

Mohawk Valley Community Grange

Mohawk



Serving the Mohawk
Valley and Its Communities

Messenger

WINTER EDITION • DECEMBER, 2024

26 Years of Publication! Thanks, Mohawk Valley!

CELEBRATE WITH US, THIS IS OUR 103RD ISSUE!



The Marcola Youth Center is preparing for our Annual Marcola Community Christmas event on December 20th 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 60 students from the Marcola School District 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 project 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 school or Marcola Community Market. Please drop off all donations by December 15th.

Please make financial donations to:

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

Thanks, DeLana Hansen
delanahansen@msn.com
202-731-0134 cell



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**COUPON for \$1.00
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**MERRY CHRISTMAS
TO OUR VALLEY**

541-747-0321 LOCATED ON MARCOLA ROAD NEAR CAMP CREEK RD ACROSS FROM HAYDEN BRIDGE



92178 Marcola Road
541-933-2828

**MONDAY-FRIDAY
RESTAURANT:
10AM-8PM
BAR IS OPEN TIL
MIDNIGHT+**

**FREE
POOL
ON
SUNDAYS**

**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

Wednesdays - Pub nights with our
delicious quick pub food

Thursdays - Italian Night

Fridays - Steak, Prime Rib or
Chicken and Ribs

Saturdays - Mama Bear's Meatloaf

Sundays - Chef's Choice

WE ARE OFFERING
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FRIDAYS
STARTING AT 9PM

LIVE MUSIC WITH DOWN AND
DIRTY ONCE A MONTH.
WATCH FOR NOTICES

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Marcola Roadhouse with the completion
of a Roadhouse comment card!
Coupon valid for in-house only!
One per household**

**ALCOHOL IS EXCLUDED FROM COUPON
Expires Jan 31, 2024**

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541-554-5971 * robins.mymail@gmail.com *



Mohawk High School Fall Sports Recap - 2024 Season



Volleyball concluded a successful season, finishing second in league play. They upset second-ranked Alsea in the district tournament to advance to face third-ranked Union HS in the state tournament.

Despite their efforts, they came up short in three sets. Addison Barrowcliff and Bellece Bendix earned 1st Team All-Mountain West League honors, Lucy Barrowcliff made 2nd Team, and Maya Chanely received Honorable Mention.

Football: The Mohawk Football team made a strong return to the 8-man league, finishing third with a 6-2 record. Standout Brody Robinson surpassed 1,000 rushing yards, earning him a place in the Oregon record books and "Athlete of the Week" by Fox Sports Eugene.

Ranked 6th in the state, Mohawk hosted its first playoff game in 13 years but narrowly lost to Sherman/Condon, 18-20. Robinson earned 1st Team All-League for RB and LB, while Ewan O'Dea, Justin Cassidy, and Jay Andrews were named to the 2nd Team. Honorable Mentions went to Ewan O'Dea, Tyler Prichard, and Aaron Wallace.

Cross Country: Corbin Dalton led the Cross

Country team with a standout season, placing 7th at districts with an 18:03 5K time and qualifying for state, where he finished 51st in the 1A/2A category.

Winter Sports Preview: This winter, the Boys Basketball team has a full roster of 18 players, the Girls Basketball team anticipates 9 athletes, and Mohawk will also reintroduce a Wrestling team with 10 competitors. The basketball teams are set to host 11 home games, and the wrestling team will travel to at least 6 meets.

Halftime Entertainment: Event during ALL regular season home basketball games, the Marcola Education Foundation will host a halftime / half court shot fundraiser. Each game, one lucky winner will be drawn to attempt a half-court shot, with the chance to win half of the progressive 50/50 jackpot. The tickets are only \$1 each and all of the money raised will go towards MEF scholarships granted to selected graduating seniors.

This exciting event promises to add energy to the season while supporting scholarship opportunities for Mohawk students.

Come out and support our Mustangs as they compete and represent Mohawk pride. Go Mo!



Mohawk HS Volleyball team was sent off to state playoffs by students, staff and family with an escort by the Mohawk Valley Rural Fire District.



FROM LINDA MOONEY, EDITOR:
WINTER IS HERE, cold temps, holidays, and, WOW,
a lot of rain!!

It was a busy fall for the Grange, so be sure to read my article on Page 8

Anyone who is interested in writing columns, taking and submitting photos or finding more advertising, please email me!

Please send your comments and, yes, even your criticisms to 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 541-359-964

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**

Office Phone 541-933-2727

Sunday School 9:30 AM

Church Service 10:45 AM

www.marcolachristianchurch.org

Marcola School District 79 Board Meetings: 2nd Monday of every month in Marcola Elementary Media Center at 6PM

• **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/](http://www.facebook.com/friendsofmarcolamediacycenter)

friendsofmarcolamediacycenter

• **Marcola Water District Meeting**

Community Meetings are held at 6:00 pm on the second Monday of every month at the Marcola Fire Station.

