

The official publication of the NC State Grange

January/February 2017

GRANGE NEWS

NAYLOR
FARMS | 2016-2017
FARM OF THE YEAR



State Officers

President	Jimmy Gentry
Vice President	Ned Hudson
Program Director	Laurie Barnhart
Steward	Missy Mueller
Assistant Steward	Raymond Hayes, Jr.
Lady Asst. Steward	Crystal Allen
Chaplain	Josh Barfield
Treasurer	Sidney Albright
Secretary	Deborah Welch
Greeter	Martha Suther
Ceres	Dianne Hudson
Pomona	Frances Suther
Flora	Carolyn Jernigan

Board of Directors

Chairman	Robert Cayton
Vice Chairman	David Allen
	Vinnie Duncan
	Carlton Barefoot
	Charles Forrister
President	Jimmy Gentry
Vice President	Ned Hudson
Secretary	Deborah Welch
Treasurer	Sidney Albright
Emeritus	Hubert Hege

Department Heads

Family Living Activities	Joyce Clodfelter
Insurance Programs	Mark Davis
Membership Director	Jessica Horton
Legislative Director	Laurie Barnhart
Youth/Young Adult Director	Jennie Gentry
Junior Director	Emily Hartsell
Community Service Director	Joyce Clodfelter
Publications Director	Jessica Horton

Events

2017
Winter Youth Conference
February 17-19
Asheboro, NC

Family Conference
March 3-5
Carolina Beach, NC

Daylight Savings
March 12

- 3 **A Note From Jimmy**
NC State Grange President
- 4 **Award Winning Recipes**
From the 2016 State Convention
- 6 **Naylor Farms**
2016 Farm of the Year
- 10 **Capitol News**
- 11 **Memoriam**
- 12 **Gotcha Covered**
- 13 **Teacher of the Year**
Healthcare Changes
Memorandum Agreement
- 14 **From Joyce**
Youth & Junior News
- 15 **Local Grange Spotlight**

NAYLOR FARMS





Displayed on the National Grange building is a large banner welcoming President Trump to the neighborhood. Eight years ago, the National Grange displayed a banner welcoming President Obama. In North Carolina, we have a new Governor, some

new members of the General Assembly, some new Cabinet members, and one new member of Congress representing a newly drawn district. We welcome them, and we want to work with them as we advocate for agriculture and rural needs.

In my work with NC Grange, we have relationships with many other organizations and agencies. When new leaders are selected for these groups, my desire is to become acquainted with them and establish a working relationship. Our ability to be effective very much depends on the relationships that we build with other organizations and agencies. No organization stands alone! We are a part of this wonderful network of government agencies, educational institutions, organizations, and lawmakers with common interests, working toward making our state and communities better. There is no doubt that if I became publicly critical, used harsh words, or defamed the character of the leaders with whom we are trying to work, the relationships would fail.

Within the Grange, we constantly welcome new members, and we welcome visitors to our meetings. When we elect new officers, we welcome them into those positions and wish them well. We also lend our support to help them to be successful. We even have a Welcoming Ceremony for use within our organization! The philosophy behind being a welcoming organization has served us well for a long time, and it enhances our ability to keep ourselves in a position to work with others. It is part of our tradition and our reputation. It is part of our moral fiber.

We want to be the kind of organization in which others say good things about us. We want to be seen as pleasant, positive, and cooperative, while achieving worthwhile tasks. As we look ahead to 2017, we should re-commit ourselves to being an even stronger organization that welcomes new partnerships, new opportunities, and new members.



North Carolina Grange News (USPS 392-780) is the official publication of The North Carolina State Grange, 1734 Wilkesboro Hwy, Statesville, NC 28625 and is published bi-monthly. The yearly subscription cost is included in the annual membership dues for members of The North Carolina State Grange. ISSN # 0279-5914—Periodical Postage Paid in Statesville, NC and at additional mailing offices.

POSTMASTER: Please send address changes to The N.C. State Grange, 1734 Wilkesboro Highway, Statesville, NC 28625.

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.

CHOCOLATE OREO MINI CUPCAKES

MARIA RAPP | ARCADIA GRANGE
1ST PLACE YOUTH CHOCOLATE CHIP CUPCAKE

FOR THE CUPCAKE (MAKES ABOUT 30 CUPCAKES)

2/3 C. SUGAR
1/2 C. PLUS 1 TBSP. ALL PURPOSE FLOUR
1/3 C. HERSHEY'S SPECIAL DARK COCOA
1 TSP. BAKING SODA
1/3 C. BUTTERMILK
1 LARGE EGG, ROOM TEMPERATURE
2 1/2 TBSP. VEGETABLE OIL
1 TSP. VANILLA EXTRACT
1/3 C. BOILING WATER

FROSTING

1 CUP (2 STICKS) UNSALTED BUTTER, SOFTENED
1 POUND (APPROXIMATELY 4 CUPS) POWDERED SUGAR
1 TEASPOON VANILLA EXTRACT
1/2 CUP MILK OR CREAM
SALT (TO TASTE)
1/2 CUP CRUSHED MINI OREOS (OPTIONAL)

PREHEAT OVEN TO 350 DEGREES. LINE MINI CUPCAKE PAN WITH BAKING CUPS. PLACE A MINI-OREO COOKIE IN THE BOTTOM OF EACH.

