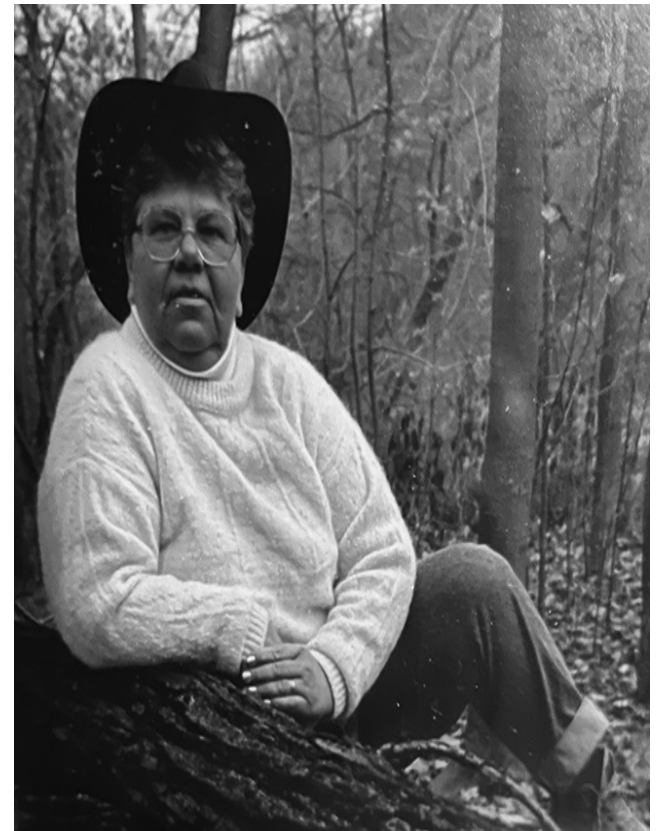
Much has been said about the "dash" between the year you are born and the year you pass. My big sister Karren's dash is loaded because of her wonderful life. We "grew up" in the 50's. Days filled with fun and new adventures. A very simple quiet life. Summers outside all day. Karren playing cowboys and Indians with the neighborhood gang. Riding bikes and



roller skating down the little hill on our street. Winters building snow forts. Karren loved to learn, she was an excellent student. She became a teacher of course, and loved every minute of it. I admired Karren for her tenacity, she was stubborn, strong and sometimes bull-headed! The picture shows Denise and I were instructed to shrink down so she would be the "big" sister! I will miss our weekly 3 way chats with our little sister Denise. Karren always wanted an update on things going on with Denise and me.

Several years ago we visited Karren and Kay, her lovely partner of 45 years, at their marvelous house on Parsons Creek Rd. It was so good to see what a great life in a beautiful part of the country they both enjoyed. I know there is so much more Karren and Kay wanted to do. She has passed way too soon.

Now, Karren's Last Page of the dash that were chapters in Karren's book of life will end with her wish to be scattered in the Willamette River, to eventually rush into the Pacific and that conjures up a whole other story, perhaps it's not really Karren's last page after all



**REST IN
PEACE,
BIG SISTER**
Much love, your
little sisters,
Leni and Denise

Editor's Note

(Some of my favorite "Karren articles"
on Page 12)

OSU Extension in Lane County to hold free webinar "Before you buy rural land" December 14

Contact: Carrie Mack, 541-237-6808, carrie.mack@oregonstate.edu

Eugene, Ore. - The Oregon State University Extension Service Small Farms program welcomes the public to "Before you buy rural land," a free webinar for future landowners, those who have recently purchased land, and real estate agents who want to learn about important topics related to land management and rural living.

The webinar will be held Thursday, December 14, from 12 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Topics covered will include soil capability, wells and septic systems, water rights and farmland zoning. An audience Q&A session will follow the presentation. The webinar will be presented by OSU Extension Service Small Farms faculty: Logan Bennett, Melissa Fery, Chrissy Lucas-Woodruff and Audrey Comerford.

The webinar is free to attend, but registration is required. A Zoom link will be provided to registrants.

More information and registration are available at: <https://extension.oregonstate.edu/smallfarms/southern-willamette-valley/events/you-buy-rural-land>. Register online or call OSU Extension in Lane County at 541-344-5859.

Accommodation requests related to a disability should be made by December 7, 2023, to Carrie Mack, 541-237-6808 or carrie.mack@oregonstate.edu.

LOCAL WOMEN WILL BE MISSED...

PENELOPE (PENNY) MAY ENGLERT
Born October 5, 1947, Fort Walton
Beach, Florida
Passed September 8, 2023,
Springfield Oregon

My parents both grew up in San Francisco, which is where they met, introduced by my Dad's best friend at the time that my mom was dating, as legend would have it. They married in 1966. Bill Englert, my Father, died in 2019.

