



# The Patrons Chain

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE NATIONAL GRANGE

March 5, 2021

## JOIN US IN CELEBRATING WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

"The Grange has always welcomed women, making it truly a social order."  
-Grange Installation Ceremony

### USDA and Secretary Tom Vilsack Update

*By Betsy Huber National Grange President*

Last week I joined a few select agricultural leaders to hear from USDA Secretary Tom Vilsack one day after he was confirmed as Secretary of Agriculture. He outlined three most important issues he will be working on in the next few years—COVID recovery, food and nutrition insecurity, and the farm and rural economy.

On COVID recovery, Vilsack mentioned protecting the essential workers at USDA who are in the field helping farmers sign up for all their various programs. The Department is also evaluating the CFAP3 (Coronavirus Food Assistance Program) to decide if they will continue it under the new Administration. It is currently on hold until a decision is made.

Secondly, for food and nutrition insecurity, Vilsack will promote increased SNAP and WIC benefits – WIC currently has only 50% utilization. WIC serves to safeguard the health of low-income pregnant, postpartum, and breastfeeding women, infants, and children up to age 5 who are at nutritional risk by providing nutritious foods to supplement diets, information on healthy eating including breastfeeding promotion and support, and referrals to health care. Please help spread the word about this great program.

Helping restaurants recover and expanding food access to make it easier and more convenient to obtain fresh, nutritious, healthy food through distribution to schools and food banks are part of this goal.

Secretary Vilsack's third priority is improvement of the farm & rural economy after several years of lost trade and depressed prices. Access to broadband will go far to provide better economic opportunity and better educational and health care opportunities in rural areas. A shocking statistic Vilsack stated -- 90% of farmers do not earn their primary income from farming. I believe this fact does not bode well for the future of agriculture and food access in the U.S.

Other issues mentioned as important to work on were climate change, working on a goal of net zero emissions from agriculture, including forest health and "green infrastructure;" open markets for trade that is fair, competitive, and transparent with strengthened protections for US businesses; infrastructure improvement; and racial equity and inclusion to ensure that USDA programs are available to all fairly.

And lastly, the safety of food, animals, and plants as well as Land Grant universities' research are longstanding vital tasks of the Department of Agriculture.

You can be sure that your National Grange staff will be working closely with USDA to ensure the best interests of farmers are kept in the forefront.

## **Women's History Month in the Grange**

*By Kennedy Gwin, National Grange Communications Manager*

Mattel isn't the only one looking to honor Eleanor Roosevelt. While the famous toy maker released a doll in the likeness of this famous Granger for International Women's Day, Junior member Emily Cabbage of Washington, is on a mission to see Roosevelt gets her own day of honor.

Emily, from Five Mile Prairie Grange, is a spunky 13-year-old Junior Granger with a lot of passion for Eleanor Roosevelt and an admirer of her amazing accomplishments.

"Eleanor Roosevelt inspired millions of people around the world with her dedicated to a lifetime of service," Emily said when asked why Roosevelt should be honored in such a way. "Her work as the longest serving First Lady and her leadership at the Human Rights Commission have lifted millions out of, poverty, broke down barriers for women in leadership and fostered positive international relations."

Emily, with the help of her mother, submitted a resolution this year for Grange to advocate for an official U.S. day of observance for Eleanor Roosevelt, who was a long-time member of the Grange in New York. This resolution passed and became part of our national policy in November 2020.

The power of women within the Grange has been a long part of our history and Emily is living proof that that spirit endures. Using her voice within the Grange, she was able to write and shepherd a resolution to passage. She gained a great sense of accomplishment, and the Grange, too, is proud because this grassroots tradition continues.

Emily said she hoped Grangers would remember that they can make a difference.

"Eleanor Roosevelt's membership in the Grange reminds us all to stay involved in the affairs of our community, your country, and your world".

Happy Women's History Month to the strong Grange women of our past, like Eleanor Roosevelt, our present, like Emily Cabbage, and our future.

## **Be Prepared to Promote Grange right from your Back Pocket**

*By Amanda Brozana Rios, Membership, Leadership Development and Communications Director*

The first rule of membership is awareness.

No one will join something they do not know exists or cannot connect with.

