

The official publication of the NC Grange

May / June 2020

# GRANGE NEWS

CAPE FEAR GRANGE STARTS

FRIENDS OF FAYETTEVILLE'S FRONT LINES





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COVER PHOTO: STRAWBERRIES FROM PATTERSON FARMS

## UPCOMING EVENTS

September 10-13

State Convention | Charlotte, NC

November 17-21

National Convention | King of Prussia, PA

The Grange is a grassroots, community service, family organization with a special interest in agriculture and designed to help meet the needs of people, young and old, through a cooperative effort with government and other organizations that also seek the greatest good for the greatest number.

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## A NOTE FROM BETSY: NATIONAL CONVENTION UPDATE

The National Grange Executive Committee is very sorry to announce that the 2020 National Grange Convention will have many changes because of the Covid-19 pandemic and therefore will be open for National delegates and officers only. No visitors or Grangers will be invited to attend in person this year.

The convention will be cut to two days and the only business will be voting on resolutions and electing two executive committee officers. Extra activities, such as the Evening of Excellence, Youth and Junior Public Speaking and Sign a Song, will take place virtually. The Seventh Degree will not be exemplified this year.

Other recognitions such as Community Service awards, Distinguished Grange, Grange Legacy Family, and the Quilt Block Contest, will be held and awards given, but there will be no ceremony. National Grange Department Directors will be sending out information regarding their programs and how they will be handled this year, so stay tuned!

The Valley Forge Casino Resort, site of the convention, has been closed since March 14 to this date (June 6). We don't know when it will be permitted to open, because the counties around Philadelphia are a hot spot for the virus. The hotel is willing to allow us to downsize our convention to two days, 80 people, hopefully without penalty, so we are exercising that option at this time.

Also we do not want to endanger any of our members by asking them to travel and to spend days in a large crowd. The health and safety of our Grange family comes first. We feel it may not be safe to gather, even by November. Many of your State Sessions will see major changes this year also. We hope you will understand this decision, and keep on working at the local level as much as you can to help your communities.



Fraternally,  
Betsy E. Huber, National President

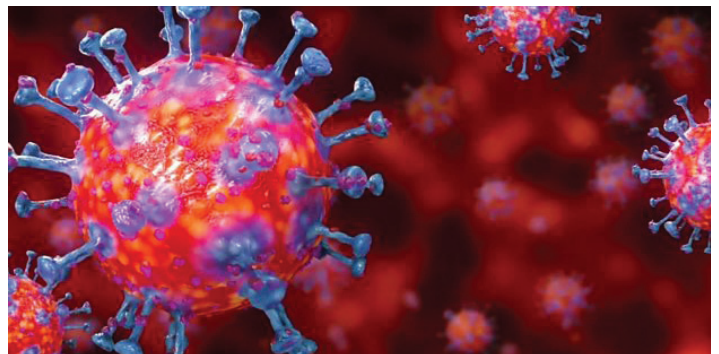


## A NOTE FROM JIMMY: COVID-19 & NC GRANGE

The Covid pandemic has created hardship for many people who have lost employment due to business closings. Even though federal and state assistance funds were approved, many found themselves in difficult situations. The NC Grange Board approved a new temporary financial assistance program for NC Grange members who suffered financially. The Board budgeted \$25,000.00 for the project. Members in need were able to complete an application form and submit it to the State Grange for review. Those applications were submitted to a panel of three Board members for approval. The program ended May 31, 2020.

I have asked our local Granges to send me the activities that are being conducted during the crisis. I am proud of our Granges that are doing good things in communities. In this issue of Grange News, you will see a major project conducted by Cape Fear Grange to support local restaurants and provide meals for hospital workers.

The needs have not ended, and I encourage our Granges to develop activities that can safely be conducted. In addition, you can have virtual meetings through a program called Zoom that we can make available to you. Jessica and I recently participated in a Zoom meeting with Cape Fear Grange. If you want to meet, contact Jessica and she can set you up.





## FRIENDS OF FAYETTEVILLE'S FRONT LINES

story and photos provided by Ken Plummer, Cape Fear Grange member

*Friends of Fayetteville's Front Lines* was a special project started by Cape Fear Grange to face the unprecedented crisis of COVID-19 with boldness and ingenuity, and to create a greater sense of community.

Our mission with *Friends of Fayetteville's Front Lines* was to acknowledge and thank Cape Fear Valley Medical Center's medical personnel who are on the front lines of providing care during these precarious times by providing meals for them at their workplace. The meals, served weekly, were purchased from Fayetteville's locally owned restaurants. Participating restaurants were not asked to provide a discount — we purchased meals at fair market value, including delivery, tax, and tip. We intentionally invested in the businesses owned by our neighbors so that they feel a bit of economic relief.