We moved to Howard Road in Marcola in 1980, when my parents decided it was time to leave California. My Mom was going to school, and wanted to find a university to finish her BA and Masters in Psychology and Counseling respectively. I graduated from Mohawk High School in 1987.

In her civic life, she helped start the Mohawk Watershed Partnership, and made a run for County Commissioner.

My mom spent 25 years as a mental health counselor. But she never stopped learning. She told me a story recently about my Grandmother, Dorothy. Dorothy was a librarian. They first moved to San Francisco when my mom was 11. Dorothy told my mom she could read anything she wanted, so long as she asked questions. And she never really stopped. She read everything, and never stopped being curious and wanting to learn from books, TV, and from people directly. My mom said that she and my dad loved traveling together the most, and I know she loved learning that way. The rest of the time, she traveled virtually.

She loved animals and babies, and used to joke that they were the only ones who liked her



Our Marcola Backyard



singing.

My mom taught me to be curious about words and language. She insisted that I know how to write, and to be interested in the world. Everything she was learning, I had a part in learning too from her novels to spiritual stuff and her schoolwork. I even read her textbooks to her on the drive to town.

I learned from her the art of talking to strangers. It brightens my day, and hopefully theirs too, in this weird world we live in now.

She passed away at her home in the assisted living facility, Bayberry Commons, rather suddenly. She died peacefully, not in the hospital, the way she wanted. She loved everything about living there, and I loved spending time with her there. In as much as she could be, she was happy, and we were good.

It feels like such an odd thing. The two most vital relationships in my life are gone. Or significantly changed, depending on how you look at it. And here I am trying to sum up first my Dad's life, now my Mom's. My mother said when her mom died that you aren't really a grown-up until after your parents die. Sigh. Well here I am, ma. I miss you.

I feel strongly that my folks are together now.

There's plenty more I could write-no one is perfect, not even my mother. She was complicated. I've just tried to share some of what I think is most important. The Englert Family was a proud part of the Mohawk Valley community for 40 years.

Thanks for listening.
Angela May Englert

(Editor's Note: Goodbye, Dear Friends. I love you all!)



YIPPEE, IT'S WINTER ALREADY!! HAPPY HOLIDAYS, HAPPY NEW YEAR AND ENJOY THIS COZY SEASON!

Hello Grangers and Mohawk Valley Community! Well, looks like we are in for a bunch of rain...but remember that's why our valley is so beautiful! We did have a gorgeous fall!

October and November were very busy at our Grange. On Oct. 14th we had our annual Harvest Festival and it was a huge success! We had pumpkin sellers and pumpkin carving, and huge bubbles from our local artist. The Irish Apple Press gang was very busy pressing apples, brought in by residents, into delicious cider. Did you know that Google defines apple cider as fresh, unfiltered, and often un-pasteurized?



Apple juice, on the other hand, is filtered and pasteurized! Who Knew! IT WAS DELICIOUS!!



We then ate a great dinner with everyone bringing food including winning chili, corn-bread and desserts! It was a fun afternoon!

Then on Oct. 21st, we did our twice-annually Road Cleanup. We are responsible for the area between Milepost 14 and 16. We had 12 people come out to help...THANKS TO YOU ALL! Plus we collected 13 bags of garbage. As bad as that sounds, we usually collect closer to 20 bags...dare we to hope that people are not throwing stuff out of their cars as much!?

November 4th saw us with our regular BINGO games. There were wonderful prizes and a rowdy and fun group of folks



trying to win them! Our next BINGO will be sometime in the spring...TBA on our reader board in Marcola across from the post office or the spring issue of this newspaper.



Finally, in November we had a well-attended Community Thanksgiving dinner at the Grange on November 23rd! There were

appetizers, drinks, Turkey, Ham and all the fixings! Everyone brought a dessert, so there were so many yummy goodies for after dinner. There was Ping Pong and games for those who stayed and they helped to clean up the Grange. It was a super evening and I am so grateful for all the wonderful people who came, ate, played, and helped to clean up!



In November as usual, we elected our officers for the following year: Linda Mooney, President; Donna Heath, Vice-President; Kalen Halter, Secretary; Teresa Hill and Juliana Connell, Co-treasurers, and Gail Weathers, Lecturer.

HAVE A SUPER NEW YEAR AND WE'LL HAVE MORE FUN EVENTS IN 2024!