Contact: Jamie Porter at 541-746-1676

for more information.

rwdonline.net/marcola

• **Mohawk Community Church**

Sunday School 9:30 AM; Worship 10:00

• **Mohawk Valley Community Grange**

Regular meetings on the 3rd

Wednesday of every month, except December. 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**

WEDNESDAY 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!

ATTENTION ADVERTISERS!

Linda will invoice all advertisers and sponsors by the 15th of the month in which the paper comes to you, this FALL issue deadline for payment is by September 30th.

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

PLEASE DO NOT MAKE YOUR CHECKS PAYABLE TO THE MOHAWK MESSENGER!

Linda cannot cash them and they will have to be redone! Thanks!

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!

Thanks to this newspaper's ever-so-generous Sponsors:

Marcola School District #79

Mohawk Valley Rural Fire District

CLASSES/MEETINGS CURRENTLY AT THE MOHAWK VALLEY COMMUNITY GRANGE

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS (AA)

OPEN MEETING

This group is free and open to anyone!

The meeting is every Thursday Evening at 7:00PM at the Mohawk Valley Community Grange!

Come and join us!

More information? Call Richard at 541-933-3318

Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) is a global program that helps individuals struggling with alcohol misuse achieve and maintain sobriety through peer support meetings. AA is a fellowship where people share their experiences, strength, and hope to solve their common problem of alcoholism. Membership is open to anyone with a desire to stop drinking.

OPEN ART EVENING

6-9PM Wednesdays 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

The yoga class at the Mohawk Valley

Community Grange now has 3 teachers to teach a yoga class on Fridays mornings from 11 to noon.

They will alternate days!

For more information about attending yoga classes, please call Jean at 541-969-6802

or Donna at

541-933-2384.

Mohawk Grange Fridays at 11:00AM!

These gatherings cost

\$5 per month!

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

ALL LEVELS, ALL ARE WELCOME!



NEW YEAR'S EVE-THEN AND NOW

By Lois Roberts

Simple times were fun,
back in the good ol' days.
And I hope we never get to where we
forget how to have fun.
Here are some memories...

New Year's Eve Before T.V.
Listening to the various radio
entertainment shows
all evening till you hear
Guy Lombardo playing at
midnight, "Should Old
Acquaintance Be Forgot..."



Most families back then had a piano
in their home, and someone would play
and all would sing out, "For He's a
Jolly Good Fellow," and perhaps also
an old hymn relating a more serious
note of blessing on our families for
the coming year.

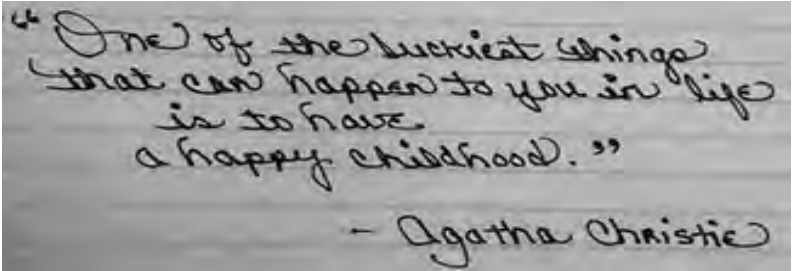
And there was a ginger ale for
everyone...
And maybe some mincemeat pie made
with or without the meat.
Also, some raisin pie varieties are Oh!
So good! - and are a special dessert
at Thanksgiving and Christmas and
New Year's.
"Date Squares" is another one of our
favorites.

Good music, good food, and good
fellowship always combined to make a
memorable celebration for any event.

The younger set also had their part

or a reindeer clear across the living
room, propelled by a rubber band, not
a battery-operated gizmo.... Anybody
remember those?
Or playing tag and hide-n-seek, up
and down the staircase and in and out
of all the upstairs bedrooms...

Anything to keep each other awake
for as long as possible...



Moms allowed no throwing the football
in the livingroom, but this was one
night when even the youngest children
were encouraged to try to stay awake
to watch the New Year come in.