For this reason, we're using the run up to Grange Month 2021 to encourage every Grange member and every Grange to become a Grange brand ambassador and add to their back pocket one of the greatest tools to membership recruitment: the business card.

People are interested to learn why you are a member, what you get out of the experience and then where they could fit with their current talents and grow based on our programming within the Grange.

In 2021, commit to making the Grange more accessible to your community and telling your Grange Story! Order business cards from a local vendor, and online resource or from the National Grange.

To receive the Grange logo as a PNG for use on cards you are creating or having a local printer make for you, contact Amanda at [abrozana@nationalgrange.org](mailto:abrozana@nationalgrange.org).

Or take the work out of your efforts and order directly with Communications Manager Kennedy Gwin!

You can place your order by contacting Loretta

Washington by email at [sales@nationalgrange.org](mailto:sales@nationalgrange.org) or by phone at (202) 628-3507 ext. 109. She will process your order and Kennedy will contact you to complete the details and design for your approval before ordering.

Right now, the Grange Supply Store is offering a limited-time sale on business cards for any member or Grange. These full-color cards are \$22 for 250 (\$17 plus \$5 shipping) or \$28 (\$21 PUS \$7 SHIPPING) for 500.

Cards come with the Grange logo on the front with your Grange name, meeting time, date and place, your website and/or Facebook address and contact information for a Grange member willing to tell their Grange Story to those interested in learning more about the organization. These are designed to help you raise awareness and allow potential new members to see what the Grange has to offer.

The back includes simple information about the Grange, which you can read below, that can be customized to include information about your local chapter.

*"The Grange is the nation's oldest rural and agricultural advocacy organization. Our fraternal organization has been a vital force, since its founding in 1867, in elevating men and women in rural communities and advancing the interests of rural America.*

*The Grange strengthens individuals, families and communities through grassroots action, service, education, advocacy and agriculture awareness.*

*Across the United States, there are more than 150,000 members throughout about 1,500 local Grange chapters. We welcome new members in our current chapters; look forward to establishing Granges in new communities or inviting interested individuals to become e-members at the National level."*

If interested in ordering cards, please fill out the JotForm link at [bit.ly/Gbc-21](https://bit.ly/Gbc-21) (case sensitive) and we will start processing your order. You can also use the paper order form, which can be mailed to the National Grange headquarters, attention: Kennedy.



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## **Job Opportunities Good for Ag Graduates**

*Courtesy of the USDA*

A U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) report that projects strong employment opportunities for new college graduates interested in agriculture and related fields opened with a cautionary preface. Termed “A 2020 Pandemic Note,” it stated that the underlying study and preparation for the report began in September 2019, “when global socio-economic conditions were much different from today.” It stated that fewer than the average annual number of employment opportunities would be realized in 2020, but that the team writing the report “anticipates expanding employment opportunities in 2021 and during the remainder of the period if the pandemic can be controlled.”

The authors of the report are J. Marcos Fernandez, Allan D. Goecker and Christine A. Wilson of Purdue University; Ella Smith of the U.S. Food and Drug Administration; and Emma R. Moran of USDA’s National Institute of Food and Agriculture.

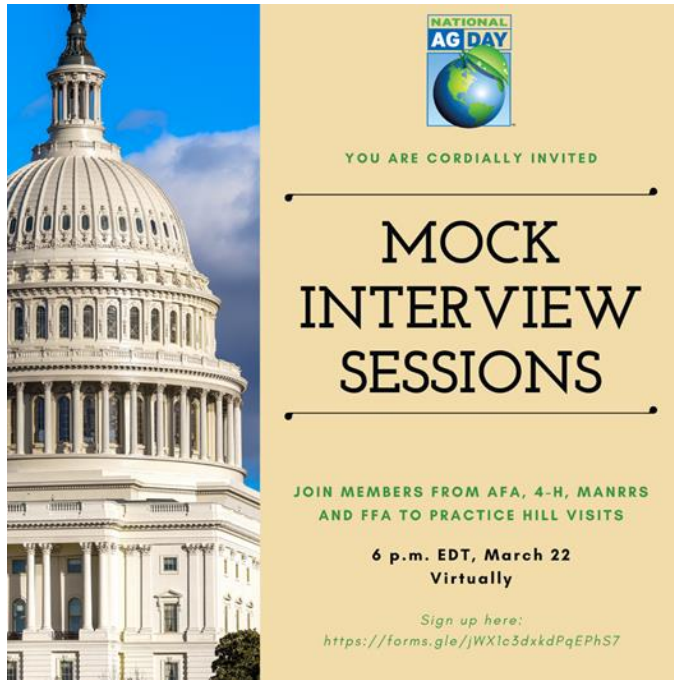
The following are some key messages from the report:

- In the United States between 2020 and 2025, employment opportunities will remain strong for new college graduates with interest and expertise in food, agriculture, renewable natural resources and the environment. An average of approximately 59,400 openings annually reflects a 2.6 percent improvement in open job positions over the past five years.
- The major employment areas for new college graduates will be in management and business (approximately 24,700 positions) and in science and engineering (approximately 18,400 positions), making up 42% and 31%, respectively, of anticipated openings.
- Employment opportunities in food and biomaterials production (approximately 7,900 positions) and the education, communications and government services sectors (approximately 8,400 positions) account for 13% and 14%, respectively, of jobs available for new college graduates in food, agriculture, renewable natural resources and the environment.
- Compared with the previous 5-year report, a decline is projected in the proportion of job openings in management and business (42% vs. 46%), and an increase in job opportunities for college graduates with expertise in science and engineering (31% vs. 27%) and in the relative proportion of job openings in education, communication and government services (14% vs. 12%).
- In the United States, between 2020 and 2025, the number of new college graduates annually seeking employment opportunities in food, agriculture, renewable natural resources and the environment will remain strong (approximately 59,400). Graduates from degree programs in food, agriculture, renewable natural resources and the environment will comprise approximately 61% (36,100) of the new graduate pool.
- Graduates with allied degrees — degree specializations offered by public and private non-profit higher education programs in biological sciences, engineering, health sciences, business, communication, etc. — who are expected to compete for employment with higher education graduates in food, agriculture, renewable natural resources and the environment, will comprise 39% (23,300) of the new graduate supply

pool. These figures include graduates with baccalaureate and post-graduate and professional degrees

## National AG Day Workshop Opportunity

*By Lorretta Washington, National Grange Sales and Membership Benefits*



Attention all Youth, Juniors, and anyone interested in learning more about how to practice advocating for your issues your local representatives. This is an opportunity for you!

This one-day workshop is in celebration of National Ag Day and will be a great opportunity for Youth to learn more about advocating for their issues.

Organizations such as FFA, 4-H, and more will be in attendance as they learn more about participating in effective lobbying through Hill visits. At this workshop you will learn communication strategies and the best way to represent your issues to your local politicians.

Click on the image or go to the link at [bit.ly/agday21-mi](https://bit.ly/agday21-mi) (case sensitive) to register today!

## A Few Great Mentions

The Grange has been hard at work these last two weeks! Here are some links to some of our more popular articles about the Grange in action. Take the time and check out what is happening both on the National and State level. If you have any news highlights you would like to share with the Grange community email them to [kgwin@nationalgrange.org](mailto:kgwin@nationalgrange.org)

Tillamook Oregon, <https://www.tillamookcountypioneer.net/free-seeds-available-wild-coast-goods-in-nehalem-tillamook-county-library/>

Pittsfield Massachusetts, [https://www.reformer.com/community-news/grange-in-guilford-launches-exhaustive-fundraiser/article\\_11b0f742-6fed-11eb-ada4-1f9964264e0c.html](https://www.reformer.com/community-news/grange-in-guilford-launches-exhaustive-fundraiser/article_11b0f742-6fed-11eb-ada4-1f9964264e0c.html)

Dodge City Kansas, [https://www.hpj.com/opinion/legislation-needed-to-lengthen-stay-for-highly-trained-migrant-dairy-workers/article\\_8527946e-72fa-11eb-8cc7-cf0210100458.html](https://www.hpj.com/opinion/legislation-needed-to-lengthen-stay-for-highly-trained-migrant-dairy-workers/article_8527946e-72fa-11eb-8cc7-cf0210100458.html)

Cardoba Argentina, <https://edairynews.com/en/legislation-needed-to-lengthen-stay-for-highly-trained-migrant-dairy-workers-84515/>