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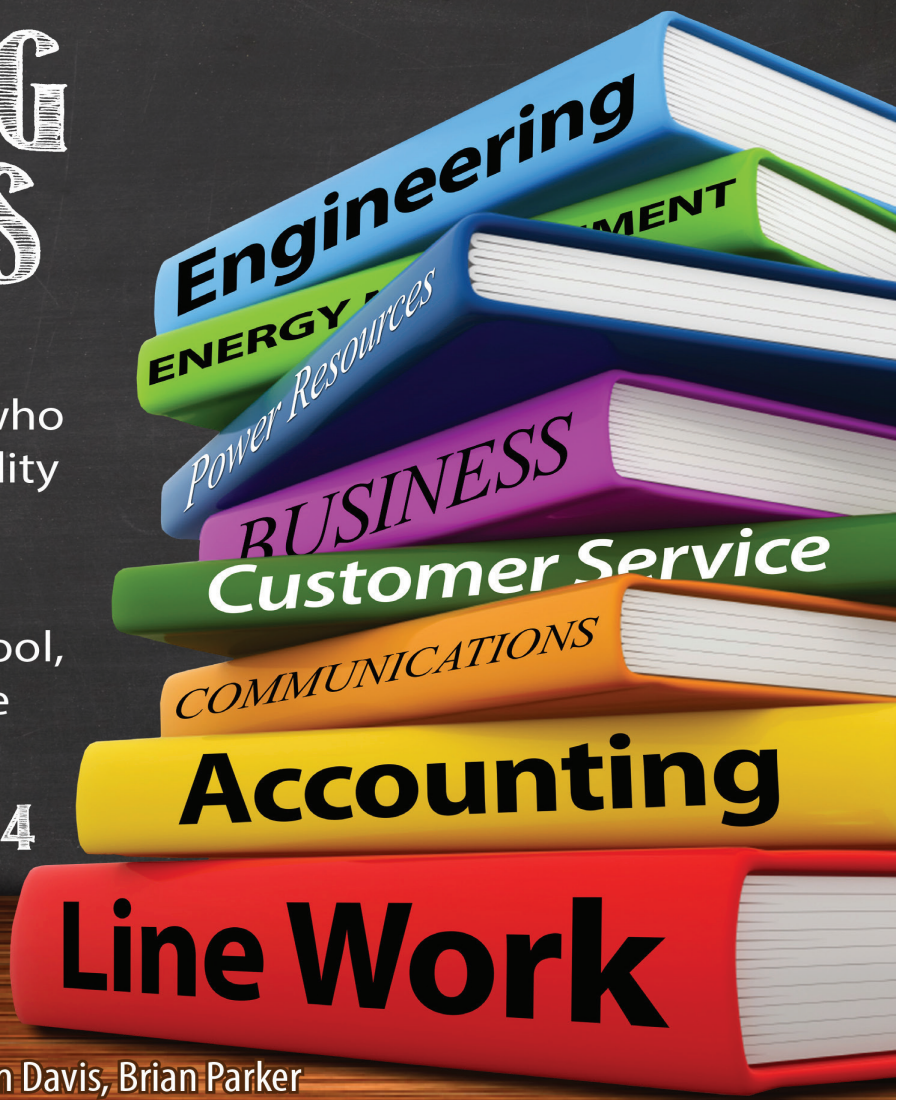
Graduating high school seniors, new and returning students in college or trade school, and adults seeking new career training are eligible.

APPLICATIONS DUE JANUARY 31, 2024



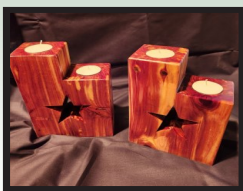
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MONDAY-FRIDAY
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10AM-8PM
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MIDNIGHT+

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

The Marcola Roadhouse Restaurant and Tavern features daily made soups from scratch, delicious homemade desserts, and always FRESH daily specials.

DAILY HOMEMADE DINNER SPECIALS

Mondays - JACOB'S POT PIE
TUESDAYS - Tacos & Mama Bear's Special with Homemade Salsa
Wednesdays - Pub nights with our delicious Fried Peanut Butter and Jelly sandwiches.
Thursdays - Italian Night
Fridays - Steak, Prime Rib or Chicken and Ribs
Saturdays - Mama Bear's Meatloaf
Sundays - Chef's Choice

WE ARE OFFERING KARAOKE IN THE BAR
FRIDAYS & SATURDAYS
LIVE MUSIC WITH DOWN AND DIRTY ONCE A MONTH.
WATCH FOR NOTICES
COME AND HAVE FUN!



TERRY AUGUSTADT
Superintendent

MARCOLA SCHOOL DISTRICT 79J
38300 Wendling Rd. • Marcola, OR 97454
Phone (541) 933-2512 • Fax (541) 933-2338
www.marcola.k12.or.us

Dear Mohawk Messenger Community,

I want to take this opportunity to quickly share some of the events and activities happening around the school district. Our staff has the pleasure of serving our kids and trying to guide all of the uniqueness and energy they create everyday. This is a brief highlight of just a few of the events that have taken place over the past few weeks. For a more detailed look please access our district website to get a broader picture of events and information about Marcola School District (MSD). Marcola.k12.or.us

Middle School Sports:

The fall season for our Middle School athletic program saw a great deal of success. The fall season saw 50 athletes participating over three sports. Volleyball won the league and the district tournament at season's end. Football went undefeated in league play. Additionally, Cross Country saw PR's at a multitude of events with athletes excited for each meet. We now look forward to the winter season!