The first meal was served on Thursday, April 9, and our goal was for the project to last for 10 weeks. We relied on logistical support from the Cape Fear Valley Health Foundation, as local restaurant workers and Grange members could not enter the hospital. Although meals were served weekly during lunch, we were able to feed one of the night shifts on May 7 and breakfast for 100 workers on May 8.

Approximately \$11,000 was raised from local businesses and individuals. Sponsorships started at \$500 and individual

contributors donated anywhere from \$1 to \$499. Sponsors included Reed-Lallier Chevrolet, Public Works Commission (Fayetteville's water utility company), Holmes Security Systems, Southern Trust Mortgage, Snyder Memorial Baptist Church, Haymount United Methodist Church, NC State Grange, Cape Fear Grange, and a list of individuals and couples.

We posted weekly on the Cape Fear Grange's Facebook page about our efforts, and posts were often shared by the Cape Fear Valley Health Foundation and participating restaurants. One of our members was on a local morning radio show to talk about our efforts. Due to the publicity, we received wonderful feedback from donors and restaurants who wanted to participate.

This project was created to help our community in a time of need, and we were not looking for recognition. However, we were very honored when Congressman Richard Hudson recognized

*Friends of Fayetteville's Front Lines* and named our project leader, David Fowler, and our Grange a Hometown Hero! It has been an honor for us to serve our town's medical personnel.

To see Congressman Hudson's video message and to see updates on *Friends of Fayetteville's Front Lines*, visit Cape Fear Grange's Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/CapeFearGrange](https://www.facebook.com/CapeFearGrange). 

*“We are intentionally investing in the businesses owned by our neighbors so that they feel a bit of economic relief.”*







**FRIENDS OF FAYETTEVILLE'S FRONT LINES**

# THANKS YOU,

*medical personnel.*

**FOR CARING FOR OUR COMMUNITY SO SELFLESSLY.**

FRIENDS OF FAYETTEVILLE'S FRONT LINES IS A SPECIAL PROJECT OF CAPE FEAR GRANGE SERVING 100 LUNCHES EACH THURSDAY, WITH THE SUPPORT OF THE FOLLOWING BUSINESSES AND INDIVIDUALS:

**SPONSORS (\$500 +)**

JESSE H. BYRD, JR.  
DAYLE & DAVID FOWLER  
NATALIE & TOM LEWIS  
MARTHA & JOHN OWEN  
PAULA & PETER STEWART

**CONTRIBUTORS (\$1-\$499)**

HOME INSTEAD SENIOR CARE  
KATHY & NICK FOWLER  
VALEN & MIKE FOWLER  
KAY & JAY GILBERT  
ALLISON & ROBERT GUENTHER

N. KUTULAS  
KATHY & AL MILLER  
JUNE PEARCE  
LOIS & KEN PLUMMER  
AMISHA & COLIN TOWNSEND



# Farm To School Calendar

Story by Laurie Barnhart

One of the most enjoyable events the NC Grange participates in every year is the NC Department of Agriculture's Farm to School Calendar Art Awards Ceremony. In the past years, the NC Grange has sponsored the printing of the calendar that goes out to schools across North Carolina. For every month in the year, a child's winning artwork is featured, and for every calendar day, an agriculture fact is highlighted.



Calendar Cover Winning Image by Allison Rios,  
LaGrange Elementary School, Lenior County

For the past three years, I have had the opportunity to assist in the judging. Admittedly, it is a daunting task to select the winners because the artwork is absolutely amazing! The myriad of technique, texture, style, color and creativity is more than I have ever seen, and every year we have more and more entries.

This year there were 5,804 entries, up 1,000 from last year. Heather Barnes with the NC Department of Agriculture manages the marketing for this program. Heather also has three boys of her own. She has done an incredible job of building this program with our North Carolina elementary school teachers. She drives the excitement for the program with the teachers, writes the trivia facts, organizes the communication and the artwork entries, arranges the printing of the calendar, and gets them distributed to the schools. It is not an easy endeavor! Heather has that passion for agriculture and for teaching our children about agriculture which is the very reason the program has been so successful.

Unfortunately, because of the Covid-19 virus, Heather had to organize a virtual awards ceremony this year, which again, was not easy to orchestrate. However, it all worked out just as beautifully with Commissioner Troxler welcoming everyone. Seeing those precious children beaming with pride when their name was announced was almost as delightful as seeing them in person. I already cannot wait until next year's ceremony!