IN THE BOWL OF A STAND MIXER, FITTED WITH WHISK ATTACHMENT, WHISK TOGETHER THE SUGAR, FLOUR, COCOA POWDER, AND BAKING SODA. IN A LARGE MEASURING CUP OR SMALL BOWL, BEAT TOGETHER, BUTTERMILK, EGG, VEGETABLE OIL, AND VANILLA. COMBINE WET INGREDIENTS WITH DRY INGREDIENTS AND MIX ON LOW SPEED UNTIL JUST INCORPORATED. REMOVE BOWL FROM STAND MIXER AND ADD BOILING WATER. FOLD WATER INTO BATTER USING A SPATULA-- DO NOT OVER MIX. THE BATTER WILL BE EXTREMELY THIN, THIS IS WHAT YOU WANT IT TO BE.

EVENLY DISTRIBUTE BATTER AMONG MINI CUPCAKE LINERS. FILL EACH LINER APPROXIMATELY $\frac{3}{4}$ FULL. BAKE FOR 8-10 MINUTES UNTIL INSERTED TOOTHPICK COMES OUT CLEAN. COOL COMPLETELY BEFORE FROSTING.

FROSTING

1. IN A LARGE BOWL WITH A HANDHELD MIXER, OR A STAND MIXER FITTED WITH THE PADDLE ATTACHMENT, BEAT THE BUTTER ON MEDIUM SPEED UNTIL CREAMY, ABOUT 2 MINUTES.
2. WITH THE MIXER ON LOW, ADD IN THE POWDERED SUGAR, VANILLA, AND MILK OR CREAM. INCREASE MIXER SPEED TO MEDIUM AND BEAT UNTIL COMPLETELY SMOOTH, ABOUT 3 MINUTES. IF FROSTING IS TOO STIFF, ADD MORE MILK. IF IT IS TOO THIN, ADD MORE POWDERED SUGAR. ADD SALT TO TASTE. IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO ADD CRUSHED OREOS TO THE FROSTING, START WITH $\frac{1}{2}$ CUP AND ADD MORE IF NECESSARY. FOLD THE CRUSHED OREOS IN WITH A SPATULA.
3. FROST THE CUPCAKES USING A PIPING BAG OR A LARGE ZIP TOP BAG WITH THE CORNER SNIPPED OFF. TOP WITH CRUSHED OREOS, STICK A WHOLE MINI OREO IN THE TOP OF THE SWIRL, OR LEAVE THEM PLAIN.

SWEET POTATO COOKIE BAR

PEARL WARREN
WESTBROOK GRANGE
1ST SWEET POTATO COOKIE

1 C SWEET POTATO
3/4 C COCONUT OIL
2 EGGS
1 C BROWN SUGAR
2 TSP VANILLA
2 1/2 C OLD FASHIONED OATS
1/2 TSP CINNAMON
1 1/2 C OAT FLOUR
1 TSP CINNAMON
1 TSP SALT
1 TSP BAKING POWDER
1 TSP BAKING SODA
1 C DRIED CRANBERRIES
1 C RAISINS
1 C RAW COCONUT
1 C CRUSHED PINEAPPLE
1 C CHOPPED NUTS

CINNAMON GLAZE
1 C LIGHT BROWN SUGAR
2-3 TBSP MILK OR CREAM

PREHEAT OVEN TO 350°F. LINE A COOKIE SHEET WITH PARCHMENT PAPER. TO MAKE BARS, LINE 2 8X8 SQUARE PANS WITH PARCHMENT LEAVING A 1" OVERHANG. IN THE BOWL OF MIXER BEAT TOGETHER THE SWEET POTATO, COCONUT OIL AND BROWN SUGAR. ADD EGGS ONE AT A TIME AND MIX. ADD IN THE VANILLA AND MIX JUST UNTIL BLENDED. ADD IN THE OATS, FLOUR, CINNAMON, SALT, BAKING POWDER, AND BAKING SODA. TURN ON LOW AND ADD IN CRANBERRIES, RAISINS, COCONUT, PINEAPPLE AND NUTS. MIX UNTIL COMBINED. TO MAKE COOKIES USE MEDIUM SIZE COOKIE SCOOP (ABOUT 1/4 CUP) AND SCOOP OUT THE MIXTURE GENTLY COMpressing IN INTO THE SCOOP. PLACE ON PARCHMENT 1 1/2 INCHES APART ON A STANDARD SIZE TRAY. GENTLY PRESS THE MOUNDS DOWN SLIGHTLY. BAKE FOR 9 MINUTES. THE COOKIES WILL STILL BE SOFT IN THE MIDDLE BUT THE OUTSIDE SHOULD BE SLIGHTLY FIRM. PLACE THE TRAY ON A COOLING RACK AND COOL 5 MINUTES. USING A SPATULA GENTLY TRANSFER THE COOKIES TO THE COOLING RACK AND COOL COMPLETELY. TO BAKE BARS, EVENLY DIVIDE THE MIXTURE BETWEEN THE PANS SMOOTHING OUT AND PRESSED DOWN TO MAKE EVEN. BAKE FOR 18-22 MINUTES. THE MIXTURE TOP OF THE BARS SHOULD BE SOMEWHAT FIRM BUT MUCH GIVE INSIDE. TRANSFER THE PAN TO COOLING RACK AND COOL AT LEAST ONE HOUR BEFORE LIFTING OUT. GRASPING THE PARCHMENT PAPER, GENTLY LIFT OUT AND CUT INTO SQUARES. ONCE COOLED MAKE THE GLAZE BY WHISKING TOGETHER THE POWDERED SUGAR, CINNAMON AND MILK. YOU WANT THIS TO BE THICK AND PRODUCE A RIBBON WHEN THE WHISK IS PULLED AWAY/ DRIZZLE THE GLAZE OVER THE TOP AND ALLOW TO HARDEN.