High School Sports:

Fall Season was successful with student athletes competing in; Football, Cross Country, Volleyball, FFA and Junior Mustangs. The total number of students participating in the fall was 114 Mustangs, which is an increase of 30% since last fall.

Winter Season has now begun and is in full swing with an increase of student/athletes participating in; basketball boys/girls, MS Cheer, Swim team (Co-Op w/Thurston High) and FFA (7th-12th) and, of course, our Junior Mustangs group. The winter season is usually our most active with all the coordination of the different teams, hosting and traveling to all of the different schools to compete. Please check our website for the most current and up to date information on schedules and possible game changes.

Drama Department:

The middle/high school drama class is hard at work preparing their winter play. They will be performing a double-feature as they did last spring, starting with a short comedic take on Greek mythology, *The Greek Mythology Olympiaganza*, and ending with a musical revue of songs from *The Nightmare Before Christmas*. They do not have exact performance dates yet, but shows are tentatively scheduled for the last week of the semester at the end of January. Again check our website for the current information and updates as they are available.

Journalism Department:

Our journalism class is full of students excited about bringing stories and articles to the Mustang students and staff. Each quarter the students lead by Mrs. Cancino work to research, develop, interview and write articles that inform and share culture and topics at Mohawk High School. Soon the students will be equipped with portable video cameras that will eventually allow them to stream video content on our district website. Look for new content and material out soon.

Facilities Update:

Many of the improvements around campus were driven by the feedback we received from the Facilities Assessment report generated last year. In that report several areas were mentioned, the school board and superintendent have strategically addressed items that focused on improving safety and access for all students, staff and community. Additional parking lots to the north of the buildings are being created to ease the parking pressures during home basketball games and soon safety lighting will be installed for those late night games. Sidewalks with lighting were developed for access to the football field and expanded parent parking behind the schools were also allocated. Internally, we have increased communication levels and improved security layers in order to have immediate responses in the event of an emergency.



MSD Veducation Station/Farm Stand:

Huge growth in terms of produce grown and the popularity of this program have been noticed by our students, staff and the Marcola community. Farmer Brian has done a great job acting as our visionary leader for our farm and as an ambassador for the district promoting our agriculture programs. We are excited to announce the district was just awarded a large Farm-to-Table

grant that will allow us to develop a pathway for produce grown on our farm to be served to our students through our food services department. Our goal is that by April 2024 we will showcase at least 2 school lunch meals that come directly from our farm. The future of the MSD Farm is very bright. Look for the Veducation station to soon fly our flag as a symbol of when our farm stand is open/closed.

Marcola Elementary School:

Elementary Principal Beck has acclimated well to the Mustang way. The PBiS program is in full swing with the latest event having our students compete in a Minute To Win It contest to win prizes and recognition among their peers. The Parent-Teacher Organization is very active this year with facilitating community based Fall Festivals and sponsoring field trips. Volunteers are back in the building and staff is standing by with small tasks parents can help out with in most every classroom. Check at the front office for details on how you might be able to help out.



Minute to Win It Contests!
More Pictures on next page



Mohawk Middle School:

Facility improvements in the MS area have been gladly accepted by our 6th - 8th grade students, they now have an additional outdoor area and basketball court along with a separate community room to collaborate and hang out as a group. The space is developmentally appropriate for all those typical middle school ideas to be explored. Overwhelmingly, it seems like all students and staff have embraced this space as their own.

Mohawk High School:

Almost too many things to mention for the amount of activities and events taking place for our Mustang leaders. Soon we will have linked on our website the videos from spirit week, riot night and homecoming. Our kids are thriving in our small rural setting, our FFA has yet again taken home the hardware at the latest state competitions, college and career visits are taking place weekly, guest speakers and industry representatives are meeting with our students talking about post high school plans and staff are challenging themselves to provide opportunities for every student. Many visitors that come to our district are amazed by the offerings and beauty of our campus. I'm very proud of how our students and staff represent who we are.

Go Mo!



MINUTE-TO-WIN-IT CONTESTS
Our kids having fun!



MARCOLA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL MODEL MUSTANG AWARD

THANKS KANDIE DISKIN



WE HAD A BEAUTIFUL FALL THIS YEAR!

OUR FAMILY CHRISTMAS TIMES IN THE 1950S

I've been thinking about how Mom used to decorate and prepare for Christmas...

Her tree...

I loved the crinkly shiny-metal ornaments she used to put on the spindly tree. With all us Young families who lived next door on Wendling Road, our dads cut real trees back then, hiking up into the woods behind our homes and bringing back "a fine tree."

Not a cultured tree!
No one would have wanted a cultured tree back then.

The old light strings they used then went on the tree first. The bulbs were bigger than the mini lights so many people use now, and were of every Christmas color. Then the ornaments were hung from each bow. Many were handmade by us kids, either at school or at our own kitchen table. We also spent many hours by our wood stove pushing needles and thread through popcorn to make strings to hang around the tree.



