



Grange Beacon

Volume 70

A publication of the Rhode Island State Grange

June 2024



Master's Message

Walter Hartley
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Welcome to Spring with Summer knocking at our doors!! As you're reading this, we've just completed our Grange Month activities, I do hope that you were able to attend some of the events that were planned. I will say that it's been fun to see how we all promote the Grange and recognize those special people in our communities and in our Grange. Congratulations to all that were recipients, job well done!!

Degree Day will be here before you know it and I'm always excited to welcome our new members into the BEST FAMILY organization there is!! This is also a great opportunity for all of our members to sit back and watch the performance of all four degrees in the same day. I think that the more you're able to witness this, the more you'll understand our Order. Again, that's June 9th at 2PM and it'll be in Oak Lawn Grange Hall. More information on this will be coming from Kelly, our Membership Director.

As many of you have probably heard by now, but just an update if not, the closing business with Conanicut Grange is now behind us. It was decided by the Executive Committee that we would donate the building back to the Town of Jamestown for continued use as their town's Senior Center. I think that was a great move on our part to help counter any negative information that their former "leader" was spreading through the rumor mills on the island. I do have plans to sit down with their local newspaper for a lets-clear-the-air interview so we can get our side of the full story out there to the residents.

With this edition coming out in June, I guess this is a good time to remind us all that the Rhode Island State Grange Corn Dog Booth will be open at the Washington County Fair in August, from the 16th to the 20th. I've already been getting some of our Corn Doggers signing up for shifts, so please reach out if you can fit us into your summer plans. It goes without saying that you know you're going to have fun with Mr. & Mrs. Corn Dog!! Nettie is very excited to have finally hit the magic age of 16 and can now "officially" work in the booth; she has no idea what she's getting into. Besides the Corn Dog Booth, there's also the Membership Booth that will need volunteers and you can reach out to Kelly to sign up for those spots.

Speaking of Nettie turning 16..... You'll be seeing her soon driving to different Grange meetings and functions as she now has her permit and scheduled to get her actual Driver's License in September. Needless to say, she's VERY excited!!

Continued on page 10.....Master's Message

An Appeal to our readers

As with everything lately, the price of producing this newsletter has increased significantly in the past 2-3 years. The price of printing and the bulk mail permit have each increased by one-third, and the postage per item increases 2-3 a year. Even the round seals that are required by the Post Office to close the newsletter are significantly more expensive than 4 years ago when they were last ordered.

How can you help? You can receive your copy of the Beacon electronically. You will receive it earlier (about 7-10 days), and it won't get lost in the mail, or returned when you are temporarily away. And you will help cut down on the cost of the Beacon.

Please email me at ehbert94@aol.com with your email address and you will start receiving the Beacon electronically starting in September. BONUS: The photos online are in color.
THANK YOU!

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Information Howard Paster

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I mentioned in the last issue that I will write about the contests and programs in this department. First are the Newspaper Photo and Single Article Contests. Those contests are open to Juniors, Subordinate, Pomona and State level Granges. Either the photo or article must be published between September 1, 2023 and August 31, 2024. Also they must be initiated or submitted by a member of the Grange involved. Article or Photo can be on any subject as it gives the Grange a positive image. Originals must be used. No copies can be used. The entire newspaper page must be used. Not only will newspaper entries be accepted, but also will accept website publicity as well. Please use entry forms that are located at the back of the Information Department folder.

Other contests are the Creative Bookmark Contest, which promote the Junior Grange with your favorite Junior Grange activity on a bookmark and the bookmarks made out of card stock. There is also this year's Essay Contest for Juniors with the theme: "Inform readers about the history, cultivation, uses and description of corn" as Iowa is the host state for this year's National Grange Convention in November. This where I am working with our Junior Director Judi White, where the essay will first go to Judi to be sent to National Grange by August 1st for judging and then to myself by September 10th for State Grange judging.

Another contest in the department is for Subordinate Grangers is about "Paint the Rock to Promote Grange". The rock is to be no bigger than 5 inches. Just one rock per entry. All contests are due September 10, 2024.

In March, grange members toured Ronald McDonald House and Meeting Street School in Providence. Grange members attended both events.

On March 30, I attended the 2'x2'x2' Contest and Rockin' Music Bingo, sponsored by the Lecturers Department at Roger Williams-Rumford Grange. Transported a number of items for the 2x2x2 Contest.