Heather Barnes, NCDA



# CAPITOL NEWS

by: *Laurie Barnhart*

The week of May 18, North Carolina General Assembly members reconvened the 2020 short session in an unprecedented manner. For the first time since the Covid-19 stay-at-home order by Gov. Cooper began, the public was allowed to enter the General Assembly buildings in an extremely modified procedure. Only 50% of capacity are allowed in either the General Assembly Building or in the Legislative Office Building at any given time. Before entering either of the two legislative buildings, anyone going in must have their temperature checked and must be screened to make sure they are not symptomatic. Guests entering are asked to come only if they have specific business, and when they are there, they are to make their visit as brief as possible. Social distancing is required.

Phase two of North Carolina's stay-at-home order began Friday, May 22. This was great news for small business owners of salons, restaurants and retail stores. Unfortunately, bars are not allowed to reopen for an additional five weeks.

During a normal short session season, the General Assembly would be making revisions for year two of the budget passed during the long session. Unfortunately, because the budget was vetoed and is now at an impasse, and because of the onslaught of the Covid-19 pandemic, North Carolina is left with a predicted \$3 billion revenue shortfall. In the Revenue Laws Study Committee in May, committee chairs agreed that because it is a requirement that North Carolina maintain a balanced budget, they should begin the process of decoupling from the federal provisions due to the tax repercussions. However, if the decoupling does occur, businesses that have participated in the Pay Check Protection Program (PPP) will have their loan funds taxed at the state level. The committee's concern is that this will take away the incentive for businesses to apply for PPP assistance which would be a double whammy for small businesses. The bill did pass out of committee unanimously, however, the language will continue to be worked on by the committee as needed and altered as the committee deems necessary.

North Carolina was appropriated around \$3 billion of the first phase of the HEROES Act by Congress. Approximately \$1.1 billion has been allocated by the NC General Assembly. Members are currently working to distribute the remaining amount of \$1.9 billion.

The only thing normal about this legislative short session is the flow of bills that were introduced prior to the deadline.

Some of the bills that we are following include:

## **HB 1070 (SB 713) Credit for Certain Milk Producers**

This bill allows producers of qualifying milk, defined as Grade "A" milk, a tax credit for each calendar year quarter in which the USDA uniform price is less than the announced production price promulgated by the Board of Agriculture. Applies to taxpayers who produce milk in the State for wholesale and for shipment on a weekly or more frequent basis.

## **HB 1071 State/Federal Funds For School Connectivity**

It appropriates \$4.6 million in recurring funds and \$15 million in nonrecurring funds from the General Fund to the Department of Public Instruction (DPI) for the 2020-21 fiscal year for the School Connectivity Initiative.

## **HB 1122 Provide Affordable Broadband Access to NC**

This bill authorizes the Department of Information Technology (DIT), in consultation with the Department of Public Instruction (DPI), to establish and administer a pilot Homework Gap Grants program (program) to provide Internet access to students and teachers who do not have or cannot afford home Internet service.

## **HB 1148 Restore Master's Pay for Certain Teachers**

This bill repeals Section 8.22 of SL 2013-360 and Section 8.3 of SL 2014-100, which phase out certain education-based salary supplements.

## **SB 721 NC A&T State University/Ag/Doctoral Funds**

It appropriates \$2.5 million in additional recurring funds from the General Fund to the UNC Board of Governors (BOG) for the 2020-21 fiscal year to be allocated to NC A&T University to support agricultural research and cooperative extension activities by matching federal funds awarded to the University as a land-grant university pursuant to specified federal law. It states legislative findings and intent for future fiscal years regarding required matching to comply with eligibility requirements under federal law. It also appropriates \$7.5 million in additional recurring funds from the General Fund to UNC BOG for the 2020-21 fiscal year to be allocated to NC A&T University to support its doctoral programs, including supporting new faculty and graduate services for the programs.

## **On the Hill**

The U.S. House of Representatives passed a new stimulus package (the HEROES Act) May on 15 for over \$2 trillion dollars. This was in addition to the stimulus and the CARES Act package previously passed by Congress and the U.S. Treasury. This partisan act was written by the House Democrats with no Republican input. The proposed





legislation will provide relief funds to various entities, will make improvements to the CARES Act and will make significant policy changes. The U.S. Senate will craft their own version, but the time frame of accomplishing this is unknown. The following are included in the US House version:

- \$500 billion to states
- \$375 billion to local governments
- \$40 billion to territories and tribes
- \$175 billion for procedures and tests
- \$100 billion for education
- \$1200 for taxpayers with CARES Act guidelines for a total of \$1 trillion
- \$755 million to the District of Columbia to be treated as a state and not a territory
- Subsidize health insurance for the unemployed
- Raise Medicaid funding
- Reopen Healthcare.gov
- Make the elections safe and secure
- Funding for almost every department in the federal government
- Extend the unemployment benefits through January 31, 2021
- Funding for farmers and specialty crops
- \$1 trillion for other funding

## Home School

By Emily Hartsell, NC Junior Director



School looks a lot different now than it did two months ago. If you have children or grandchildren, their home setup may look a lot like I have for my two girls. They each have their own desk, laptops, desk organizers and anything to help make this easier for them. Or, your kitchen table might have turned into a classroom.