My parents May and Bernie Young, at our home when I was a child...

There was no joy such as what happened after dark each evening, when we turned out the house lights and plugged in the Christmas tree lights! We kids loved to grab a blanket and our pillow and a book, and just cuddle under our Christmas tree. And I still love the fragrance we get, bringing in a real live fir tree each year. Fir trees and candles and potpourri with cinnamon...The smells of Christmas!



In later years...with our tree and piano...

I have my mom's little light string that she put up in her kitchen window above the sink every year. I've kept it and I put it up in my own kitchen window too, all through our 50 years here at our place where Phil and I have lived on Wendling Road.

Mom also had a fat lighted snowman holding a little plastic Christmas tree...I have him and love him, too.

And Mom would play our old 78 Christmas records on the old radio phonograph (which I still have in my home). We also had a small 45 record where we heard Santa's voice telling the Christmas Story of Jesus' Birth.



Mom's lighted snowman...

Anybody remember the old 78 and 45 records? My brother Steve and I

would ride our tricycles for hours around in circles inside our house, laughing and singing as the records played! And "Ho-Ho-Ho-ing" like Santa! Childhood freedom-of-spirit and pretending is so much fun!

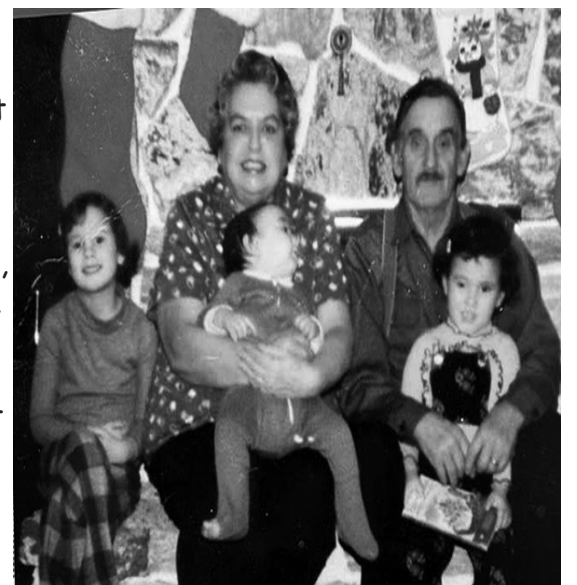
Mom had a big wood cookstove in our kitchen. It was covered with pots and pans of good food cooking every day. And the oven was always filled with cakes and pies baking. Oh...the smells! Our house was kept cozy warm as my dad brought his chopped wood in by the armloads and stoked the cookstove and also the wood stove in our living room.

We cousins spent December weekends and long hours during Christmas Vacation indoors on cold winter days, sitting at our families' big tables - making paper dolls or drawing and coloring pictures or playing wonderful board games. Chattering all the while. It was so fun for three families of us cousins and our folks, living all our growing-up years together, right next door to each other.

We cousins all learned to play the piano and there was a piano in each of our homes. Our families and friends gathered around the piano often and especially at Christmastime. We gals took turns playing the piano. Everyone, old and young, laughed together, making merry and singing all the wonderful old carols.

Christmas programs at school and church were such a delight in our small country community of Marcola. Santa appeared at both places with bags of candy and oranges for every good little girl and boy!

And everybody remembers how it was to go to bed on Christmas Eve...it seems we'd NEVER get to sleep! We were SO excited, knowing Santa was coming to our house, to leave us special gifts, which we'd find under our tree in the morning! We usually fell fast asleep long before he came, and never heard his reindeer prancing on our roof.



Mom and Dad with our three children, Julie, Todd, Pamela...

Christmastime was always the most exciting time of the year. And sometimes we'd even have SNOW! (...building snowmen and sliding on our sleds is another whole story...)

So, spend time remembering your own childhood Christmases and the wonders of winter weather - and how they brought us all indoors with loved ones, where many precious memories were created which would last a lifetime.

**MERRY CHRISTMAS AND GOD BLESS US EVERYONE!
And....HAPPY NEW YEAR!**

Remember...2024 is a LEAP YEAR - so 29 days in February!

By Lois Roberts
December 2023

MOHAWK VALLEY LIONS' NEWS



The Lions wish you all a joyous holiday season. It is a blessing to live in a community with so much local support.

We have put a fresh coat of paint on the Christmas Candles we have hung on the poles along Marcola Road and we hope that they put a smile on your face. We have also helped with a Lions float for the Springfield Christmas Parade with a theme of "How The Grinch Stole Christmas". We also hope to have some new decorations up at the Veteran's Park but I have to write this before all the details were firmed up. Be sure to honk and wave if you see the Lions working anytime! Also in the planning stage is a sprinkler system for the Park. How many of you remember when that was just a vacant lot? Your Lions Club has been slowly improving the park since inception and will continue to make it a place that will make our community proud.