In April, I supported a number of Granges by attending a number of Awards Nights at Perryville Grange, Portsmouth Grange and Little Compton Grange. I will be supporting other events when they come up. Took pictures and had them sent to newspapers and the Grange Beacon.

If anyone has any questions or comments with the programs in the Information Department, you can contact any of the committee members Paul & Barbara Rush, Peggy Fish, Cathy Kamowski or myself Howard Paster.



Women's Activities Kathy Stedman

chipmunkscrafts@gmail.com

Hope everyone is well. I can't believe it's the end of May already.

When you read this article, we will have already had our State WAC Day at Exeter Grange and will have held the State Baking Contest.

Items are being made for the Big E this year and I am happy we're doing it again. New items will be sent that are different from before as well as dish towels, scrubbies, dog and cat toys etc. If anyone would like to make scrubbies I have material already to go. We also have towels to be knitted or crocheted for those interested.

All items for the seafarer's diddy bags should already be delivered to me and want to thank all the Granges who have taken part in this program. The seafarer's are so grateful for our gifts.

Please check out the state contests that are online. We have added and changed some of them so everyone may see something that they would like to enter.

We had a wonderful tour of Meeting Street School. What a remarkable place it is. I recommend everyone should visit there. We all should be proud of the great work they do there. If anyone is interested in another tour, I will set up one for next year.

Hope to have more entries in the Harvest of Handicrafts this year.



The RISG Women's Activities Committee, headed by Kathy Stedman, recently hosted a tour of Meeting Street School in Providence. left to right Roger Stedman, Walter Hartley, State Grange President and National Grange Assistant Steward, Kathy Stedman, Peggy Fish, Howard Paster, Mary Petarca, Jessica-(non member), Valerie Richard, Diona McGrath, and Lisa Kingsley.



Juniors Judi White

Jeepgirl388@gmail.com
juniors.rigrange.org

“The hot and the cold are both so intense, put 'em together it just makes sense! Winter's a good time to stay in and cuddle but put me in summer and I'll be a ... happy snowman!” I don't know about you but I'm looking forward to a sunny summer as much as Olaf did in the movie Frozen.

The Lip Sync Contest was held on April 6th at Chepachet Grange with 6 performances. Everyone had a fantastic time, and the performances were incredible! The results of the contest are as follows:

Lip Sync Contest

- Age Category: 5-7
 - 1st Place: Cohen Piers
- Age Category: Adult (14+)
 - 1st Place: Jasmine Richard
- Group Category: Adult
 - 1st Place: Walter Hartley & Annette Hartley
- Group Category: Adult & Juniors
 - 1st Place: Makayla Piers, Lily Piers, & Juliana Gerlach
 - 2nd Place: Laura Gotauco, Scarlet Gotauco, Kendall Gotauco
 - 3rd Place: Mason Houle & Brooke Houle

The Grange Baseball Contest was held on April 21st in conjunction with Youth Activity Day at the Washington County Fairgrounds. A good time was had by all who attended.

The Public Speaking Contest and Sign Language Contest was held on May 18th at Moosup Valley Grange. The Juniors did an amazing job.

Thank you to everyone for coming out and showing their support to the Juniors throughout the year.

Upcoming events - Juniors

August 1 Due to Junior Director
Host State Craft: Iowa
Recycle Craft: Water bottle
Necktie Craft
Soap Carving Craft
“All About Me” Craft
Creative Art Corn Craft
Creative Writing Entries (State & National)
Deaf & Health Creative Art Contest

Mini Prince & Mini Princess Applications
State Junior Ambassador Applications
Master of the Year Applications
National Junior Agricultural Awareness Project
National Junior Creative Writing Entries
National Junior Creative Art Contest Entries
National Junior Cape of Honor Award Applications
National Grange Community Service Contest Report
National Junior Ambassador Applications

September 21st - 1pm Junior Awards Ceremony
Location: Moosup Valley Grange

October 5th - 8am Junior Program at State Grange Session
Location: Radisson Hotel, Warwick, RI
Royalty, Ambassador, and Master of the Year will be awarded.



Deaf & Health Jennifer Lawson

statedeafhealth@rigrange.org

Hope you all are well. It has finally started to warm up this Spring.

By the time you read this we will have held the annual bowl-a-thon. My goal this year was to raise some money for the Arthritis Foundation. Many members attended, along with friends from other organizations from across the state. I would like to thank Roger-Williams Rumford for the use of the hall for the fellowship after bowling. We are looking forward to next year's event.