Has “e-learning” been easy? Absolutely not! As a parent, watching their frustrations has been hard. We have shed many tears, and our hope of returning to school has been crushed. I want you to know that it is ok for your child to cry and have lots of frustrations as their little world has been turned upside down. For me, it has been extremely difficult seeing our kids so crushed since they cannot get back to school with their teachers and friends, especially since they were having such a wonderful school year with the best teachers. My daughter Ryleigh has cried and said, “This is my last year at the elementary school. I have a lot of fears now moving to the middle

## DID YOU KNOW

By Al & Vinni Kirmss, Capitol Grange

In our last article, we talked about the Grange’s burial service for members who pass away. Did you know that there are two other services for the memorial of members?

The first is the service for private homes or funeral homes. It is an adaptation of the grave site service for inside use. It is presented at a designated time at the request of the family and is conducted by Grange members in the presence of all who are present.

The second service is more private. Called the Draping of the Charter, it is conducted at the Grange meeting after the death of a member. Before the meeting, the charter is placed in an easily accessible spot. After the business of the meeting has been conducted, the ceremony commences, ending with a drape being placed over the charter in a special display of remembrance.

These two services are heartfelt and moving with beautiful language that honors members for their work on this earth. These services are both pieces of Grange ritual and can be found in the Grange Manual. All ritual was written by our Grange founders in the 1800s and has changed very little since then. They explain the meaning and ideals of the Grange as seen by the founders who encouraged members to work hard, to be honest and fair, to be healthy, to have good values, to strive to do well, to be peaceful citizens, to feed the hungry and to help each other. They also stressed the importance of helping those who have lost someone. By performing these ceremonies, we pay tribute to those who pass away while helping families to celebrate the lives of the ones they have lost.

school.” Both my children have said many times, “This isn’t the way my teacher would have taught me.” I am their mother, and yet I am now the one rolling my eyes the most.

As a parent, I want to offer advice to others. Everybody has a different “e-learning” schedule which can also be hard. Make sure you and your kids are taking small breaks. Take a 5- or 10-minute break every 30 minutes to relax your eyes and give your brain a break. Also, remember that it is ok for you and your kids to have these fear, tears and frustrations. Is this what we had hoped for? No, but we must try to make the best of it, especially for our kids’ sakes. Most importantly, be sure to take time to enjoy all the downtime you have. Enjoy family time. Dust off those board games and have designated “game nights” to enjoy each other’s company.

As your State Grange Junior Director, I want every junior and youth to know that I am here for you. If you need anything, reach out to me. It saddens me that camp has been cancelled, and I will not be able to spend a week with you all. I hope that each of you will plan to attend the State Convention in September. As a Grange Family, we are here for each other. Stay safe and stay well, and I hope to see you all soon.





# GOTCHA COVERED

## IS THIS THE NEW NORMAL?

*by: Mark Davis*

Right now, many people are asking questions like: When will we get back to normal? How long are these restrictions going to last? When are we going to find (beef, paper towels, toilet paper, etc.) at the store again?

Is this the New Normal?

COVID-19 has accentuated how quickly our lives can change. Change has been, and will continue to be, a factor in each of our lives. Sometimes the change is a major factor in our life, and sometimes the change is so subtle you can be miles down the road of life before you even realize the change occurred. Any changes can be of a temporary or permanent nature.

We are fast approaching the time of year that many changes normally occur. Young adults graduate from high school or complete a college degree. Late spring and early summer are also prime times that many couples are married. Many job relocations occur to co-inside with children completing the school year. Those are all common changes. However, COVID-19 created a whole new set of changes for all of us this year. From simple cabin fever, early school year closures, reduced work hours and job layoffs to businesses closing, some to never reopen their doors again, this pandemic has affected many individuals in many different ways.

We all need to be aware of how these changes can affect our insurance programs. For example, a reduction or loss of income needs reporting to the Marketplace if you have individual health insurance and currently receive a premium subsidy. Reporting this change could possibly increase your current subsidy amount. If you were not receiving a subsidy before, you may now qualify for one if your income has dropped below 400% of the federal poverty level for your household size. If this is the case, you may also qualify for a special enrollment period to either purchase or change your current individual health insurance plan.

For those under age 65, we can now offer a Short-Term Medical plan. This is an underwritten basic plan to help pay for covered medical expenses due to unexpected illnesses or injuries.