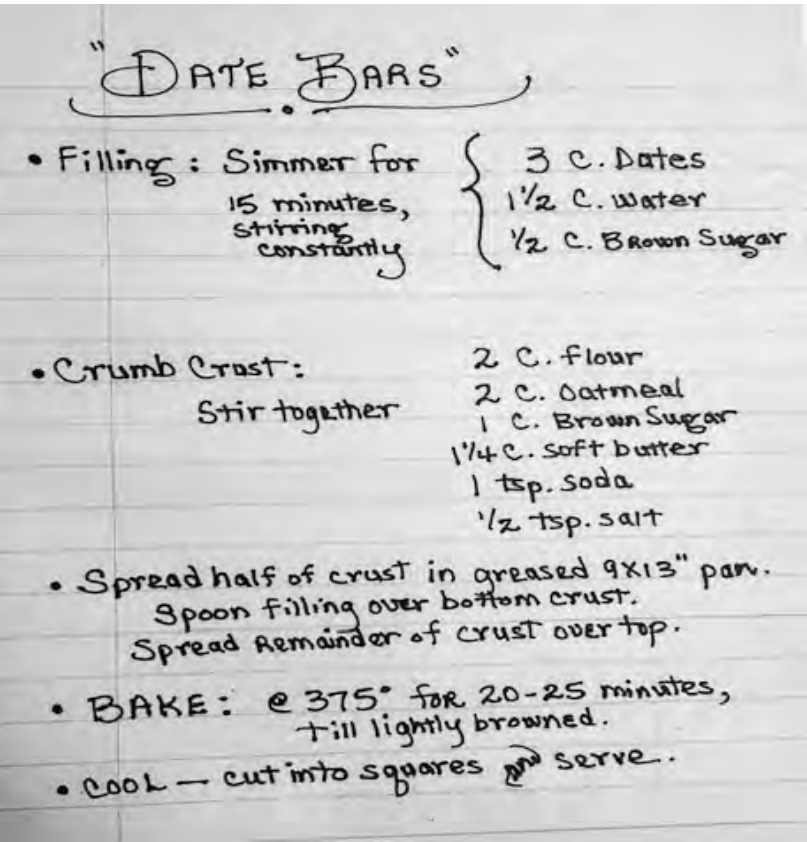
About 10 minutes till midnight, the
noisemakers were brought out.
Kids were told to hold them and not
blow them until the Church Bells were
heard ringing.
Some of the old
fogies who spent
the evening
getting looped
in the taverns
came out into
the streets
and set off

were allowed to grab a pan and a
wooden spoon and come out banging
and whanging as loudly as they could.
Some of the dads fired off their
shotguns into the air. Neighboring
dads answered back from across the
valley with theirs. Lots of noise was
welcomed on this one night of the
year.

So, what about celebrating
the incoming of 2025 this
year? Do something to
make it fun at your house
and invite family and
friends or even a stranger
to come inside and join
you as you stir yourselves
up and cause rollick and
laughter to come from the belly and
out of each mouth.

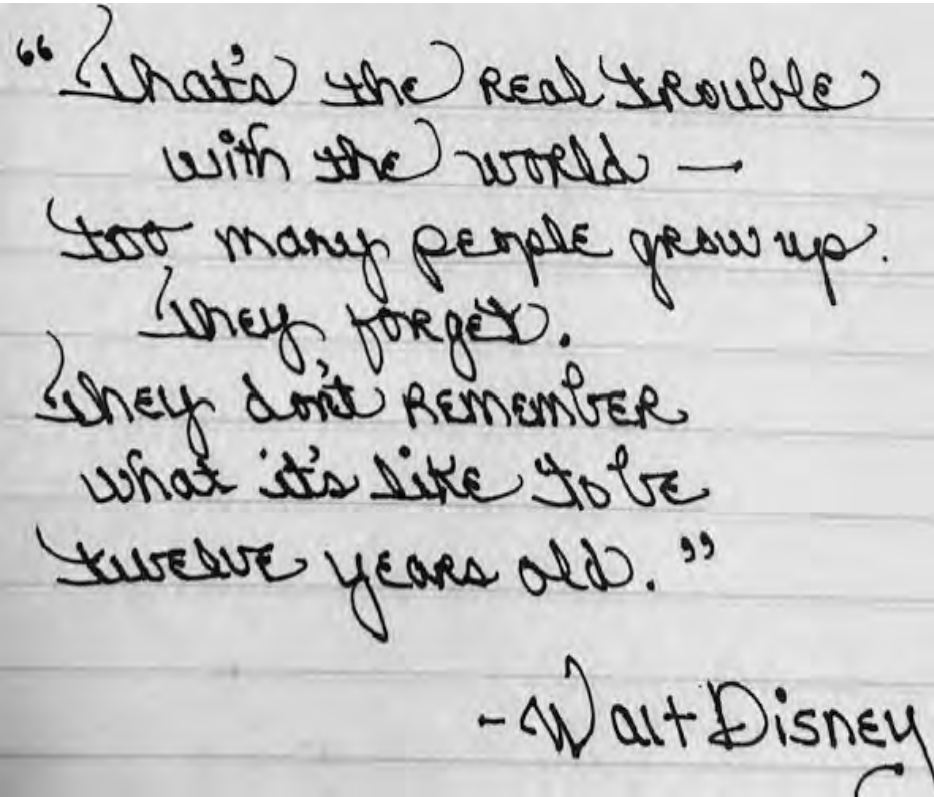
That's what celebrating is!

Don't harness it in.
Don't ever get too old to gather with
neighbors and kids, and offer your
home with the spirit of making merry.
And above all, thank the God we



to play. Like kids having their little
flicking toys that shot a plastic Santa

shouted "Happy New Year!" to anyone
near enough to hear them. The kids



bottle-rockets and other
fireworks that flashed
and were the best part
of welcoming in the New
Year.

Neighbors came out at
the very sound of the
clock at midnight and
near enough to hear them. The kids

serve that we have such a great
country where we still have the
liberty to openly celebrate goodness
and make times happy for those
around us.