As usual, we still have our regular contests such as getting and scanning receipts for Box Tops for Education. My goal for that is to raise one hundred dollars for the school for the Deaf. We are at sixty dollars as of today.

I am still hoping for reports from both Subordinate and Pomona Granges that are due by September 1st. This is the only way to tell what the Granges are doing this year. Many Granges have good programs throughout the year, and it is good to get recognized for what is done.

Please have a safe summer. Always, if you have questions, please feel free to call me or e-mail me.

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

Did you ever wish that your pet could talk?
Well, think about all the things he's seen you do
when you're home alone.



**1ST ANNUAL NORTHEAST
CHAPLAINS WORSHIP
SERVICE**
Saturday, July 27, 2024 1:30pm
 Vermont Grange Center
 308 West Street
 Brookfield, VT


**Join us for lunch at
12noon, followed by
worship service at
1:30pm.**

**RSVP for Saturday lunch by
JULY 8th to Ruth Hovey-
Sicely VT State Grange.
ruthsicely@aol.com**

**Stay the weekend at the
center!**

- Camper hookups & cabins available
- Meals available courtesy of VT State Grange

For reservations, contact Ruth Hovey-Sicely at 802-223-7961 by JULY 8th



Chaplain
Stephen Logan
statechaplain@rigrange.org

Sunday June 2nd is our Annual State Grange Service which everyone is invited to attend. It will be hosted by Providence County Pomona at Hope Congregational Church at 3 PM. Immediately after the service we will be able to enjoy ourselves with refreshments furnished by the Woman’s Activity Committee of Providence County Pomona, and of course fellowship. The address is 120 Wampanoag Trail, East Providence.

We are looking forward to the 1st Annual Northeast Regional Grange Service & Family Fun Weekend which will be held July 26-28. It will be held at the Vermont State Grange Center at 308 West Street in Brookfield, VT. The Church Service will be held on Saturday afternoon. There will be a Friday night dinner and a Sunday breakfast for those that are staying the weekend. On Saturday the 27th (the day of the Church Service) there will be a Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner. There will be overnight lodging available in cabins on the grounds as well as camping hook-ups. As soon as meal & lodging forms become available I will send them out to everyone.

I would like to remind all that I would appreciate sick or in need names and addresses to send cards sent to me for the monthly Chaplains Letter sent to me by the 20th of each month. If you do not have email and would like to call me, please call my home 783-3551 and leave a call back number.



Photo by Howard Paster

Perryville Grange recently presented Membership Awards to two of their members after having presented a program on a family trip to Alaska last summer 2023 at a recent meeting of Perryville Grange.

left to right Mary Haberek, who received a special seal for 40 years of Grange service, Harold Stedman, President of Perryville Grange and Mary's husband Peter Haberek, who received a certificate for 25 years of Grange service. Harold presented the awards to Mary and Peter.



**WE
WON!!!**

Newport County Pomona raffle winners

- 1st – Arthur Manchester Sr
- 2nd – Valerie Richards
- 3rd – Jayne Devol
- 4th - Tom Gotauco
- 5th – Danielle Hartley
- 6th & 7th – Roberta Golden
- 8th – Rachel Masyna

Programs of the Granges of Rhode Island

June 1, 2024 thru August 31, 2024

Moosup Valley Juniors - 10:00 am
 Providence County Pomona – 4:00
 Washington County Pomona - 7:00
 unless otherwise stated

Newport County Pomona starts at 7:00
 unless otherwise stated

Other Grange meetings start at 7:30 except:

* meeting at 7:00 pm

** meeting at 8:00 pm

OM - Open Meeting **PL** - Pot Luck

Outlined items are state events – the department sponsoring the event is listed at the right of the box. In most cases more information is found in the column for that department

<<Note – Due to COVID issues, you should call ahead to verify that a grange is meeting>>

Saturday, June 01

Public Speaking & Sign-a-Song entries due Youth

Providence Cty Pomona Kickemuit
 Pot Luck at 4PM, meeting at 5PM Election of officers

Sunday, June 02

**State Grange Church Service-3:00PM Chaplain
 Hope Congregational Church, East Providence**

Tuesday, June 04

Chepachet Election of Officers

Wednesday, June 05

*Perryville Program on Barns
 Moosup Valley WAC Night
 RW-Rumford(OM) Anniversary Night

Thursday, June 06

*Portsmouth Veterans Program

Friday, June 07

*Richmond Olympic Trivia Night

Sunday, June 09

*Hope Valley Election of Officers
 *Kickemuit Ice Cream Social

Wednesday, June 12

Kent Cty Pomona Moosup Valley
 Memorial Service by Chaplain
 Community Service awards

Thursday, June 13

*Newport Cty Pomona Kickemuit
 “Plinko” and Youth Night

Friday, June 14

Slocum About Flags – Happy Flag Day!

