



RAISING THE FLAG, HONORING THE FUTURE: SAMMAMISH VALLEY GRANGE CELEBRATES AMERICA250 WITH FLAG DAY EVENT

submitted by Brenda Vanderloop
Sammamish Valley Grange #286 (WA)

Sammamish Valley Grange #286 (WA) participated in Woodinville's community-wide "America 250" event on Flag Day, June 14, 2026, with a Flagpole Dedication, lecture, and reception.

Along with the Woodinville Heritage Society and the Susan Woodin Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR), the Grange is helping to connect local events, community members, and organizations in celebrating the nation's 250th anniversary. This initiative is bringing together partners across art, culture, storytelling, and daily living to highlight how Woodinville reflects the broader American story through the people, places, and experiences that shape our shared sense of place.

Scouting America Troop 909 presented the colors, then Grange member and history buff Marshall Moon shared a detailed and historical perspective on the American Revolution to a full house. The flagpole was restored and installed by members and volunteers, led by President Tom Quigley and Hall Operations Manager Chris Rekow. The program, created by



A restored and newly-installed flagpole was dedicated at Sammamish Valley Grange #286 (WA) on Flag Day (June 14). This was done in partnership with local organizations celebrating America250.

Photo provided

Secretary Susan Webster, started off with the color guard raising the flag, the singing of the National Anthem, the Pledge of Allegiance, and a vocal performance from award-winning

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NREA PARTNERS WITH NATIONAL GRANGE TO EXPAND COLLABORATION ACROSS RURAL AMERICA



The [National Rural Education Association](#) (NREA) is proud to announce a new strategic partnership with the National Grange, the nation's oldest agricultural and rural advocacy organization. This collaboration brings together two organizations that have spent more than a century in service to rural America, united by a shared belief that rural communities are strongest when organizations work together to address common challenges and create new opportunities.

Founded in 1867, the National Grange is a nonpartisan, grassroots organization with members in over 1,400 communities across the United States. Through advocacy, service, education, and agricultural awareness, the National Grange has long worked to strengthen rural communities and improve the quality of life for rural families. That mission aligns closely with NREA's commitment to advancing educational opportunities and supporting the success of rural schools, students, educators, and communities.

"No single organization can solve the challenges facing rural America alone. Education, agriculture, healthcare, economic development, and community leadership are all interconnected, and our success depends on working together instead of apart," said National Grange President Christine Hamp. "The National Grange is proud to partner with the National Rural Education Association because stronger schools create stronger communities, and stronger communities create greater opportunity for every rural family. This partnership is about building those connections and ensuring rural America has a stronger, more unified voice for the future."

Through this partnership, NREA and the National Grange are amplifying one another's work and reach. The organizations will share resources, publications, and expertise to connect rural educators, community leaders, and advocates around issues

that matter most to rural America. Together, NREA and National Grange are helping foster greater collaborations across the rural advocacy community, encouraging coordinated efforts that elevate rural voices and create lasting solutions for the communities they serve.

"For too long, the organizations serving rural America have worked in their own lanes, and rural communities have carried the cost of that," said NREA Executive Director Dr. Melissa Sadorf. "What I value about the National Grange is that they have never lost sight of the people at the center of this work. When National Grange leadership and I talk, it comes down to access and advocacy for rural America, and to the difference we can make when we show up together instead of singly. This partnership is two organizations deciding to do exactly that, and rural students and families are the ones who will feel it."

NREA is committed to building strategic partnerships that support rural communities and rural children. We hope NREA members and non-members alike will benefit from this partnership and the doors it opens. Thank you to the National Grange for joining us in our mission to advocate for every rural learner, educator, and community.

The National Rural Education Association (NREA) was originally founded as the Department of Rural Education in 1907. It is the oldest established national organization in the United States. As the trusted voice for rural education, the NREA advocates for every rural learner, educator, and community. The NREA envisions strong rural schools and communities where education is the catalyst for resilience, opportunity and success.

The National Grange is a community-driven, nonpartisan organization that brings people together to strengthen their local communities through service, shared learning, leadership, and connection to the land. Founded in 1867, the Grange includes more than 1,400 local chapters across the country, where members take action on what matters most close to home. From supporting families and schools to organizing events and advocating for local needs, Grange members contribute millions of hours of service each year. The Grange creates opportunities for people of all ages and backgrounds to make a meaningful difference in their communities. Learn more at www.nationalgrange.org.

**Submit your
stories and Grange
successes to...**

GRANGE



Today!

<https://grange.biz/grangetodaysubmit>

IS YOUR GRANGE READY TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE?