HAPPY NEW YEAR TO
FAMILY, FRIENDS AND
NEIGHBORS! 2025



MOHAWK HIGH SCHOOL LAUNCHES NEW CULINARY CTE PROGRAM

November 2024 — Mohawk High School is thrilled to announce the launch of its new Culinary CTE Program, designed to teach students valuable cooking skills while promoting the benefits of using fresh, local ingredients. Led by Culinary Program Director Jenn Cancino, along with kitchen assistant Charity Litle, the program brings a farm-to-school philosophy to life by focusing on seasonal cooking with produce sourced directly from farmer Brian and the MSD Irish Garden Farm, and Emerald Valley Produce.

With hands-on cooking lessons already underway, students have had the opportunity to prepare dishes such as spaghetti squash gratin, apple pop-tarts, and participate in a chili cook-off. This approach helps students understand where their food comes from and the nutritional value of seasonal eating, instilling lifelong skills and healthy eating habits.



The Culinary Program is further strengthened through mentorship by retired culinary CTE teacher Martha Humphreys (5 Time ProStart Championship Winner), who brings decades of experience from Willamette High School. Her guidance has enriched the curriculum, providing students with a comprehensive education in culinary techniques, kitchen safety, and food sustainability.



In addition to culinary instruction, Mohawk High School has made accessibility a core element of the program. Special education instruction and accessibility supports have been incorporated into the kitchen environment to ensure that ALL students, regardless of their learning needs, can fully participate in our program. Students are encouraged to work together, building a supportive, inclusive community that celebrates everyone's progress and achievements.

"We want every student to feel confident in the kitchen and connected to what they're learning," said Jenn Cancino, Program Director. "Our goal is to provide not only culinary skills but also an appreciation for the farm-to-table journey and the positive impact that local, seasonal food choices can have on health and the environment."

The program also encourages students to test healthy recipes for their younger peers. Elementary students will be invited to sample these dishes, promoting healthy eating habits and a love for nutritious food from an early age.

*The Oregon ProStart® Championships, presented by the Oregon Hospitality Foundation, is the capstone event for the H.S. Career and Technical Education (CTE) training program called ProStart. This year's Championships will be held in March 2025 at the Salem Convention Center

with ProStart students from high schools across the state competing in culinary and management competitions! We're excited that Mohawk High School's Culinary students are gearing up to observe

and eventually participate in the ProStart Championships! Attending this event will give students valuable insights into the level of skill and creativity required, and they'll get a firsthand look at the competitive atmosphere. This is a strategic first step (in year 1) in preparing our students to compete next year (in year 2), while also enhancing their skills and building confidence.



For more information about Mohawk High School's Culinary Program, offers of support, or ways to be involved, please contact: Jenn Cancino, Culinary Program Director at jcancino@marcola.k12.or.us **Go Mo!**