Saturday, June 15

Roast Pork Dinner Moosup Valley
 2 settings – 5PM and 6:30PM
 Reservations-Walter 401-339-5012 or 401-934-3756

Barbara – 401-397-7069

Sunday, June 16

Little Compton Church service at Acoaxet Chapel

Monday, June 17

*Ashaway Ice Cream Social

Tuesday, June 18

Chepachet Grange Picnic @ 6:30PM

Wednesday, June 19

*Little Compton Local Dairy Month meeting / program
 Old Warwick Ice Cream Social
 RW-Rumford Election of Officers

Thursday, June 20

Exeter I scream, you scream we all scream
 For Ice Cream
 to be announced

Friday, June 21

*Rocky Hill
 *Richmond Mystery Ride

Saturday, June 22

Washington Cty Pomona WCF Fairgrounds
 Granger Olympics

Friday, June 21 -Sunday, June 23

**Northeast Lecturer’s Conference Lecturer
 Norwich Holiday Inn, Norwich CT**

Monday, June 24

*Kickemuit(OM) Scholarship Awards Night

Friday, June 28

Slocum School’s out for Summer – Game Night

Saturday, June 29

**Friendship Bracelet session Lecturer
 Moosup Valley Grange – 2PM
 Coloring contest entries due**

Wednesday, July 03

*Perryville Summertime Fun – details TBD

Thursday, July 04



Happy

Birthday

America

Monday, July 08

*Hope Valley Deaf & Health Night

Friday, July 12

Slocum Picnic at NK Town Beach – 6PM

Monday, July 15

*Ashaway Pizza Party & Fair cleanup at fairgrounds

Tuesday, July 16

Chepachet Mystery Ride

Wednesday, July 17

Little Compton COOKOUT at 6PM (no meeting)
 RW-Rumford Ice Cream Social & BINGO

Thursday, July 18

Exeter Meet at WG Pavilion for Concert Series-6PM

Friday, July 19

*Richmond Ice Cream Social

Friday, July 19 - Sunday, July 21

Northeast Youth Conference Castleton, New York
See youth column

Friday, July 26 - Sunday, July 28

1st Annual NE Regional Grange Service Chaplain
And Family Fun Weekend
Vermont State Grange Center
308 West Street, Brookfield, VT more info to follow

Thursday, August 01

Contest entries due for Junior contests Juniors
See Juniors column for list

Friday, August 02

Richmond(6PM) Pond Party at Larkins Pond
Pot Luck – hot dogs and hamburgers provided

Monday, August 05

*Hope Valley Fair Prep

Wednesday, August 07

*Perryville Planning for Washington Cty Fair

Wednesday, August 14 - Sunday, August 18

Washington County Fair

Tuesday, August 20

Chepachet Surprise Lecturer's Program

Wednesday, August 21

*Little Compton Meeting followed by Ice Cream Party
RW-Rumford Hot Dog Roast at 6:30PM
Bean Bag Baseball

Friday, August 23

Slocum Ice Cream Social at Gotauco's

The Value of Time

Imagine that you had a bank account that deposited \$86,400 each morning. The account carries over no balance from day to day, allows you to keep no cash balance, and every evening cancels whatever part you had failed to use during the day. What would you do? Draw out every dollar, every day!

We all have such a bank. Its name is Time. Every morning it credits you with 86,400 seconds. Every night it writes off, as lost, whatever time you have failed to use wisely. It carries over no balance from day to day. It allows no overdraft so you can't borrow against yourself or use more time than you have. Each day, the account starts fresh. Each night, it destroys any unused time. If you fail to use the day's deposits, it's your loss and you can't appeal to get it back.

There is never any borrowing time. You can't take a loan out on your time or against someone else's. The time you have is the time you have and that is that. Time management is yours to decide how you spend the time, just as with money you decide how you spend the money. It is never the case of us not having enough time to do things, but the case of whether we want to do them and where they fall in our priorities.