The local Marcola Community Christmas Event is fast approaching and it is such a feel good event for everyone! Please continue your great support with gifts, financial sponsorship and most especially your time for set up, becoming Santa's Helpers with the kids or at the special tables. And helping clean up after is greatly appreciated. (See Front page for contact info to volunteer and/or donate!)

We encourage you to join our Lions Club. We will have a social dinner meeting at the church on Tuesday, January 23rd at 5:30. You are invited to join us and enjoy a nice meal, meet your Lions and we will have a guest speaker. I promise a very gentle pitch about Lions, a couple of minutes and time for any questions. Everyone is welcome - we do not have a political or religious leaning, we are just a public service organization. We need to be sure that we have enough food to feed you all and ask that you please contact us to let us know you plan to be there

The annual Vision Screening is coming up for testing every school student in the Marcola School District. Any student that has test results indicating a possible need for vision help will get a notification from the school. And please remember that Lions will help any student with assistance for further testing and glasses. Lion's pledge to Helen Keller that we would make helping anyone with vision problems our primary calling. We also provide assistance to those with hearing problems or diabetes.

We are glad to serve.

Bob Leeper
Mohawk Valley Lions Club
541 515 6907

GOOD BYE TO MY FRIEND AND ADVERTISING DIRECTOR WHO DIED IN NOVEMBER.

Karren, I will miss you, your sense of humor, and your helpful collaboration with me on this newspaper. I loved to call and get your take on some submissions and, of course, I giggled out loud at some of your articles....here's but 2 examples of my numerous favorites!!

SOME INCREDIBLE FACTS OF LITTLE OR NO CONSEQUENCE

Gathered by
Karren A. Lansky

- The most common name for a goldfish is ...JAWS.
- Four hundred quarter-pounders can be made from 1 cow.
- The McDonald's at The Skydome in Toronto is the only one in the world that sells hot dogs.
- The citrus soda 7-Up was created in 1929; "7" was selected because the original containers were seven ounces, "Up" indicated the direction of the bubbles.
- Coca-Cola was originally green.
- Beer foam will go down if you lick your finger and then stick it in the beer.
- The first man to distill bourbon whiskey was a Baptist preacher in 1789.
- The oldest known vegetable is the pea.
- Bananas do not grow on trees but on rhizomes.

- Almost 425,000 hot dogs and 160,000 hamburgers and cheeseburgers were served at Woodstock '99.

- It is estimated that Americans consume ten million tons of turkey on Thanksgiving Day. Due to turkey's high sulfur content, Americans produce enough gas to fly a fleet of seventy-five 'Hindenburgs' from Los Angeles to New York in twenty-four hours.

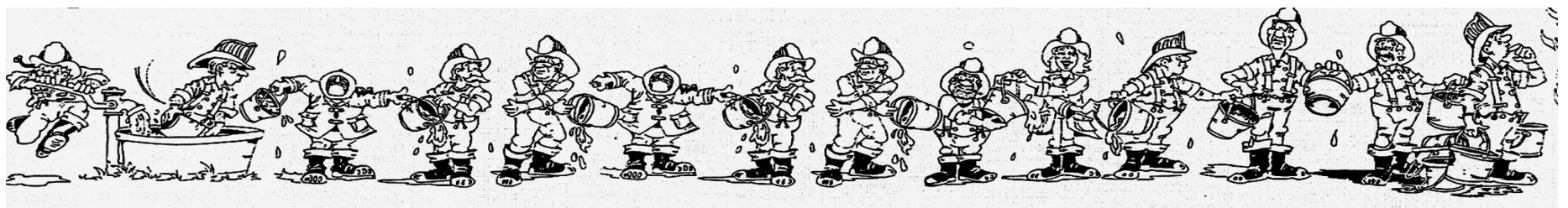
That concludes this random rambling of useless information. I, for one, feel so much better for it!

Here's the opening paragraph of one of her wonderful animals of the Mohawk Valley article...that quirky sense of humor again....

"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 is one important thing."

Sad that you had to leave us so soon, Karren!
I will miss you!

Linda Mooney, Editor, Mohawk Messenger



MOHAWK VALLEY RURAL FIRE DISTRICT

As the summer comes to an end, we now begin the winter months. Things have been quite busy here at the fire house. As you all know, this summer was an eventful fire seasons in Oregon.

Now that the fire season has gone, we are gearing up for the winter months. With the onset of the cold winter weather there are new hazards that we must watch for. I would like to take a few moments to talk about some of these different hazards and how we can avoid becoming a victim to them.

With the cold weather coming, heating systems will be starting for the first time in around six months. In a rural community, many use wood or pellet burning stoves to warm their home. When these popular heating devices are not properly maintained, they can be a source of danger and possible disaster resulting in a chimney fire.