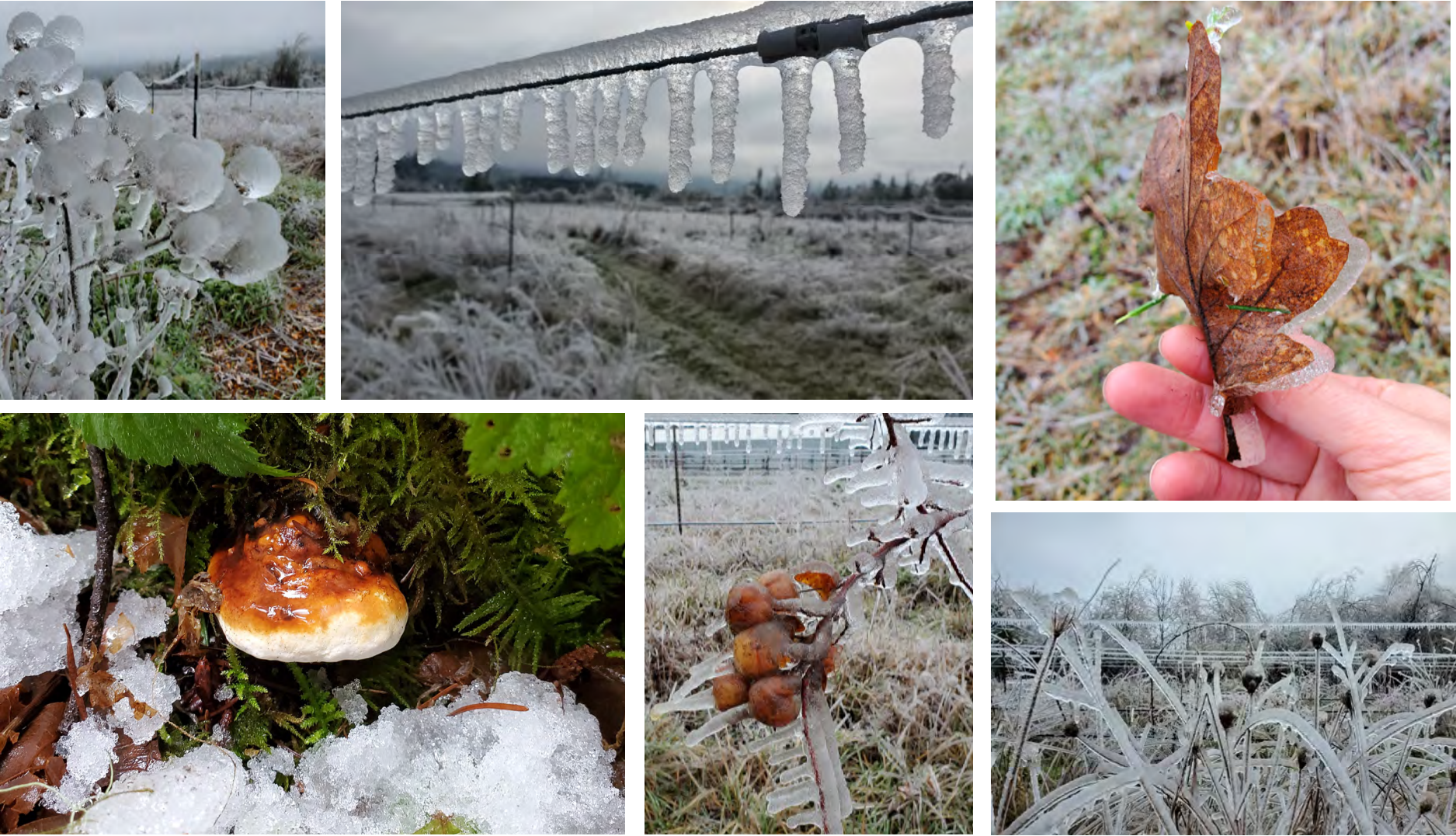
About Mohawk High School

Mohawk High School is committed to providing high-quality, hands-on education through its diverse Career Technical Education (CTE) programs. This new Culinary Program is part of Mohawk's ongoing efforts to prepare students for life-ready skills and foster a supportive learning environment for all.

Access for ALL, Pathway for Each

2024: FROZEN MOMENTS

Photography by Stephanie Walen





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• Grape	• Thornless Blackberry
• Hardy Kiwi	• Willow
• Highbush Cranberry	AND MORE!

We're located in the heart of the Mohawk River Valley, 1 mile north of the Mohawk General Store on Donna Rd

Call 541-933-0633 to make an appointment or visit RainbowGrove.com

What's New at the Mohawk Messenger?

Graphic Design support from Stephanie Walen!

Mohawk Valley resident since 2022



STEPHANIE WALEN

ART & DESIGN

stephaniewalen.com

About Me: I graduated from Lane Community College with an AAS Degree in Graphic Design. I currently work with small businesses to create product packaging and marketing materials. Finding solutions to creative challenges is part of what I love about being a designer. I am willing to stretch the imagination and offer suggestions from a place of curiosity. I've been making art for most of my life and have explored many mediums and techniques! I love photographing the flora and fauna around Oregon.

Visit my website to check out the portfolio gallery and send a hello if you would like help with any kind of creative project.

Photography • Digital Illustration • Marketing Materials
Graphic Design • Packaging • Small Business Support
Website Building • Traditional & Fine Arts

www.stephaniewalen.com



GREETINGS MOHAWK GRANGERS AND THE MOHAWK VALLEY COMMUNITY,

Here it is the Holiday Season again...
it came so fast!

BUSY FALL AT THE GRANGE!

October 5th we had our annual Harvest Festival and it was lots of fun!

To start us off we had Charles Kimball and his merry band of apple juice pressers! Lots of neighbors brought apples and I brought 2 ½ 5-gallon buckets full of my apples. We took home nearly 3 gallons of yummy juice!



Also in October, we did our semi-annual road clean-up. In exchange with Lane County, they post the green highway signs with Mohawk Valley Community Grange on them. Our part of this agreement is to clean the road from milepost 14 to milepost 16....either side of the Grange turn off. This time we had 12 volunteers show up and they filled 16 big yellow bags of garbage! Thanks to them for their hard work!

Our last event of 2024 was our BINGO game on November 9th. We had a good crowd with great prizes. Jim Tullock won a nights stay at the Yachats Inn. He was very happy!! Have Fun, Jim!

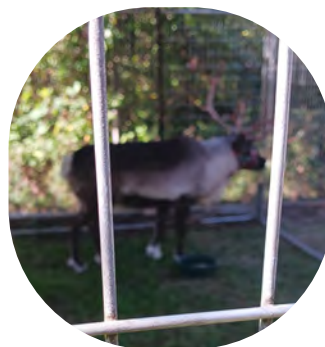


We also had numerous vendors with lovely plants, beautiful crystal window hangings of which I bought many, plus delicious jellies, cute hats, and so much more! Vendors were pleased to have access to the Internet for payments from customers! Thanks, HughesNet!