Community Service

Marie Robidoux

dwrobidoux44@gmail.com

Happy Spring to all. Thank you to everyone who attended the Papa Gino Fundraiser on my birthday. I appreciate all the flowers, cards, and well wishes. It was a great eightieth birthday party. Papa Gino Corporate, because it was our tenth year with them, took pictures. I hope to see the photos.

There will be one more Papa Gino Fundraiser at a new location. The "bridge" situation is a deciding factor. Watch for emails from Howie as to when and where.

There have been many Community Service Awards Nights and I am delighted. Kudos to: Perryville, Kickemuit, Portsmouth, Little Compton, Slocum, and Roger-Williams Rumford.

The Veterans Administration Volunteer Services, represented by Dottie Irving, still needs low-denominational gift cards, hygiene articles, activity books, and so on. If you have anything to donate, please call me and I will pick it up.

Please continue to help our pet shelters. Our food pantries will need an increase in breakfast, as well as all foods, because once school is out, children will not have the convenience of breakfast and lunch at their schools.

Thank you for all you do for Community Service. Enjoy your summer!

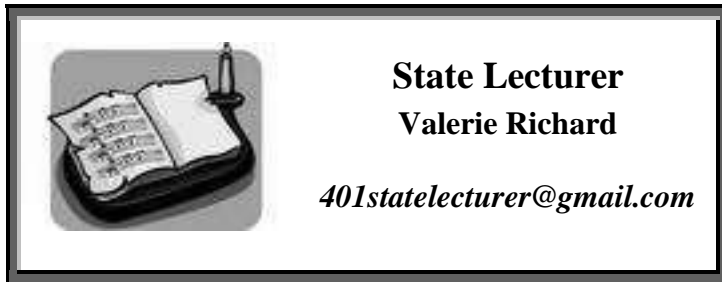
**A Call for exhibits at
Washington County Fair**

Kristine Bell, Grange Exhibit Chair requests that all granges consider entering an agricultural exhibit in the Washington County Fair. The exhibit setup day is Monday, August 12 from 10am to 8pm. She is asking that any granges wishing to have an exhibit contact her by email – kristinebell364@gmail.com by August 10. Rules are available online at the Fair's website:

Washingtoncountyfair-ri.com

Entries should be registered online by selecting exhibits on the site map, and "online registration" at the bottom of the page

A letter is being sent to all grange secretaries with this information and exhibit rules



By the time you're reading this, our Northeast Lecturer's Conference (being held June 21-23) will be rapidly approaching. For those of you that are unfamiliar with this conference, it could be because we haven't had one in five years due to COVID! Traditionally, in addition to our annual State and National Sessions, several departments of the Grange also have one regional conference annually. Since the Pomona and Subordinate Lecturers as well as either the Junior Lecturers (or Jr. Leaders) of their respective Granges act as Program Directors educating their members by bringing fun, engaging, informative and interactive contests, games or programs to every meeting. And in the same respect the State and National Lecturers are in charge of hosting fun, engaging, informative and interactive contests and/or events throughout the year. At the Northeast Lecturer's Conference, we present workshops on things that can help you create or present a program to your grange, ideas to increase membership in your grange or at your contest or events, and each attendee will also leave with a booklet of program ideas. We also have an educational tour of the Coast Guard Academy scheduled for those who register for it, our annual spirit night and colors parade, a short fun contest/game presented by each state, a pizza party, a free shuttle to the nearby casino, And if that's not enough the hotel has a pool! So as you can see, we have something for everyone of all ages!

I hope you have already reserved your room at the Norwich Holiday Inn on 10 Laura Blvd. as the discounted rates and reserved block of rooms ended on May 30, 2024. Fortunately, Norwich, CT is not that far to go for most of us in RI, so hopefully, even if you missed out on the rooms...you can still join us daily.

Speaking of which, I also hope you have already registered for the Northeast Lecturer's Conference by either sending in your paper registration form or signing-up online at

<https://sites.google.com/view/nelcgrange/registration> as the early bird registration has also ended. The good news is that even if you haven't signed up yet it is still not too late...there's just will be \$15 late fee assessed so it'll just will cost you \$45 instead of \$30.