CRANBERRY CHIP COOKIE

SHARON BLACKMAN
GRANTHAM GRANGE
1ST PLACE ADULT
BERRY COOKIE

1 C BUTTER, SOFTENED
1 C WHITE SUGAR
2 EGGS
1 TSP VANILLA EXTRACT
2 1/4 C. FLOUR
1/2 TSP BAKING POWDER
1/4 TSP SALT
1 1/2 C WHITE CHOCOLATE CHIPS
1 1/2 C DRIED CRANBERRIES
1 C CHOPPED PECANS
1/2 C ENGLISH TOFFEE BITS

IN A LARGE BOWL, CREAM BUTTER AND SUGARS. ADD EGGS, AND VANILLA EXTRACT; MIX WELL. COMBINE THE FLOUR, BAKING POWDER AND SALT; GRADUALLY ADD TO THE CREAMED MIXTURE AND MIX WELL. STIR IN WHITE CHIPS, CRANBERRIES, PECANS AND TOFFEE BITS. (DOUGH WILL STIFF). COVER AND REFRIGERATE FOR 1 HOUR OR UNTIL EASY TO HANDLE. DROP BY ROUNDED TABLESPOONS 2 IN APART ONTO UNGREASED BAKING SHEETS. FLATTEN SLIGHTLY. BAKE AT 350° 11-14 MINUTES OR UNTIL SET AND EDGES ARE LIGHTLY BROWN. COOL FOR 2 MINUTES BEFORE REMOVING TO WIRE RACKS. YIELD ABOUT 6 DOZEN



NAYLOR FARMS | 2016-2017 FARM OF THE YEAR

BY: LARUIE BARNHART

Family run businesses are the backbone of our country. Some succeed for generations-many do not make it past two. Family farms are an even bigger challenge. Endless hours, inclement weather, plant and animal disease, labor problems, too little rain, too much rain, family illnesses and crisis,

squabbles and disputes, financial shortfalls-the list goes on and on. If anyone has ever spent any amount of time around a farm they usually know and understand firsthand these challenges. The other side of the coin is the gratification that comes from seeing the growth of a new harvest or the birth of

a new calf; and even more-watching young children grow up on that farm that will carry the family name forward for many years and sometimes generations. With every year that passes more and more family farms are being sold to land developers and other businesses that can pay premium prices to landowners who have grown too old to continue the rigorous and demanding life of a farmer. Oftentimes these family farmers have lost sons, daughters, nieces, nephews and grandchildren to a more sophisticated and urban lifestyle. The demise of the family farm has become an epidemic in America. For that reason, visiting and writing a story for the past four years about the North Carolina Grange “Farm of the Year” recipient has been an incredibly gratifying experience. Each farm and family has been as unique as our fingerprints; however, there is one thing that every one of these farms have in common and that is the love and pride their owners have for not only the land which is their livelihood, but the absolute endearment they have for the life they have chosen to lead. Naylor Farms was no exception.

Naylor Farms, located at 2901 Church Road in Clinton was the proud recipient of the 2016 NC State Grange Farm of the Year award. Driving through Sampson County, a tremendous agriculture community, there

is no doubt that farming is a way of life. Naylor Farms is owned by Larry Allen Naylor, President and his brother Anthony Naylor who acts as Secretary/Treasurer. Naylor Farms was originally owned by Larry’s grandfather, Arthur

Naylor. The farm was passed down to Charles Naylor, Larry’s father, who also farmed the property. Charles, who passed away in 2015, and his wife joined Herring Grange in 1965 and later in 2006 moved their membership to Westbrook Grange. Presently all of the farming is done by Larry, his son Christopher and three employees. Larry’s wife Beverly, a retired school teacher, also plays a role in the farming operation. Naylor Farms grows approximately 600 acres of soybeans, 500 acres of corn and 400 acres of wheat. They produce 6000 hogs and 350,000 turkeys annually. As good stewards of the land, the Naylor’s are vigilant about their conservation practices which include crop rotation, no till, strip till, variable rate planting and variable rate fertilizing. Their farm provides environment protection by incorporating buffers around their ponds and streams, waterways to minimize erosion on sloping land, applying variable rates of liquid nitrogen and mowing and cutting ditch banks in the fall.