The kids enjoyed carving or painting pumpkins and playing with our local Bubble Guy! The reindeer came to visit also. The weather was picture-perfect fall day!

We had a scrumptious chili feed with winners in great chili from Jodi Tullock, Cornbread winner was Kathy Conley and the Dessert winner was an amazing pumpkin chocolate pie created by Julia Mooney!

A GREAT TIME WAS HAD BY ALL! IF YOU COULDN'T MAKE IT, WE MISSED YOU!



Whew, it was a busy fall season! At our January 15th meeting, we will be planning more great community events. Please join us and bring your great ideas and your energy!

**HAVE A SUPER HOLIDAY SEASON
AND A BEAUTIFUL 2025!**



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**FRIENDS OF THE
MARCOLA SCHOOLS
MEDIA CENTER**



MARCOLA VINYL & BOOK SALE



Annual Holiday Book (& Vinyl) Sale
Stock up on Winter Reads, Gift Books, and More, for All Ages

most kids' books: 50¢

most adult books & LPs: \$2

everything: half-price on Sunday

Hundreds of LPs & a staff picks table, perfect for gift giving!

Saturday, December 14, 9 am to 3 pm

Sunday, December 15, 10 am to 4 pm: Half-Price, all day



**FRIENDS OF THE
MARCOLA SCHOOLS
MEDIA CENTER**

**In the Marcola Elementary Media Center
38300 Wendling Rd., Marcola**

For more information:

www.facebook.com/friendsofmarcolamediacenter/ or friendsofmarcolalibrary@gmail.com



MARCOLA SCHOOL DISTRICT ACQUIRES TWO NEW STUDENT TRANSPORTATION VANS!

Marcola, OR — November 2024
Marcola School District is excited to announce the purchase of two new 2025 Chrysler Voyager passenger vans, acquired using funds from the district's transportation

fund. These new vehicles are a vital addition to our transportation fleet, providing safe and reliable transportation for students across the district, and are expected to serve district needs for the next decade and beyond.

The two older vans that these new vehicles will replace will be retained by the district, making them available for smaller group outings related to college and career visits, FFA, sports teams, and other class activities. Expanding our passenger van fleet allows us to enhance our capacity to provide equitable access to extracurricular and learning opportunities for all students. Additionally, these vans bring the benefit of easier access for our drivers, who do not need a CDL or special certification as they would for driving an activity bus.

We extend our sincere gratitude to the entire Mohawk community for the steadfast support that has made this purchase possible. Community support remains instrumental to improving our services and creating valuable opportunities for students. These new vans symbolize our commitment to student safety and enriching extracurricular experiences.

Coming Soon: New School Bus Arrival!

By the end of this year, Marcola School District will also welcome a brand-new school bus to our fleet. Following new state and federal regulations regarding diesel bus sales (effective in Oregon as of December 31, 2023), the district acted proactively, ordering a compliant bus early. This new bus, ordered nearly 18 months ago, is expected to arrive soon due to high demand. We'll keep you posted as we approach its delivery!



Thank you, Marcola Community, for your unwavering commitment to our students and for helping us make a difference in their lives!

SUPER SUNDAYS

10:30 am



Mohawk Valley AOG

Rev DAVID LOMOND

Traditional*Contemporary & Original

Live Songs of Praise

encouraging*insightful & inspirational

BIBLE WORDS of FAITH

Mohawk Valley Assembly of God, 92027 Marcola Rd, Springfield, OR 541-933-2998

**Come experience God's Love, Power,
Wisdom & Joy**

mohawkaog.org

FILBERTS AND JETS

By Juanita Turner Paslay

Very cold but sunny weather bathes the Mohawk Valley this December morning. I just finished reading chapter nine, and my China teacup, once filled with Earl Grey's bergamot flavor, now sits empty on the saucer.



When I looked out my window twenty-nine years ago in late winter, I saw our filbert orchard in full bloom with their soft male and female tassels. That is the closest they come to having flowers. I can forgive them for that because I love the nuts, especially the sweeter, longer male nuts. I loved them ten times more when my husband made chocolate nut clusters! We had one hundred ten trees around our house, but in time, the harvesters retired. Our kids and the neighbor kids grew up and moved away.

Time for a drastic change, and my husband just happened to own a backhoe. Imagine that! The filbert orchard became welcome firewood for our Fisher stove. We planted a petite forest (that has now grown sixty feet tall) and designed a lovely garden with a six-foot-tall waterfall, a meandering creek, and a round fishpond full of koi, goldfish, and potted plants.

There is much enjoyment to see from our library window. You are welcome to come and sit with me any time. Do you prefer tea or coffee?

Do you ever watch a jet exhaust stream? I have seen them many times, but never observed them.

There's a difference, you know. I have my eye on one right now from my library window. The jet flies south, probably to San Francisco. There is not the slightest breeze in my front yard. The cedar branches hang motionless. But it must be very windy high in the sky because the clean white stream floated east and looks blown to small pieces. All that happened in about two quick minutes. The expert, Jenn Stroud Rossmann says a thin, short-lived stream is a sign of fair weather. The thick, long-lasting stream can be an early indicator of a storm.