To understand what causes this fire to occur you need to realize that when wood is burned it gives off byproduct such as creosote, tar, and resins. All of these byproducts are flammable and start to build up in the chimney. Eventually, if these products are allowed to build up, they will ignite and start a fire within the chimney. The creosote will ignite at



down, increase your following distances and be alert.

The last thing to remember is to clean your driveways and make sure you have your address clearly marked. If you need an address marker please call us at 541-933-2907 to request one at no cost.

We hope you all have a safe and wonderful winter. Please feel free to stop by at any time and say hi or to ask questions. If you are interested in becoming a volunteer with the Mohawk Valley Rural Fire District, Contact Our recruitment firefighter Mike Baldwin for more information.

Respectfully
Chief Steven Wallace
Mohawk Valley Rural Fire District
swallace@mohawkvalleyfire.com
541-933-2907

451F (about the same temperature as paper) and can quickly become a out of control roof and/or attic fire.

To prevent this, follow the following safety tips.

1. Before Starting a fire, be sure that the draft is open wide. This allows proper ventilation for your fire.
2. Your fireplaces should never be used for burning garbage, Christmas trees, piles of paper, or building scraps.
3. Install a spark shield/arrestor or wire basket on the top of your chimney. The chimney should rise at least two feet higher than the roof peak, or any tall, nearby objects.
4. Check your flue regularly for any obstructions such as squirrel or bird nests.
5. Don't pile on wood and smother the fire because that causes creosote to build up in your stove and chimney. Remember high flames, burning hot also burns clean.
6. Woodstoves should be 36inches from unprotected combustible materials.
7. Always use a fireplace screen or glass doors. Never keep your wood burning stove door open unless you have a screen or glass door as a backup.
8. Keep the area around the stove or fireplace clean and clear of flammable debris.
9. Keep your fireplace and chimney in good condition. Check your chimney for cracks and loose mortar or bricks. Have any problems fixed before using the fireplace or stove.
10. Never leave a fire in your fireplace unattended. Make sure the fire is extinguished before going to bed.
11. Chimneys should be inspected and cleaned annually by a certified chimney specialist.
12. Gasoline or other flammable liquids should never be used to start a wood fire. It could explode or flare up.
13. Pressure treated wood should not be burned in stoves or fireplaces because it contains toxic chemicals that can make you sick.
14. Soft wood contain a high content of creosote and resin so you should burn hardwoods that are seasoned and dried.

With the cold weather come poor driving conditions. Please make sure to allow yourself extra time for your commute. Roads are wet and we will soon see ice and snow. Please slow

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IRISH APPLE PROJECT 2023

By CHARLES KIMBALL

The Mohawk Valley and the Irish Apple Project enjoyed a long, very fruit-full season making apple and pear cider for folks from one end of the valley to the other. Several years ago Hallie Edwards and I, among others, started squeezing fruit for our friends and neighbors after I was gifted with a 40-liter hydro press. Two years ago we passed the collection plate and purchased a \$1000 professional fruit grinder. Curtis Irish (1930-2021) hosted several of those pressings and we in turn enjoyed the delight Curtis took in participating in something that was routine from his childhood. We enjoyed it so much that after Curtis passed we decided this year to open up the pressings to the entire community. In his honor and in tribute to the great gifts Curtis bestowed upon the Mohawk community, we named this effort the Irish Apple Project and launched a Facebook page (easy to find on Facebook, even for you dinosaurs). And we were off to the races.



We held 6 pressings this season in various locations around the Valley, beginning at the School garden in late August and concluding at the Grange Harvest Festival at the end of October. We squeezed well over 10,000 lbs of apples, pears and grapes, producing 534 gallons of pure joy. (We produced nearly 200 gallons of that total on a wet, dreary day in late September.) Throughout it all, we marveled at seeing old friends, making new ones and watching the delight everyone took in turning previously neglected fruit into liquid goodness. It really was a labor of love for all of us.



Archer Ferguson, left, 11 years old and William Kelly, 11 years old were doing their part to help!

We would be remiss if we didn't thank the folks that were with us for almost all of the pressings and helped the community members that turned out: Norb and Nancy Wondra, Billy and Will Kelly, Brian Silva, Eddie Bailey Cox, Brenda Cadenasso and Chad, Jeffrey Meray and Ann Ogg. There

were many others that stayed and pitched in whether they brought fruit or not; you know who you are and our entire community thanks you.

Please watch the Irish Apple Project



page for news in the future. Get those apple and pear trees pruned this early spring, whether you do it yourself or hire it out (reach out to Brian Silva). You'll be amazed at the quality fruit they will produce with just a little care.

FRIENDS OF THE MARCOLA SCHOOLS MEDIA CENTER

VOLUNTEER WITH US!

We are a group of volunteers dedicated to enhancing the reading, educational, and cultural opportunities available to all community members of the Mohawk Valley.