Applicants have the choice to choose between plans that offer a limited benefit for pre-existing issues or to exclude them. There is also an option to add tele-medicine and prescription discount benefits. This is neither a comprehensive nor an ACA compliant plan. This plan is a good fit for those who are between jobs or cannot afford regular health insurance.

In addition to the Short-Term Medical plan, we can also offer Supplemental Hospital or Hospital and Surgical plans, Accident and Critical Illness, and a Health Discount Program. The Supplemental Hospital/ Hospital & Surgical plans assist with the higher deductible amounts that many of the current health plans require. Benefits are paid in cash and paid regardless of any other coverage you have, and they are paid directly to the insured unless you assign payment over to the health care provider. These supplemental plans can layer over any current group or individual plans.

The Accident and Critical Illness product benefit is based on the insured's diagnoses with a specified critical illness or accident. The Accident and Critical Illness plan also makes payments directly to the insured to use the benefits for whatever needs they have, medical or non-medical. These plans also include non-insurance benefits such as:

- Access to a virtual doctor 24/7
- Vision discounts
- Towing and emergency roadside services

The Health and Wellness Discount plan includes benefits such as:

- Prescription discounts from 15% to 60% for generic scripts and 10% to 25% of the retail price of name brand drugs
- DialCare telemedicine, which offers access to a doctor via phone or video for non-emergency illness and general care without a consult fee
- Up to a 25% discount on services from more than 70,000 participating specialty healthcare providers nationwide with the ChooseHealthy program
- Discounts at participating fitness centers and YMCAs with Active & Fit Direct program
- Medical bill negotiation services, which help to lower out-of-pocket costs on medical bills that are not covered by insurance, which usually results in 25% to 50% savings, though not guaranteed
- Expert Medical Review (second opinions)

Health Advocate, at no additional charge, to assist with finding the best providers for your needs and to answer questions regarding test results, treatments and mediations.

As things are quickly changing around us, we have new tools available to help us navigate those changes. If you are interested in any of these new products, just give us a call. We will be delighted to review those details with you.





# GRANTHAM & BROGDEN GRANGES

## SERVE MEALS IN WAYNE COUNTY

During quarantine, both Granges located in Wayne County, North Carolina stepped up to the plate. Brogden and Grantham Grangers have worked to serve food from local businesses to hospital workers during all four shifts at Wayne Memorial Hospital in Goldsboro.

John Crawford, President of Grantham Grange (far left) and Jimmy Martin, President of Brogden Grange (far right) are pictured here with meal deliveries from Chick-fil-a and Jersey Mikes.



### APPLE PIE

KATHY SLOOP IRVIN | CORRIHER GRANGE  
THIRD PLACE FRUIT PIE

3 CUP APPLES, PEELED, AND  
CUT INTO PIECES  
6 SALTINE CRACKERS CRUSHED  
4 TABLESPOONS SUGAR  
2 TABLESPOON NUTMEG  
1 TABLESPOON BUTTER  
STORE BOUGHT CRUST

PLACE CRACKERS IN BOTTOM OF CRUST.  
APPLES ON TOP OF CRACKERS, SPRINKLE  
SUGAR OVER APPLES, SPRINKLE NUTMEG  
AND DOT WITH BUTTER. COVER WITH  
TOP CRUST, PUNCHING HOLES IN THE  
CRUST ON TOP WITH A FORK.  
BAKE AT 400 DEGREES FOR 20 MINUTES,  
THEN REDUCE TO 350 DEGREES FOR 20  
MORE MINUTES.

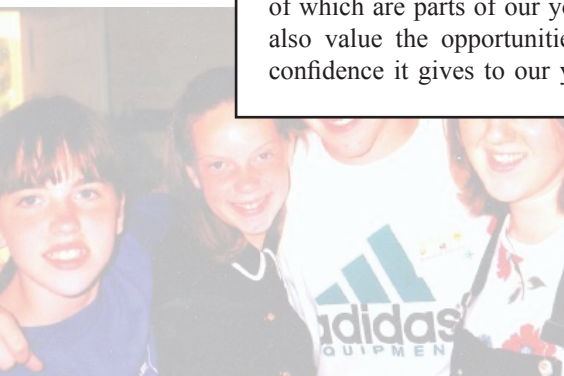
### APPLE JACK COOKIES

LINDA ICARD | EDNEYVILLE GRANGE  
SECOND PLACE FRUIT COOKIE

1 CUP LIGHT BROWN SUGAR  
1/2 CUP SHORTENING  
1 EGG  
1/2 TEASPOON BAKING SODA  
1/2 TEASPOON SALT  
1 TEASPOON NUTMEG  
1-1/2 CUP FLOUR  
1 CUP CHOPPED UNPEELED APPLES

CREAM TOGETHER SUGAR AND  
SHORTENING. BEAT IN EGG.  
SIFT DRY INGREDIENTS TOGETHER  
AND ADD TO SUGAR MIXTURE.  
BEAT UNTIL WELL BLENDED.  
STIR IN APPLES  
DROP INTO BALLS ON GREASED  
COOKIE SHEET AND BAKE  
375 DEGREES FOR 12-15 MIN.  
COOL AND ENJOY. MAKES 40.