Olympia Washington, <https://www.610kona.com/faster-internet-for-rural-areas/>

Online Publication <http://www.thebullvine.com/news/us-legislation-needed-to-lengthen-stay-for-highly-trained-migrant-dairy-workers/>

Newport Oregon, <https://www.newportnewstimes.com/article/fire-victims-address-state-legislature-about-recovery>

Cortez Colorado, <https://the-journal.com/articles/203295-mancos-foodshare-awarded-after-productive-year>

Pendleton Oregon, [https://www.eastoregonian.com/community/news/white-eagle-grange-donates-funds-for-music-department/article\\_32182bf2-7acb-11eb-9e52-47bec2bd9e41.html](https://www.eastoregonian.com/community/news/white-eagle-grange-donates-funds-for-music-department/article_32182bf2-7acb-11eb-9e52-47bec2bd9e41.html)

## Grange Business Card Order Form

*Offer good through 2021*

Grange Name \_\_\_\_\_ Number \_\_\_\_\_

Meeting Day/Time \_\_\_\_\_

Place/Address \_\_\_\_\_ Town \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Officer Title \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Back currently reads:

*"The Grange is the nation's oldest rural and agricultural advocacy organization. Our fraternal organization has been a vital force, since its founding in 1867, in elevating men and women in rural communities and advancing the interests of rural America.*

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Please note any customization/Personalization you'd like to include about your Grange (optional):

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Quantity: \_\_\_\_\_ 250 for \$22 with design and shipping (\$17 plus \$5)

\_\_\_\_\_ 500 for \$28 with design and shipping (\$21 plus \$7)

Call Kennedy Gwin if interested in larger quantities

Address where you wish cards to be shipped:

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Mail to 1616 H St. NW Washington DC 20006 Attn: Communications or email form to  
kgwin@nationalgrange.org





**HONORING THOSE WE HAVE LOST  
THIS YEAR IN OUR COMMUNITIES**

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**GRANGE  
MEMORIAL  
SERVICE**

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**JOIN US MARCH 7TH AT 6PM EST**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85381358303?pwd=OFk2OENoaTVxcDk5TFZ5SHovc2pZUT09>





GET READY FOR THE 155TH ANNUAL  
NATIONAL GRANGE CONVENTION

## GEAR UP WITH THE 2021 T-SHIRT



**2021 CONVENTION LOGO ON FOREST GREEN OR OLD  
GOLD 5.3 OZ. PRE-SHRUNK 100% COTTON T-SHIRT**

Unisex Adult Sizes Small-3XL available for only \$10 (s-xl),  
\$12 (2xl) or \$13 (3xl), plus shipping. Profits from sales go  
to the Great Plains Host Region.

[HTTPS://WWW.PROMOPLACE.COM/GRANGE/NATIONAL-GRANGE-HOST-T-SHIRT.HTM](https://www.promoplace.com/grange/national-grange-host-t-shirt.htm)



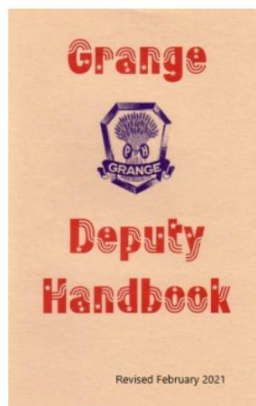
# SUPPLY STORE

[www.grangestore.com](http://www.grangestore.com)

### Deputy Handbook

No matter the size of your State Grange, Deputy State Masters/Presidents play an important role in ensuring that the structure of our organization remains strong. This new edition of the Deputy Handbook is an update to and replaces the last version published in 2001. It is intended to be a basic introduction to the duties of a State Grange Deputy and serve as a quick resource guide. Each State Grange may have additional duties or responsibilities for their Deputy corps, but this handbook created a strong foundation on which to build a larger team of state leadership.

Cost is \$2.00  
plus shipping



Aflac.



### AFLAC – Supplemental Health

Benefits are available to National Grange members, the member's spouse and the member's dependent children. These supplemental benefit policies pay "CASH" directly to the members for members to use as they see fit. Members will never receive a 1099 or be taxed in any way on the cash benefits paid from these policies. Cash benefits are paid if Grange members (policy holders) have an Accident and utilize the services of a hospital emergency room or urgent care center, contract Internal Cancer, experience a Heart Attack/Stroke, need Major Organ Transplants, utilize certain services of their Dentist and more. Please go to [www.aflac.com/nationalgrange](http://www.aflac.com/nationalgrange) or call Theon Karabatsos at 561-398-1204 or email [theon\\_karabatsos@us.aflac.com](mailto:theon_karabatsos@us.aflac.com)



Item #P-HERO1  
\$2.50 each for 1 to 49.  
\$1.00 each for 50 or more.