Any successful business has well-defined job designations and Naylor Farms is no exception.



Larry’s responsibilities include all grain crops as well as the hog operation. Larry makes the daily decisions for the entire farming operation. Some of these decisions include the brand and quantity of seed, herbicide, fungicide and fer-

tilizer to purchase. He determines the time for planting, spraying, fertilizing, harvesting, and hauling grain crops; he determines the time for maintenance and repairs of machinery such as filters, hydraulic fluids and oil changes as



well as the time when to upgrade and purchase new machinery. He calls in the weekly mortality number and lagoon levels. Larry does the pumping of hog lagoons according to state regulations and requirements. He is responsible for the medication process of the hogs as well. In addition to decision making and delegating work assignments, Larry works right beside his employees. Anthony Naylor is in charge of the turkeys and their needs. Beverly assists with transportation which may include transporting workers from truck or tractor to another location, providing lunch to workers, picking up supplies, equipment or equipment parts. Beverly calls herself a “gopher”. Christopher Naylor, began working full time for Naylor Farms after graduat-

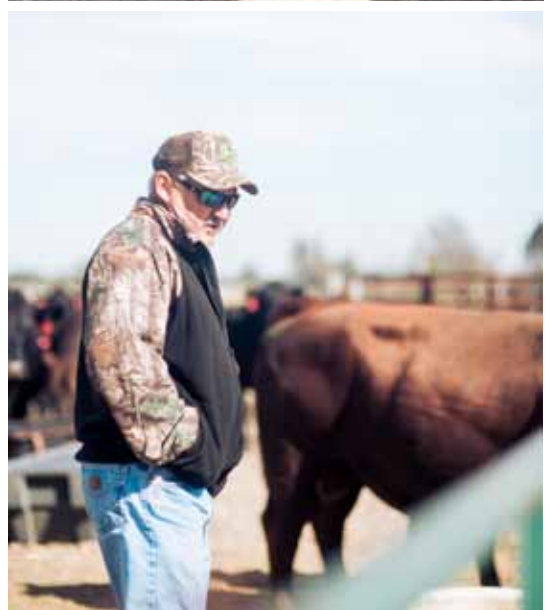
ing from NCSU with a 4-year degree in Agri-Business Management. His education has enabled Christopher to bring back to the family farm research and technology innovations that keeps them abreast of new farming practices. As an example, he uses recorded information which is read on a data card from the yield monitor in the combine. A computer is then able to take the recorded information from the data card and write a prescription for the variable rate planter. This prescription is able to tell the planter the amount of seed to spread per acre depending on the soil type. Since the type of soil can change in various locations on the farm, it saves money and seed and also is able to determine the best seed population for each type of soil. This same procedure is used with the variable rate of fertilizer to avoid overuse of liquid nitrogen and fertilizer. During the year Christopher monitors the farm markets with computer proficiency. Christopher began working on the farm when he was a child. Beverly says Christopher’s combine education began when she would hold him while riding on the

combine with Larry so he could spend some time with his father. Christopher’s combine education continued throughout toddlerhood; and then as a child he was too short to sit down in the seat and operate the combine, so he stood up and was able to drive it just fine all by himself thus making Larry extremely proud and scaring Beverly to death! Like most successful multi-generation farmers, it is a love for the land and farming that land that is in one’s blood. It is something money or education cannot buy. All of the Naylor’s have been active members of their community. Larry has been the recipient of the Woodmen of the World Conservation Award and Beverly was awarded “Teacher of the Year” at Hobbton Elementary School in New-



ton Grove. Christopher is a member of the NC State Soybean Board of Directors and received the Soybean Association Dupont Young Leadership award for North Carolina. He is also chairman of the Sampson County FSA. Christopher and his wife Cherish have two children, Charleigh Anna and Carver Allen.

Like most multigenerational farmers, The Naylor's are hopeful that Carver and Charleigh Anna will be the 5th generation to take the helm at Naylor Farms. Without a doubt North Carolina Grangers will all be standing by to support and cheer on this effort!



January is always a month of new resolutions and fresh starts, but January of 2017 in the arena of government and politics marked a time of not only a new US President and administration but also a new North Carolina Governor. Choosing and vetting new cabinet members, secretaries, staff members, office administration positions, committees, etc. is an exhausting and daunting task. It will be months before the dust settles and for all those involved to truly began to feel at home in their new positions whether they are elected or appointed.

We are all inundated with news on the State and Federal level. We are constantly being fed news blasts not only from television, but the internet, Twitter, Facebook, etc. It takes daily monitoring to keep up with all the changes and transitions. In many cases, there are conflicting stories leaving us not sure what to believe. The best one can do is attempt to find an “unbiased” journalist or newsfeed (if that even exists) or at the very least get your news updates from several different and reputable sources.