# PERSEVERANCE:

## A HISTORAL TRADITION OF NC GRANGE YOUTH

by: Jennie Gentry, NC Grange Youth Director

In late December of 1939, nearly 40 youth gathered in Alamance County for the first ever meeting of youth members of the NC State Grange. That meeting started our State Grange Youth Program, which has been going strong ever since. Just six months later in June of 1940, youth assembled for a weekend party which evolved the following year into a short summer camp. That camp quickly grew to become what remains today as our youths' favorite event of the year, Grange Camp.

For eighty years, our State Grange Youth Program has been a huge part of shaping the lives of our young people. We even have two former Governors who grew up in the Grange, Governor Bob Scott and Governor Jim Hunt. Both were influenced by the great leadership of another from Governor, W. Kerr Scott, who also served as State Grange President in the early 1930s.

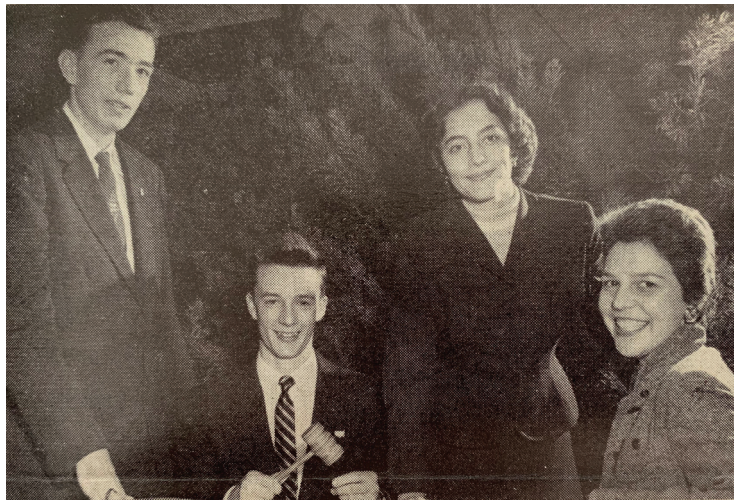
The Grange highly values education, leadership, teamwork and community service, all of which are parts of our youth program, but we also value the opportunities, relationships, and confidence it gives to our young people. These

values have remained over the years, and so have many traditions. For example, we continue today to hold annual elections for our State Youth Officers. In 1939, the first elected State Youth President was Osborne Scott, son of former US Senator and NC Governor W. Kerr Scott. In 2020, Baylor Howerton of Bushy Fork Grange is serving as our President.

In 1958, the tradition of the Youth Team began when the top five state youth officers held its first ever Caravan, a trip across the state visiting Granges to talk about the youth program. The trip was supervised by Mr. Virgil

Settle who served as a very successful State Deputy at that time. Today, we still have the State Youth Team which consists of 8 youth leaders. In fact, serving on the 2020 team this year are two of Mr. Settle's great grandsons, Cole and Matthew Settle.

Another great example is our State and National Youth Ambassador Program that has evolved over the years. Beginning around 1930 as the Most Representative Grange Boy and Girl Competition, it later became the Grange Prince



1956 Grange Youth Officers: Edward Meador, Chaplain; James Hunt Jr., President; Virginia Anne Davis, Vice President; Caroline Ferguson, Secretary.





and Princess Competition. It developed into the Youth Ambassador Program in the 1980s which it remains today. Our 2020 Youth Ambassadors are Lillee Roquet of Cape Fear Grange and Cole Settle of Little Mountain Grange.

These amazing traditions in leadership have given youth some of the most incredible experiences to grow personally. However, just like with today's Covid-19 pandemic that has affected our program's activities, there have been other years in which the youth program was historically affected in some way. Whether it be disease, economic issues, war, government conflicts or natural weather disasters, each decade has been hit hard by something. In fact, the 1940s were not so easy for the Grange. Grange Camp was cancelled in 1943 and 1945 due to transportation difficulties, which is not surprising because we were in our last few years of World War II. Grange Camp was cancelled in 1944 and 1948 due to polio outbreaks. On top of this, many of our members were serving our country during the war. You can even find long lists of young Grange members who served printed in the 1942, 1943, 1944 and 1945 Journals of Proceedings of the State Grange. Moving forward, the 1950s had the Korean