### Lapel Pins!

#### Show Thanks to our FRONT-LINE HEROES

They risk and continue to risk their lives everyday to help save lives and offer a continuation of essential supply chains.

Size: 1.25" wide

[Click Here To See More Details Or To Place An Order](#)

[Face Masks Also Still Available - Click Here To Order](#)



Item #P-HERO2  
\$2.50 each for 1 to 49.  
\$1.00 each for 50 or more.

Visit The Grange Store™ by Monroe - [www.promoplace.com/grange](http://www.promoplace.com/grange)

See Our Full Line of Promotional Items at [www.monroeclassic.com](http://www.monroeclassic.com)

Order on line or call Monroe Classic, Inc. at 1-800-868-2330 or email [sales@monroeclassic.com](mailto:sales@monroeclassic.com)

APPAREL | PROMOTIONAL ITEMS | JEWELRY | REGALIA | AWARDS | SIGNS & BANNERS



**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 7, 2021**

Speakers from Capitol Hill, the Biden Administration, issue coalitions, National Grange leadership and staff, and more



## **NATIONAL GRANGE & GRANGE FOUNDATION STAFF**

**Our HQ is located at 1616 H St. NW, 11th Floor, Washington, DC 20006 | (202) 628-3507**

**Publisher** Betsy Huber, National Grange President, available to members at [betsy@nationalgrange.org](mailto:betsy@nationalgrange.org) or by phone at (484) 459-1957

**Editor** Kennedy Gwin, National Grange Communications Manager, available by email at [kgwin@nationalgrange.org](mailto:kgwin@nationalgrange.org) or by phone at National HQ, ext. 106. Contact for assistance with publicity, to submit a story idea for the Patrons Chain or social media and more.

**Membership, Leadership Development and Communications** Amanda Brozana Rios. Contact to submit a story idea for Good Day! magazine at [abrozana@nationalgrange.org](mailto:abrozana@nationalgrange.org) or call/text (301) 943-1090. You may also contact her as Foundation Associate in regards to tax-deductible gifts for Grange Foundation.

**Membership Recognition, Sales and Benefits** Loretta Washington, National HQ, ext. 109 or email [sales@nationalgrange.org](mailto:sales@nationalgrange.org)

**Free Grange Websites and emails, Good Day! subscriptions and renewals, Membership Database and more** Stephanie Wilkins, National HQ, ext. 101 or email [swilkins@nationalgrange.org](mailto:swilkins@nationalgrange.org)

**Lecturer** Chris Hamp for program ideas, Quilts of Valor labels, contest details and more, by email at [lecturer@nationalgrange.org](mailto:lecturer@nationalgrange.org) or call/text (509) 953-3533.

**Community Service** Pete Pompper for project ideas, information about "Of the Year" awards and more by email at [communityservice@nationalgrange.org](mailto:communityservice@nationalgrange.org) or phone at (609) 820-6239

**Legislative and Policy Issues** Burton Eller for advocacy information and Grange priorities, contact him at National HQ, ext. 114 or email [beller@nationalgrange.org](mailto:beller@nationalgrange.org).

**Grange Youth** Mandy Bostwick for contest, program and more information for young members at [youth@nationalgrange.org](mailto:youth@nationalgrange.org) or call/text (785) 250-7606.

**Junior Grange** Samantha Wilkins for Passport and other program and contest information at [junior@nationalgrange.org](mailto:junior@nationalgrange.org) or call/text (210) 838-7892.

**Grange Foundation** Joan C. Smith, Chairwoman, for more details about grants, programs and Foundation outreach at [info@grangefoundation.org](mailto:info@grangefoundation.org) or (571) 662-7220.

**Foundation Strategic Partnership Director** Donny Olencziak with corporate giving and grant leads at [donny.olencziak@grange.org](mailto:donny.olencziak@grange.org) or (229) 288-6111.