January 11, 2017 began the new 2017 North Carolina General Assembly Long Session. All House Representative and Senators were sworn in to their respective offices. Jones Street was filled with families including children, grandchildren, sisters, brothers, mothers and fathers of new and old members. It is always a happy day filled with optimism and good cheer. The Senate and the House formally elected their leadership which confirmed the earlier caucus decisions. They are as follows:

President Pro Tem of the Senate	Phil Berger
House Speaker	Tim Moore
Speaker Pro tem	Sarah Stevens
House Majority Leader	John Bell
House Democratic Leader	Darren Jackson

January 25th was the first day of “real” legislative business. The primary responsibility of the NCGA during the long session is to approve the two-year budget for North Carolina; however in addition to budget writing and negotiations, bills will be drafted and filed that were recommended during interim committees as well as issues that arise in our members’ districts. These bill of course will go to committee for recommendation, and if passed will be voted on by both the Senate and the House. Both chambers feel strongly that they will continue to address tax changes and deregulation during this 2017 session.

The Senate Committee for Agriculture, Environment and Natural Resources will be chaired by Sens. Bill Cook, Norman Sanderson and Andy Wells. The House Committee for Ag will be chaired by Reps. Mark Brody, Jimmy Dixon and Bob Steinburg.

One of the first things Roy Cooper did as Governor was to seek approval for Medicaid Expansion as outlined in the Affordable Care

Act. The expansion would allow hundreds of thousands to sign up for government health insurance. In response to this, a US District Judge filed a restraining order that blocked Cooper’s attempt to expand North Carolina’s Medicaid program for two weeks. This kept the motion from going forward while President Obama was still in office. In return, state and federal officials filed court motions (1/15/17) to lift the court order. By North Carolina law, Medicaid Expansion cannot happen without the approval of the General Assembly. We will stand by to see what happens!

Like Dickens’ “A Christmas Carol” the ghost of HB2 past, present and future still haunts the halls of the NC General Assembly. Gov. Cooper has said he believes there is a possible deal with the General Assembly to repeal the contentious bill that made national headlines despite his failed attempt to negotiate in December. He told reporters, “We’ve had it out. A couple of times, we’ve talked. They certainly do want to move forward in some way.” (The News & Observer) With a Republican majority in both the Senate and the House, Gov. Cooper certainly will have an uphill battle not only with HB2 but more than likely other issues as well. We are all hopeful that with negotiation and a spirit of good willingness a middle ground can be reached, not only pertaining to HB2 but other controversial issues as well.

January 25th was the first day of “real” legislative business. Bills can now be filed that were recommended and drafted during interim committees. These bill of course will go to the committee for recommendation. Both chambers feel strongly that they will continue to address tax changes and deregulation during this 2017 session.

From Capitol Hill

The next four years of President Trump’s leadership will no doubt bring many changes to our country. I think we are all hopeful that the United States will move forward in a positive direction. Most of President Trump’s cabinet nominees have not only prosperity in common, but all have been “rock stars” in their respected fields and careers. The naysayers claim that the majority have very little government experience. Below is a list of President Trump’s cabinet nominees and staff picks. It is an interesting slate of nominees from different backgrounds and career experiences. The process of vetting and confirming these nominees by Congress has begun.

Sec. of State	Rex Tillerson~Exxon CEO
Sec. of Education	Betsy DeVos~Daughter-in-law of Richard DeBos co-founder of Amway
Housing & Urban Development	Dr. Ben Carson~retired pediatric Neurosurgeon

Dept. of the Interior **Ryan Zinke**~2nd term Montana Congressman/retired Navy Seal Commander/Decorated Iraq Combat Veteran

Dept. of Justice **Sen. Jeff Sessions**~4th term Sen. From Alabama

Dept. of Homeland Security **General John Kelly**~retired Marine Corp

Sec. of Labor **Andrew Puzder**~ restaurant executive/Hardee's & Carl's Jr.

Dept. of Energy **Governor Rick Perry**~ longest serving Gov. of Texas

Pentagon **General James Mattis**~ retired Marine Corp

Dept. of Health & Human Services **Rep. Tom Price**~ orthopedic surgeon, 6th term Congressman/Georgia

CIA Director **Mike Pompeo**~ 3rd term Congressman from Kansas

Treasury **Steven Mnuchin**~ Goldman Sachs, hedge funder, Hollywood producer

Env. Protection Agency (EPA) **Scott Pruitt**~ Oklahoma State Attorney General

Sec. of Commerce **Wilbur Ross**~ billionaire investor/steel & coal

Sec. of Transportation **Elaine Chao**~ former Secretary of Labor under Bush

US Ambassador to the UN **Nikki Haley**~ Governor of South Carolina

Small Business Administration **Linda McMahon**~ Entertainment Executive/World Wrestling Entertainment

US Trade Representative **Robert Lighthizer**~US Trade Representative for Reagan

The Following cabinet level positions do not require confirmation:

National Security Adviser **Michael Flynn**~ retired US Army General; former director of the defense intelligence agency

Chief of Staff **Reince Priebus**~ President of the Republican Nat'l Committee

Chief Strategist **Steve Bannon**~ campaign CEO, former chairman of Breitbart News. Harvard, Goldman Sachs, documentary film-maker

Counselor **Kellyanne Conway**~ Trump's Campaign manager

Press Secretary **Sean Spicer**~ communications director of the Republican National Committee.