- We staff open hours for the public every week.
- We prepare new books for entry to our library.
- We host programs for all ages multiple times per year.
- We promote summer reading for students.
- We provide NEW books for every student pre-K to 8th twice per year.
- We accept and sort donations for our twice yearly book sales.

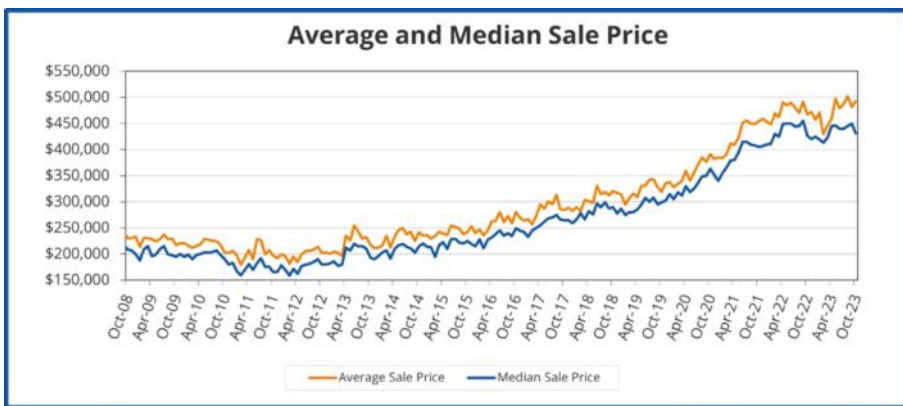
If you are interested in joining our mission, please contact us at friendsofmarcolalibrary@gmail.com or stop by during our public hours! Strapped for time? Just volunteer for events, or consider donating to our cause at <https://donorbox.org/friends-of-marcola-media-center>



Merry Christmas & a Happy "Neu" Year!

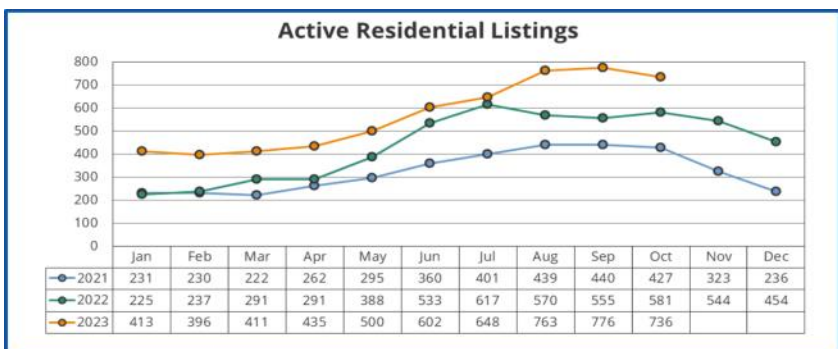


Cory T. Neu
Principle Broker



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	2.2
September	1.0	1.3	2.4
October	0.9	1.6	2.5
November	0.8	2.1	
December	0.6	1.9	



Let's Go Past The Headlines!

I have had several people reach out to me and ask if I had heard about the recent lawsuit verdict in the headlines. Enough that I thought it would make a good topic for this issue, because after 30 years in practice, I do have some perspective on the topic. Most just saw the headline and were curious about the facts of the case. Here is the crux of the lawsuit that will be appealed and likely not be settled for several years.

First of all, I want to point out that this suit was filed in Missouri, but will have implications on practice around the country. Secondly, **this will be not a paradigm shift in the way we do business here in Oregon.**

Let me explain. The lawsuit centered on a requirement that to list a property in an MLS, that the listing had to include an offer of compensation to a Buyer's Agent (B.A.C.). Sellers were questioning why they were required to pay a Buyer's Agent. While I have several things to say on that, today let's stick to the topic of the lawsuit. **The largest MLS Oregon, RMLS, has not had this requirement for several years. Even when RMLS did require a B.A.C., there was no minimum amount required.** A listing broker could simply put in "One Cent" and fully meet the requirements. We saw a lot of these "discount brokers" pop up in the late 90's and early 2000's. Many of whom are not around today. When we are talking about compensating someone is there a difference between "One Cent" and Zero?

Bottomline is that, here in Oregon, we should see very little change as a result of this lawsuit when it comes to the standards of practice. Despite already not having the requirement for a B.A.C. in the MLS, Listing Brokers and Sellers have long understood that offering market compensation to a broker that brings them a ready willing and able buyer is a worthwhile cost. This will become more and more evident as buyers become harder to find.

One thing you may find is that more and more brokerages are going to use a buyer broker service contract to ensure that they will be compensated in case there is a listing broker that does not offer a B.A.C. in RMLS. There is even talk about those types of agreements becoming mandatory in Oregon just as listing agreements are. While I'm not in favor of this legal requirement, it will be a consequence of this lawsuit if it happens.

Home Sellers Win \$1.8 Billion After Jury Finds Conspiracy Among Realtors
The New York Times

Cory T. Neu

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