Keep looking up or you might miss something important!

DO UNTO OTHERS

By Juanita Paslay, Gideon Aux. Chaplain

"for I was hungry and you gave Me food;
I was thirsty and you gave Me drink;
I was a stranger and you took Me in;
I was naked and you clothed Me . . ."
Matthew 25:35-36 NKJV

Year-end holidays bring opportunities for good works. During this season of giving, we open our hands and wallets to the needy in our community. Freezing weather accompanies this season in many sections of our country, making the urgency even greater.

My husband and I enjoyed the privilege of attending a lunch for the homeless. While other Christians served the food, we walked among the destitute people and talked about a recent snow storm and wished them a Merry Christmas. It was a joy to give presents of a small New Testament and show them where they could read the first Christmas story in Luke 2. We assured them that Jesus loved them, and we wanted to see them in heaven with us.

Father, thank you for the many hands who were eager to reach out for Your Word. You blessed us as we planted Your seeds of hope in their hearts. I pray they will believe and accept Your Son Jesus as their Savior.

". . . as you did it to one of the least
of these My brethren, you did it to Me."
Matthew 25:40 NKJV

THE WALTZ OF DARK CLOUDS

Whooshing gusts disturb the motionless air
of a late November sundown.
Strange clouds dance--alive, pivoting,
swirling in a random ritual
near a sleepy rural town.

Dazzling swarms drift over foggy meadows,
attracting stragglers in their wakes.
Thousands of noisy starlings scatter,
finding rest, refuge, and warmth
in tall fir boughs till day breaks.

Glossy, ravenous scavengers emerge
to raid bird nests, feeders, and rye.
Farmers rush to check stored fodder--
praying for bugs to be their meal,
or join a cloud in the sky.

Dianne S. Stewart

JAY SWOFFORD'S PAGE

THANKS JAY!!



**High School Basketball team,
Marcola, OR c1914-1919**

The Marcola High school existed from the fall of 1909 until the spring of 1924. It was located on what is now the old Marcola elementary property.

In this picture we see the team manager or coach with the team. Third from left is Joe Queen and far right is Walden Hileman.

Walden actually lived in the Mabel school district (No. 64), however, Mabel did not yet have a high school. So he attended school at Marcola. The others are unknown.

If you know the date/year of this picture or can identify any additional players, please comment.



**Marcola Union Girls High School
Basketball Team, 1938**



Wendling OR Boys Baseball Team, 1912



**Outdoor Girls Basketball
Wendling, OR 1914**

Marcola's Winter Garden: A Community Growing Strong, All Year Long

As the chill of winter settles over the Marcola Valley, our community's commitment to fresh, local food is only growing stronger. This season, the fields may look quieter, but exciting things are happening behind the scenes as Farmer Brian and his team prepare to bring produce to our tables all year long.



Growing Strong Through the Cold

Winter typically marks a time of rest in traditional farming. But thanks to the innovative work of Farmer Brian and the Marcola School District's school garden program, this year, Marcola's fields won't sleep. With dedication and a commitment to sustainability, we're thrilled to announce the expansion of our growing season with a brand-new 100 x 40-foot greenhouse!

Constructed with the help of four students employed through the YTP grant, this greenhouse will enable us to grow fresh produce year-round, supplying our Farm to Cafeteria program with ingredients for school meals. Even during winter, students will have the opportunity to engage in hands-on learning about plant science, food science, sustainability, and food production, gaining invaluable knowledge about cultivating crops in cold weather. This greenhouse provides a unique educational experience that integrates into various subjects like biology, math, and environmental studies, deepening students' understanding of plant life cycles and the importance of sustainable food sourcing.



Look for the Veducation Station Flag

For those eager to get their hands on Marcola's freshest produce, we have a simple signal to let you know when the farm stand is open: the Veducation Station flag. The flagpole serves as a beacon for fresh food lovers across

the community. When the flag flies high, the stand is open and stocked with seasonal offerings. On closed days, the flag comes down, giving the community a clear and familiar indicator of the farm stand's status.

Building Our Community's Future: Food Forest and Permaculture Garden

This winter, we are also expanding our food forest and permaculture garden while developing strategies to collaborate with local non-profits to address food insecurity. Marcola is like an island in a food desert, and we're committed to making a difference by providing fresh, nutritious produce to both our students and the local community. By growing more in our own backyard, we hope to nourish students with high-quality foods that fuel their minds and bodies while also reducing the impact of food insecurity in our area.



The Heart of Our Community's Garden

Brian's tireless work in establishing this winter growing cycle alongside the school garden's new greenhouse is a testament to Marcola's values—We Care, We Create, and We Grow—which are deeply rooted in our community, resilience, and connection to this land.