Trade Czar **Peter Navarro**~ economics professor and former Trump campaign economics adviser.

Regulatory Czar **Carl Icahn**~ founder of Icahn enterprises

Homeland Security Adviser **Thomas Bossert**~ Former deputy homeland security adviser to president George W Bush. Senior cybersecurity fellow at the Atlantic council.

White House Counsel **Donald McGahn, II**~Top counsel on the Trump campaign. A George W Bush appointee to the Federal Elections Commission, 2008-2013.

North Carolina's US Senator Thom Tillis has announced his new committee assignments for the 115th Congress. He will no longer be serving on the Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry Committee, but instead will be serving on the Judiciary Committee. Sen. Tillis and his staff feel strongly that he can serve our state more effectively by being in the position to debate labor and immigration issues. Labor and access to capital are two of the biggest obstacles that face our North Carolina farmers. Sen. Tillis will also be serving on the Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs committee which he feels will give North Carolina a voice that can roll back laws that keep our North Carolina farms from having access to capital.

NC Grange President, Jimmy Gentry, Jeff Barnhart and I were fortunate enough to be able to visit our new Congressman, Ted Budd who represents the 13th District before he made his way to DC for the start of the 115th Congress. Congressman Budd grew up on a cattle and commercial chicken farm in Davie County. As Grangers of course we were delighted to meet a fellow farmer that will be representing North Carolina in Washington. He is excited about serving in this new capacity and is totally passionate about making positive changes for the people of the 13th District as well as all of North Carolina. I think we will hear great things from him and we look forward to seeing him in DC.

In Memoriam

*Ms. Sarah Poindexter
Ms. Dianne Karriker
Mr. Everett Overcash
Ms. Frances Angell
Mr. Bobby Crawford*

*Brushy Fork Grange
Corriher Grange
Corriher Grange
Summerfield Grange
Grantham Grange*

“What Now?”

Is this a repeat from the last issue? While this article does share the same title, we are running in a completely different direction this time. In this issue, I would like to address a completely different insurance product offered through the NC State Grange agency force.

If you were asked, “What is your greatest asset prior to retirement” what would your answer be? Most people will answer their house, farm, business, or some other hard asset. While those are very important assets, the largest overlooked by far is the ability to earn an income. It takes the ability to generate an income to pay for those other

assets as well those regular household expenses.

The common thought is “nothing is going to happen to me” but we all know that life happens sometimes – when we expect it the least. Typically, during those first few weeks of a long-term disability/injury, family and friends are there to assist where they can. However, as time passes by, the friends and family has to return to their own affairs and hence the title of this article comes back into play, “What Now?” Where are the funds for the household expenses going to come from? How are you going to make your mortgage or car payments? Let us not forget about the increased expenses of medical care due to the situation.

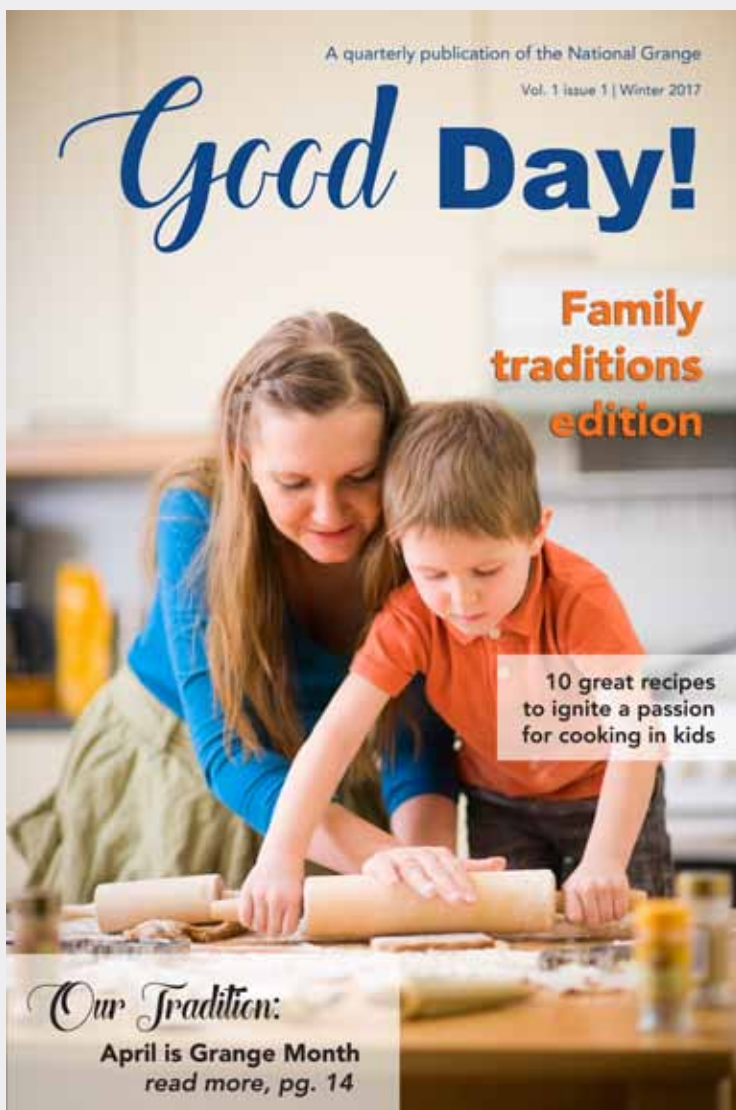
Now that I painted a very bleak picture, here comes the sunshine – the new NC State Grange Income Protector Program! With the Income Protector Program, we can custom tailor a plan for you and your family. Even if you have some long-term coverage through your employer, you may