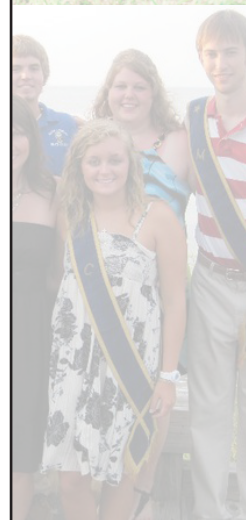
1972 Youth Team: Bobby Gentry, Jan Campbell (Williams), Steve Sluder, Bobbie McLaughlin (Dellinger), Jimmy Gentry & Anita Karriker (Gentry)

War and the early parts of the Cold War, and the 1960s were tough because of the World Food Crisis and the Vietnam War. Most Grangers knew someone who was serving their country during these conflicts, and many knew someone who did not come home.

As we move through the decades since 1940, there have been some scary times that have affected many Grange Youth. But, do you know what every one of those hard times has in

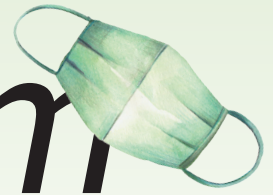
common? Perseverance. The State Grange Youth Program and its youth persevered through all those challenging years. Youth attended events, participated in activities, and came together in large numbers. In reading through our past Journals, I discovered that, unless serving their country, these conflicts did not keep youth from being at the Grange events that they loved. In fact, attendance and membership increased. Missing a year of Grange Camp did not hold them back. Instead, the camps that were held the years afterwards were full of large numbers of enthusiastic youth that took part in incredibly successful camps. I also discovered that as youth continued to be involved, they were right there with the adults, leading, being a voice, having a voice and standing up for their fellowman. The youth and their beloved State Grange Youth Program were resilient and persevered.

Here we are in 2020, and in a way, history seems to be repeating itself with a coronavirus pandemic, political arguing, hunger issues and lines divided. On top of it all, we had to cancel all summer events like Grange Camp, Caravan and Regional Conference. Despite the scary times, I am extremely confident that our youth will be back, fully ready to reunite and ready to have fun and make a difference. Our strong program is full of strong youth who are dedicated to the Grange, to serving, and to their friendships with each other. They are ready to come back and make our program better than ever. After all, if history repeats itself, then our program will persevere, and our youth will be as resilient as ever.





# THE YOUTH *quaran-team*



Navigating through the Covid-19 pandemic has been a challenge for most of us. No matter what age you are, everyone has been affected in some way, both positive and negative. Almost daily, we hear stories of students learning from home, attending classes through Zoom, and missing special school events. I wanted to dive into what it is like to be a youth staying at home during these confusing times, so I interviewed our State Youth Team members. This is what they had to share.



*"It's (quarantine) helped me to realize that I don't need people around me all the time to be happy."*  
- Jacob Roquet

## WHAT HAS BEEN THE HARDEST PART OF THE COVID-19 QUARANTINE FOR YOU?

**James:** Having to wear a mask at work all the time. However, since I work at a nursing home, it is part of my job to make sure the residents are safe.

**Matt:** The hardest for me has been not being able to finish my senior year. I was really excited for graduation, but now it will most likely be pushed back to July.

## IN WHAT WAYS HAVE YOU GROWN DURING QUARANTINE?

**Matt:** I've grown to realize just how much I enjoyed school.

**Jacob:** I feel like I'm a harder worker now that I work all the time. I'm realizing just how "real" the real world is going to be in the future.

**Cole:** Being in quarantine has helped me with time management.

## WHAT HAS BEEN YOUR FAVORITE QUARANTINE SNACK?

**Asheton:** Chocolate covered strawberries. The strawberry fields are open, so I've gotten to pick them.

**Maria:** Toast with grape jelly and iced coffee.

**Matt:** Without a doubt, Star Crunch.

*"I've missed my grandparents the most. They're older, so we have to be really careful. I haven't been able to hug them since early March. It's tough not being able to hug your grandparents, even though I know it's for the best."*

-Asheton Medlin



## WHERE HAVE YOU MOSTLY ORDERED TAKEOUT FROM?

**Cole, Maria and Olivia:** Chick-Fil-A.

**Asheton:** I have gone to my local restaurants a lot more than usual. Roxcity Grill is one of my favorites, and I think it's super important to support the local businesses during this time.

## HOW HAVE YOU ENTERTAINED YOURSELF?

**Cole:** I have done a lot of repair work on ATV's and have cut hiking trails on our property.

**Olivia:** I've been binge watching shows on Netflix and spending time outside.

**James:** Huntin', fishin', and working every day!



## WHAT IS SOMETHING POSITIVE THAT HAS COME OUT OF THE QUARANTINE FOR YOU?

**Lillee:** I've been able to work a lot more so I can save up for college!

**Asheton:** I am starting to appreciate what I had now that it's gone. I've also been able to spend a lot of time with my mom and dad and our relationship has grown.