Please note this conference IS NOT exclusively for Lecturers IT IS OPEN TO ALL GRANGERS and GUESTS OF GRANGERS AS WELL!! This website

<https://sites.google.com/view/nelcgrange/home> will give you all the info you need not only to reserve rooms, and register but also for the itinerary/schedule hope to have a great representation of Rhode Islanders in attendance! I look forward seeing you all there.

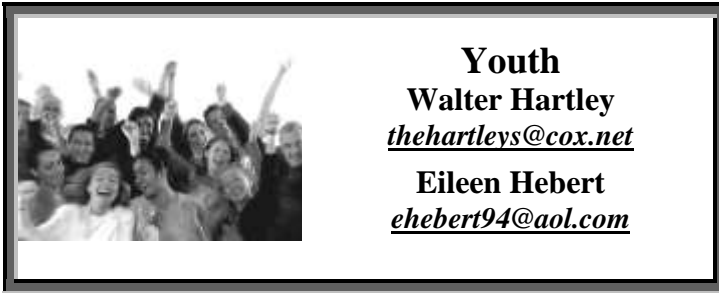
Our next RISG Lecturer's event will be taking place on Saturday June 29th at Moosup Hall Grange Hall on 81 Moosup Valley Road in Foster, RI 02825 at 2pm. This event is new this year...it will be a friendship bracelet making tutorial event...in which I will demonstrate how to make several different types of friendship bracelets (at varying difficulty levels) using embroidery thread! You will then have a chance to attempt them all yourself, choose your favorite type of friendship bracelet, complete it, and enter it in the NEW RISG Lecturer's Dept. Friendship Bracelet contest in July! Feel free to bring your own personal drinks and snacks for this event.

Also new this year we are staggering some of our due dates for our contests so as not to overwhelm everybody at the end of the Grange year. SO AT THE FRIENDSHIP BRACELET EVENT...THE COMPLETED COLORING CONTEST SHEETS ARE DUE!!



A tour of the Ronald McDonald House held recently in Providence, sponsored by St. Andrew Lutheran Church in Charlestown with Grange members attending. Tina Ledo from the Ronald McDonald House was the tour guide for the event.

. Shown from left to right are Laurie Prescott, partner of the church, Mary Petrarca, church partner and Grange member, Howard Paster, church partner and Grange member, Diona McGrath from the Grange and Kathy & Roger Stedman, church partners and Grange members.



Youth
Walter Hartley
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Eileen Hebert
ehebert94@aol.com

Here we are, already in June, and the past three months have been very busy for the youth department.

Bowling:

Approximately 20 members, family and friends took part in a night of bowling at Old Mountain Lanes in March. High Game – guys – Walter Hartley, gals - Shirley Lawson, youth – Katie and Mason. Thanks to all who participated, and to Walter who managed the evening.

Youth Activity Day

We had a good turnout at Washington County Fairgrounds in April for Youth Activity Day.

There were four activities for the day. Chocolate chip cookies were judged (no, entrants did not actually bake their cookies at the fairgrounds!) with the following winners: Adult – Dottie Moone, Youth – 1st Nettie Hartley and 2nd Molly Sheehan. All entrants are from Moosup Valley Grange.

After missing several years, the annual youth walk-a-thon finally took place on a course set up within the fairgrounds. It was approximately ½ a mile in distance, so two laps made up a mile, 10 laps were a 5 mile walk. Walkers could do a few laps, play bean bag baseball or Grange Baseball, then walk more laps. This was a more convenient and much safer alternative than walking on a road.

The walk raised \$1675, of which \$1400 was raised by Dottie Moone from Moosup Valley Grange. Congratulations and thank you to Dottie for her outstanding effort! This money along with a \$325 contribution from the Youth Committee will be donated to the RISPCA in memory of Joyce Chase. The Youth Committee chose the RISPCA because of Joyce's love of animals and her long term commitment to fostering dogs and cats while they awaited adoption. Some of them had medical issues that required daily medication and were considered unadoptable.

Joyce, who passed away earlier this year, was a former State Grange Junior Director and State Grange Youth Director and has always been involved with youth and juniors. For several years, she worked behind the scenes of the youth drill team, contacting youth to join the team and reminding them when rehearsals were scheduled. They would tease her that she had to learn to text on her phone to

contact them, and she did. Thank you Joyce, you are sadly missed.