need to purchase additional coverage as benefits received from the employer plans are typically far below your current take home pay.

We also have plans for the business owner(s), the self-employed, and farmers! These plans can also include coverage for your income, but also for business overhead expenses. This coverage allows you the time to recover and in the event of a permanent disability, it will allow the time for an orderly transition/liquidation of the business and avoid fire sale prices.

Typical plans include an elimination period from day one up to a year, with the most common being a 90-day period from the onset of the condition. The benefit periods normally run from two (2) years up to age sixty-seven (67), again with the most common being either a three (3) or five (5) year plan and an income coverage around sixty (60) percent. Business overhead and expense amounts vary based on the business experience/cost and can include payroll expenses, excepting the owner’s compensation.

Just as we all insure our homes, vehicles, and other properties, why not insure the ability to generate an income in the event of an accident/disability. Give us a call and we can set you up with an agent in your area to discuss your needs and we think that you will find the coverage very affordable. Once you have included this product in your insurance program, you will have the answer the question, “What Now?”



HAVE YOU SEEN

the new National Grange publication, *Good Day*?
Contact the National Grange office to subscribe today!

Rapp Named Teacher of the Year

Kelli Rapp, President of Arcadia Grange, has been named as Teacher of the Year for the Davidson County School system. Currently teaching at Friedberg Elementary School, she is a veteran of 23 years in the profession. During her career, she has also taught special education, second grade, first grade and kindergarten. A graduate of NC State University, she holds a BS degree in communication disorders as well as a Masters in special education.

In 2007, Rapp earned National Board Certification, which is a significant professional accomplishment for NC teachers. It is a rigorous, time consuming program. The completion of this program shows her commitment to education and to her self-improvement in the classroom.

She is married to Craig Rapp, and they have two children Clay and Maria. Both of the children have been active in the Grange youth program. Congratulations to Kelli for achieving this great honor.

Are Health Care Changes Coming?

The latest news is that Congress intends to repeal and replace the Affordable Health Care Act. However, we do not yet know what the replacement legislation will include. We know that costs are increasing for many individuals and employers. Others like the insurance protection that they have, especially if they are on a government subsidized plan which keeps their cost lower. If an individual has a medical procedure, hospital stay, or prescriptions, one only needs to pay attention to the high costs that are being submitted to insurance companies for payment to understand why there is a crisis in the health care industry.

Jimmy Gentry, President of NC Grange, recently submitted a letter to the entire NC Congressional delegation expressing what the Grange would like to see included in any new legislation that may be generated. Those points are as follows:

Affordability and availability of quality health care and medications is of utmost importance. Efforts to stem rising costs are critical, without stifling the quality of care that we now enjoy. Quality health care should be available to all citizens with the stipulation that each person be entitled to the medical provider, insurance carrier, and insurance plan of their choice.

We support the concept of insurance companies covering pre-existing conditions, but we recognize that it creates a strain on profitability for these companies. The source of quality insurance coverage is through these companies and their sustainability is imperative.

Grange Enters Memorandum of Understanding Agreement

For several years, a group of organizations and agencies have partnered together in a program known as Sentinel Landscapes. The initiative was first announced in 2013 between the US Departments of Agriculture, Defense, and Interior. The effort behind this collaboration is aimed toward conservation, protecting farmlands, and forests for the benefit of national defense. North Carolina is blessed to have a number of military bases including Fort Bragg, Camp Lejeune, Cherry Point, New River, and Seymour Johnson. A bombing range also exists in Dare County. The state is experiencing rapid development, which converts working land and forests into structures and parking lots. The military leadership is quite interested in minimizing development around their bases in an effort to maintain adequate training spaces. Sentinel Landscapes creates a win-win among the military as well as civilians who are interested in preserving farm and forest land.