**Jacob:** It's helped me to realize that I don't need people around me all the time to be happy.

*"Being in quarantine has helped me with time management"*  
- Cole Settle



*"I've matured due to everything being cancelled. I've come to appreciate every little thing"*  
- Lillee Roquet



## WHO HAVE YOU MISSED SEEING THE MOST?

**Lillee:** I miss my Aunt Doris the most. She has self-quarantined, and I'm unable to visit her.

**Maria:** One of my best friends, Samantha, who I met in my freshman seminar (in college). We always laugh over the most ridiculous things!

**Olivia:** I miss my school friends and my grandparents the most.

After talking with the team, I believe we can all relate to many of the things they are feeling. My heart goes out to our youth who are missing graduations, proms, spring break trips and other celebrations that were supposed to occur. Despite missing those they love and missing many special activities, it gives me great joy that they are growing, learning, and seeing the positive side of things despite the mess. The Youth Team has given us a great reminder to stay positive, be happy, laugh, do things you enjoy doing, grow close to family, and take time to enjoy the little things in life.

*"I've grown to realize just how much I enjoyed school"*  
- Matt Settle





A low-angle shot of graduates in black gowns with their arms raised, looking up at a clear blue sky where many black graduation caps are flying. The scene is celebratory and joyful.

# CONGRATULATIONS CLASS OF 2020

To all those missing out on graduation ceremonies, we are  
sad for you, but do not let it hinder your accomplishments.  
**Bigger and better things are yet to come!**



# CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

## THE LIVING WATER

by: Jerry Snyder, NC Grange Chaplain

The other night, Jo Ann and I watched a PBS program on the atoms of water. It was a story of water around the world including rivers, oceans, aquifers, and rain patterns. This was a story of man's need for water as a basic necessity for life. Water patterns are shifting as wells are dug and water is pumped to water the crops and livestock for the survival of its people. Couple this with climate change where some areas are drying up due to weather pattern changing, and we have a real potential of major changes in our style of living.

In America, we are blessed. We expect water to come out of the tap when we turn it on. We expect the lights to come on by electricity when we flip the switch. We need to stop and consider how blessed we are. Many people in other countries don't have electricity. They are hauling water from streams and rivers in buckets and jugs on a daily basis. Wells are being dug for a whole village to share.

We in America think that we are in control and the blessings should keep on coming. Then BAM! COVID-19 virus hits. Everything stops. Where did this thing come from? How did it spread so fast? Why does it kill so quickly? How do we stop it? Can we control this pandemic? Questions we have few answers for as yet. Our lives have been turned upside down. We have been stopped, shut down from our busy lifestyle.

Now we have time to think and contemplate how blessed we are as a people. What we take for granted are gifts from God. The air we breath, water we drink, the food we eat, and the country we live in are all gifts from God.

We are praying for this pandemic to end, but are we praying for God to show us what lessons are to be learned from this? What do we need to change in our lives to not just be a church-goer, but a Jesus follower?

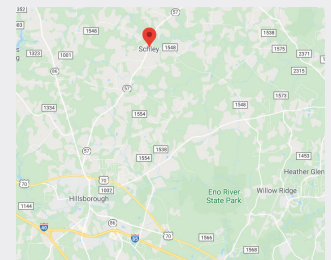
In the fourth chapter of John, Jesus meets a Samaritan woman at the well and asks her for a drink. She is surprised because Jews didn't talk to Samaritans. She asked, "How can you ask me for a drink?" Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God and who it is that asks you for a drink, you would have asked Him and he would have given you living water." Jesus also told her "Everyone who drinks

of the well will be thirsty again, but whoever drinks of the water that I give him will never thirst, indeed, the water I give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life."

So we see that clear, clean water is essential to our lives as humans. But so is the essential living water that Jesus gives to our eternal lives. Think on these things as we shelter in place.

## SCHLEY GRANGE HISTORY IN ORANGE COUNTY

By: Jessica Horton



Schley Grange is one of the oldest Granges in North Carolina, having been chartered September 19, 1931 in the Schley community, just outside Hillsborough. They made local headlines on May 15 through *The News From Orange County* and *ChapelBoro.Com* for recently having their building named on The National Register of Historic Places.

The original schoolhouse building was torn down to make way for a beautiful Colonial style brick building. The building was won in a National competition hosted by the Sears Roebuck Foundation and the National Grange in 1949, beating out over 1400 Granges in 37 states.

The building boasts two large meeting spaces as well as a commercial kitchen.







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*- Jacob Roquet, 2020 Youth Team Member*