Walkers

Juniors: Tristan, Scarlett & Kendall Gotauco of Moosup Valley Junior Grange

Youth: Nettie Hartley & Molly Sheehan of MV, Desiree & Jasmine of Hope Valley/Richmond (not sure which is from which)

Participants: Dottie Moone, Howie Paster, Kent Novak, Walter & Danielle Hartley, Tom & Laura Gotauco, Shirley Lawson, Shirley Guertin, Lisa Maguire, Ann Parks, Jamie Chase, Valerie Richard & A.J.

Bean Bag Baseball

Four teams played Beanbag Baseball – Moosup Valley, Roger Williams-Rumford, Slocum and a combination team nicknamed “Kicky/Valley” with members from Kickemuit and Hope Valley. Round 1 saw Moosup Valley prevail over RW-Rumford, 8-2. Round 2 resulted in a “Kicky/Valley” victory over Slocum, 2-0. The Playoff game went to Moosup Valley in a decisive 11-1 score.

Team members:

Moosup Valley: Nettie Hartley, Molly Sheehan, Jamie Chase, Kent Novak, Lisa Maguire & Danielle Hartley

Roger Williams/Rumford: Mark & Bob Howard, Eric & Disa Johnson, Jen Lawson & Judi Chase

Slocum: The Gotauco Family & Howie Paster

Kickemuit/Hope Valley: Shirley Guertin, Ann Parks, Jeannette Kenyon, Desiree & Jasmine Richard and A.J. (friend of Desiree)

Grange Baseball

Grange Baseball is sponsored by the National Grange Youth Department as a fun activity to encourage members to learn more about the grange in all areas. At the National competition, the contest is open only to youth, but at the State level, anyone member can play. It can best be described as Bean Bag Baseball meets Grange Trivial Pursuit.

Participants

Juniors: Tristen & Scarlett Gotauco from Moosup Valley Jr. Grange

Youth: Nettie Hartley & Molly Sheehan from Moosup Valley Grange

Other Participants: Disa & Eric Johnson, Jen Lawson, Laura & Tom Gotauco, Ann Parks, Bob & Mark Howard, Walter & Danielle Hartley, Dottie Moone, Lisa Maguire, Jamie Chase, Jeannette Kenyon, Shirley Guertin, Howie Paster & Kent Novak

NE Youth conference

This year's Northeast Youth Conference will be held July 19-21, 2024 at the Comfort Inn, 99 Miller Rd, Castleton, NY. Use nysgrange.org/youth to access the youth section of the New York State Grange website and

scroll down to the bottom of the youth section. You will find a link to the Hotel for booking your rooms, a link to register for the conference, and a tentative schedule.

The Public Speaking and Sign-a-song contests have change since last year. There is only one category in public speaking- prepared speech. However it is still open to any age, divided by groups Youth- 14-20, Young adult- 21-25, Alumni- 26+. Each state will send a best of show winner for National Session and this person doesn't have to compete at the regional conference.

The sign-a-song still has the same categories - Novice, hobbyist and Group. A best of show for the state will be chosen out of all of the contestants, to be eligible to compete at National Session, and also this person doesn't have to compete at the regional conference.

I have had only one person who expressed interest in either of these contests. I had a deadline of June 1, but that is not a hard and fast date. Just let Walter or me know by the end on June if you are interested, because we will have to set up a date for competition to select best of show for National Session.

Digital Scavenger Hunt

The digital scavenger hunt is at the halfway point. I have had 6-7 hunters that have diligently sought out the items, sometimes they were easy to find, other times more difficult and there have been some creative solutions to some of them. Hope everyone has had a good time, and maybe next year we could have some long distance members participate.

Attendance & youth night reports

Everyone will be busy over the summer, but take a few minutes to fill out the Youth Night Attendance form if you attended any youth nights. There is one addition youth night that was not listed in the youth program book. Newport County Pomona will hold a youth night on June 13 at 7:00PM, at Kickemuit Grange.

If you held a youth night at your grange, please fill out a report on your program.

The youth night report and attendance report are due to me by September 1, 2024

Thank you to all of the youth and youth alumni who support, attend and participate in the youth activities and projects.



Joyce Chase

Joyce A. (Rush) Chase, age 63 of

Coventry, passed away peacefully at home on Thursday, February 22, 2024. Married on July 4, 1987, she was the treasured wife of James T. "Jamie" Chase for memorable years. Born in Providence, RI, Joyce was the beloved daughter of Paul and Barbara (Pagler) Rush of Greene, RI.

For many years, Joyce worked as a highly skilled legal secretary at Edwards & Angell in Providence until her retirement in 1998.