The Memorandum of Understanding has been signed by Jimmy Gentry, President of NC Grange. The agreement creates a more formal structure among the partners toward the delivery of programs to be developed. The Goals of the agreement are as follows: "The NC Sentinel Landscape Partnership will plan and execute mutually beneficial programs, projects, activities, and strategies to: preserve, enhance, and/or protect open space, habitat, working lands, and associated agricultural and forest production in areas identified as priority areas for the military; reduce, prevent, or eliminate restrictions that inhibit military testing and training; and thereby forestall incompatible development for a holistic approach to conservation."

A total of eighteen groups are involved in the partnership. The program fits well with the interest that the NC State Grange has in saving farms, forests and the conservation of natural resources.

We recommend incentives for medical personnel to serve rural areas so that citizens who do not live near urban areas have access to quality care.

The State Grange legislative staff will continue to monitor the activities of US Congress regarding any new health care legislation and communicate with our representatives as needed.

FROM JOYCE!

Joyce Clodfelter, Community Service & Family Living Director

Hello Grangers,

Happy New Year to All! I have been in touch with Melissa Hall, Chapter President of the Charlotte Pajama Program. She is excited that we have again chosen the Pajama Program as our Community Service Project. She will be at our State Convention in Charlotte, come September. Now is the time to start purchasing pj's. Let's meet our 2016 goal, but if all our local granges work on this project, we can surpass what we did last year.

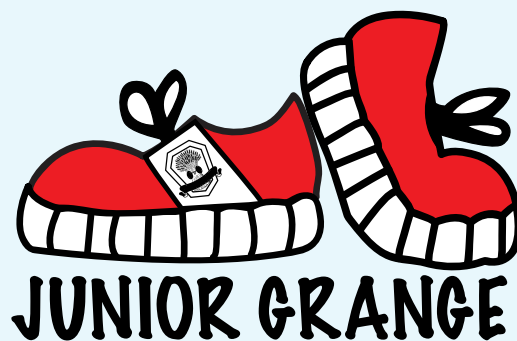
Keep me informed! Let me know what you are doing with this wonderful service project through the coming months! I am excited and I hope you are also!

Enjoy the New Year!

FROM JENNIE!

Jennie Gentry, Youth & Young Adult Director

We want to congratulate the 2016 State Youth Leadership Team and thank them for all their hard work serving the Grange this past year. This team has traveled from the mountains to the coast promoting the Grange, leading activities, planning events and recruiting new members. They have impacted so many lives by being strong, positive role models and encouraging young Grangers to be their best selves. They have truly excelled as leaders, and have made an incredible impression on our youth program. Our hats are off to this amazing group of young Grange leaders: Seen to the right: (front) Lillie Griffin, Rylee Furr, Katie Leonard, Darby Madewell, (back) Landon Woolard, Bennett Yeargan, Evan Hill and Josh Phillips.



Are you currently in 6th or 7th grade?

Have you been to Grange Camp at least once?

Do you want to be a leader?

If you answered YES to all three of these questions, then you need to apply for the 2017 Junior Leadership Team.

**Go to:
form.jotform.com/70185627684162
and apply. The deadline is April 28th.**

If you have any questions, please feel free to email me at junior@ncgrange.com.

-Emily Hartsell

NC Grange Junior Director



Corriher Grange

Submitted by Laurie Barnhart
Corriher Grange Member Receives Quilt of Valor.

Philip Sloop, a member of Corriher #627, received a Quilt of Valor at his 100th birthday party on December 17th. Sharon Bormann, local representative of Quilt of Valor Foundation, presented the Quilt and certificate. Quilts of Valor are free of charge, made by volunteers who seek to “cover service members and veterans touched by war with comfort and healing”. Mr. Sloop is a veteran of WWII. Participation in this program would be a wonderful community service project for our local Granges to show appreciation to our Veterans. Stay tuned for details on how your Grange members can become a part of this important program. Please visit their website at www.qovf.org/ for more information.

LOCAL GRANGE
SPOTLIGHT:



Submitted by Vinnie Duncan.

Corriher Grange held its annual Christmas party on Friday evening, December 2. The Grange Hall was filled to the brim, including 25 children. The event has been a community affair for at least 65 years.

The nativity scene included Mary, Joseph and angels. Joe Allen narrated the story of Jesus' birth along with singing of Christmas carols. Following the Nativity scene, Bobbie Dellinger led the group in familiar Christmas songs.

Bobbie then read *T'was the Night Before Christmas* to the children. Santa entered the Hall and invited everyone to sit on his lap. Philip Sloop, Corriher's oldest member who celebrated his 100th birthday on December 18, was among the group. Santa distributed the children's gifts and adults exchanged gifts as well. Refreshments were enjoyed by all. A donation was made to the Rowan Vocational Opportunities as part of the event.





NORTH CAROLINA GRANGE
1734 WILKESBORO HWY
STATESVILLE, NC 28625
704-878-0000
NCGRANGE.COM

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

PERIODICAL
POSTAGE
PAID



JOIN THE JUNIOR LEADERSHIP TEAM!

CHECK PAGE 14 FOR DETAILS