Growing Together for a Greener Future

As winter rolls on, the greenhouse lights will shine brightly against the frost, symbolizing our community's determination to grow, thrive, and support each other regardless of season. This fall and winter, Marcola isn't just planting crops—we're cultivating resilience, sustainability, and a brighter future for all.



Whether you're a home cook eager for fresh ingredients or a family invested in a healthier lifestyle, look for Marcola's winter-grown produce and keep an eye on the flagpole. When the Veducation Station flag flies high, you'll know that the farm stand is open, offering a taste of Marcola's hard work and community spirit.

**This initiative is just one of the many ways
our community is coming together
to make Marcola a place where
everyone can thrive, season after season.**

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 season in Oregon.

Earlier this year with the support of all of you Mohawk Valley RFD Passed a 5-year option levy to increase staffing. The need for this was due to the increasing call volume and lower number of people willing to volunteer to be a Firefighter. In 2012 the district responded to 253 calls for service. At the time of this article MVRFD is at 470 calls for the year and on track to finish the year over 520 calls for service.

We are glad to report on the 2nd of November, MVRFD became staffed 24/7. This is the first time since the district was formed that there has been a guaranteed responder in duty 24/7. The three new shift employees and their student partners have hit the ground running and have been busy serving the community.

A-SHIFT



Left: Student Alex Bradford
Right: Firefighter Kyle Heflin

B-SHIFT



Left: Firefighter/EMT Kodi Wardlaw
Right: Student Belle Adams

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.

C-SHIFT



Left: Firefighter / EMT Mikah Reed
Right: Student Carissa Chomer

To start, the 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 451F (about the same temperature as paper) and can quickly become an 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 poor driving conditions also come. Please make sure to allow yourself extra time for your commute. Roads are wet and we will soon see ice and snow. Please slow 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 or go to our website www.mohawkvalleyfire.com to request one at no cost.

Please remember to follow the Fire District Facebook page as well as the Mohawk Valley Emergency Preparedness page for more information about emergency preparedness.

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 Training Officer Nick Mortenson for more information.

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



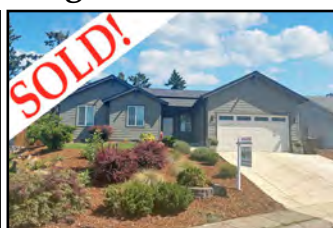
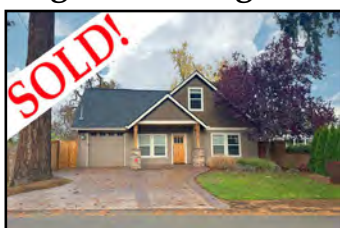
Merry Christmas & a Happy "Neu" Year!



Cory T. Neu
Principle Broker

Thanks For a Great Year!

Our 2024 Sales include properties in: Mohawk Valley, Springfield, Thurston, Junction City, SW Eugene, West Eugene, SE Eugene, Ferry Street Bridge & Cottage Grove!



Lane County Highlights

New Listings

New listings (400) increased 7.5% from the 372 listed in October 2023, and decreased 5.7% from the 424 listed in September 2024.

Pending Sales

Pending sales (335) increased 12.0% from the 299 offers accepted in October 2023, and decreased 1.8% from the 341 offers accepted in September 2024.

Closed Sales

Closed sales (304) increased 4.5% from the 291 closings in October 2023, and increased 2.4% from the 297 closings in September 2024.

Inventory and Time on Market

Inventory decreased to 3.0 months in October. Total market time increased to 54 days.

Year-to-Date Summary

Comparing the first ten months of 2024 to the same period in 2023, new listings (4,418) increased 4.4%, pending sales (3,319) increased 3.5%, and closed sales (3,121) increased 1.7%.

Average and Median Sale Prices

Comparing 2024 to 2023 through October, the average sale price has increased 0.1% from \$475,600 to \$475,900. In the same comparison, the median sale price has increased 0.7% from \$437,000 to \$440,000.

Residential Trends

October 2024 vs. September 2024

New Listings	-5.7%	↓
Pending Sales	-1.8%	↓
Closed Sales	+2.4%	↑
Average Sale Price	+6.2%	↑
Median Sale Price	+5.7%	↑
Inventory	-0.2	↓
Total Market Time	+8	↑

October 2024 vs. October 2023

New Listings	+7.5%	↑
Pending Sales	+12.0%	↑
Closed Sales	+4.5%	↑
Average Sale Price	-0.8%	↓
Median Sale Price	+6.7%	↑
Inventory	+0.5	↑
Total Market Time	+12	↑



Matterport™
3D Virtual Tours

Inventory in Months

	2022	2023	2024
January	0.8	2.3	3.2
February	0.9	1.7	2.3
March	0.7	1.4	2.0
April	0.7	1.5	2.4
May	0.9	1.7	2.0
June	1.1	1.6	2.6
July	1.6	1.9	2.5
August	1.2	2.2	2.5
September	1.3	2.4	3.2
October	1.6	2.5	3.0
November	2.1	2.9	
December	1.9	2.7	



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