Joyce's true passion in life came from her devotion and involvement with the Moosup Valley Grange #26 and the Rhode Island State Grange. Introduced to the Grange at the age of 5, she was a 50+ year member as of this past September. She served in various leadership roles, including Past Master of Moosup Valley Grange #26, Past State Grange Junior Deputy, Past State Grange Junior Director, Past State Grange Youth Director and Past Master of Moosup Valley Junior Grange #27.

She deeply loved animals, especially dogs and cats. She and Jamie owned various rescue dogs throughout the years. Her most recent act of devotion was through work with the RISPICA, in which she gave a home to many unadoptable cats that were either seniors or diabetic.

Joyce had a heart of gold and was a friend to everyone she met. Joyce will be deeply missed by her family, Grange family, and all whose lives she blessed.

In addition to her husband and parents, Joyce is survived by her daughter: Judi C. White and her husband Andrew; niece: Molly Chapman and her husband Dylan; and many extended nieces and nephews who adoringly knew her as "Hottie."

Master's Message from page 1

Danielle, Nettie and I recently has the opportunity to travel to New York to celebrate the 150th Anniversary of Bethlehem Grange. This was actually our first time wearing our Gold Sashes as we represented National Grange in the absence of President Chris Hamp who was already scheduled to attend another 150th anniversary in different state. What an honor to represent National Grange at such a special event. The members of Bethlehem Grange were very welcoming and invited us to return any time.

As much as I'm always preaching that the Grange is truly a FAMILY organization, this is truly a FAMILY Grange as they also have their own Junior Grange and the Juniors could be heard throughout the day in the building. The Juniors also took part in the singing of our National Anthem as well as the Pledge of Allegiance.

Now on a personal note. On the evening of April 18th, Danielle and I received the sad news that her 28 year old nephew, David, took his life while in Arizona. As our family is dealing with this tragic event, I can't help but finding myself wanting to hug our family and friends more, and to focus on what may be happening in their lives. As much as one can offer the help that you think someone may need, it's a choice of theirs, and theirs alone, to seek it; we can only be there for them if it's you that they can talk with. Between National Sessions and traveling around that Nettie and I did during her term as Junior Ambassador, we had the wonderful opportunity to listen to Jeff Winton, Founder and Chairman, of Rural Minds. Jeff founded this organization after the tragic death of his nephew taking his own life. ***Their Mission is to serve as the informed voice for mental health in rural America, and to provide mental health information and resources.*** I'm planning on inviting him to this year's State Session so we can all benefit from what he speaks about, on his own personal level. Mental health is out there, maybe in the shadows, but it's still out there and I would like us to be able to know the signs so we can help those that are close to us. For more information on Rural Minds, you can go to their website at ruralminds.org and for immediate assistance, you can call the **National Mental Health Hotline at # 988.** ***"Help is available, speak with someone today"***

I am, as always, gratefully yours,

Walter 401-339-5012 or 401-934-3756
thehartleys@cox.net



Hope Valley Grange Held its annual pie contest at their youth night in March. Shown above are Celeste Spencer, Desiree Richard and Joyce Bastien. Pies were judged on taste, appearance and originality. Each lady received an award in each category for their pie, so I guess there was no question which were the best pies



What do you do with your Christmas Tree when Christmas is long over? You make it into a Mother's Day Tree. Visit Chepachet Grange in June to see what it will be next...

Keep in touch...

Don't miss out on your next issue of the *RISG Grange Beacon*! If you have moved since your last issue, or you will be away temporarily for the winter or other reasons, please let us know. You may mail address changes to the address at the right or to the email address: ehebert94@aol.com. We must have your correct address for delivery, even temporary addresses. **Beacon issues will not be forwarded by the post office even if you have filed a change of address form.**

We would also appreciate hearing from anyone who, for whatever reason, does not want to continue receiving the Beacon. We are sorry to see you go, but will respond to your wishes promptly.

The *Grange Beacon* is published quarterly in March, June, September and December and is mailed free of charge to members of Rhode Island granges.

Submissions for publication can be sent by email (preferred) to:
 Eileen Hebert ehebert94@aol.com
 Please include the word "BEACON" in the subject

or by snail mail to:
 Eileen Hebert
 221 Grange Rd.
 North Smithfield, RI 02896

Deadlines are as follows:

March issue	January 20
June issue	April 20
September issue	July 20
December issue	October 20

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