Last week, we introduced Rural Women Shaping Health Research, a new National Grange project funded through the Eugene Washington PCORI Engagement Award Program. Since then, Granges across the country have been asking one question:

"Is this something our Grange could do?"

The answer may be yes.

What we're looking for:

We're looking for 10 Granges that are connected to their communities and want to help ensure rural women's voices are included in the future of health research. You don't need to have previous experience with health care research - just people who care about their community and are willing to bring others together.

What participation looks like:

Each participating Grange will nominate one woman age 50 or older to serve as a Community Health Champion. She doesn't need to be a medical professional or researcher - just someone who enjoys listening to people and helping them feel welcome.

Over the two-year project, Community Health Champions



will receive training, lead community conversations with local women, and share what they learn about the health challenges and priorities facing rural communities. The Grange's role is to help support those conversations by providing a meeting space,

spreading the word, and encouraging participation.

Both the Grange and the Community Health Champion will receive a stipend for their participation.

This project is not a research study, and any comments or experiences shared will remain anonymous.

Want to learn more first?

If you're wondering whether your Grange would be a good fit, read the details here or join one of our upcoming [Office Hours](#) – informal online sessions to ask questions and hear what participation involves, no obligation.

Ready to apply?

Apply now through [this page](#). Applications close August 10.

Read the formal press release [here](#).

FLAGPOLE DEDICATION



Marshall Moon, a "history buff" and member of Sammamish Valley Grange #286, was presented with a certificate and medal by The National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution for his presentation.

Photo provided

vocalist Bernadette Bascom.

Attendees were encouraged to sign their names, which were placed along with other significant items in the time capsule to be buried on the Grange Hall property with an anticipated retrieval in 2076, fifty years from now. A commemorative plaque was also presented in honor of the event, and Marshall Moon received a certificate and medal from The National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution. A reception for all attendees followed the presentation.

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Sammamish Valley Grange #286 members, along with their community partners, will be participating in several more activities throughout the summer to celebrate "250 In Woodinville!"



A plaque was presented that reads "We Honor Our Country's 250th Anniversary of Independence 1776-2026 Sammamish Valley Grange #286 Dedicates this new Flag Pole -- Flag Day, June 14, 2026 -- In Essentials Unity, In Non-essentials Liberty, In All Things Charity.

Photo provided

PAVE THE “ROUTE TO THE FUTURE” AT THE 160TH ANNUAL NATIONAL GRANGE CONVENTION

Registration for the **160th Annual National Grange Convention** officially opens August 1, and Grange members from across the country are encouraged to make plans now to join us in Broken Arrow, Oklahoma, November 9-14, 2026.

Whether you're attending your first National Convention or returning as a longtime delegate, this year's event promises an unforgettable week of learning, fellowship, and celebration. Convention is where the Grange comes together to conduct the business of the organization, exchange ideas, recognize outstanding achievements, and build friendships that span the country.

Registration includes daily hotel breakfasts, the Welcome Dinner, Celebration Banquet, a convention tour, workshops, limited-edition Convention swag, and access



to a full week of programming. Attendees will also hear from inspiring speakers, explore Oklahoma hospitality, and help kick off the National Grange's year-long celebration of its 160th anniversary.

Don't wait to reserve your place. Hotel rooms and special activities are expected to fill quickly, so registering early is the best way to ensure you don't miss out.

Beginning August 1, visit the National Grange Convention webpage to register, review the schedule, make hotel reservations, and stay up to date as additional speakers, workshops, and activities are announced. We can't wait to welcome you to Broken Arrow this November!

Visit www.nationalgrange.org/160thconvention to learn more and register when it opens!

Showcase Your Grange at the 160th National Grange Convention!

The 160th National Grange Convention in Broken Arrow, Oklahoma, is shaping up to be a memorable event—and a wonderful opportunity to showcase your Grange while supporting the convention.

For the first time, sponsorship opportunities have been created to fit every budget, allowing State Granges, Pomona Granges, and local/community Granges to promote their organization by sponsoring an event

or activity during the convention.

Sponsorship opportunities include the Welcome Reception, Celebration Dinner, Youth Skate Party, educational sessions, refreshment breaks, transportation, and many other convention activities. Every sponsor will receive recognition for their support, along with the opportunity to provide promotional materials at their sponsored event.

If your Grange would like to learn more about these sponsorship opportunities, please contact Mark Gibbons (Potomac Grange #1) at mark@retiresafe.org to request a sponsorship information sheet. We encourage every Grange to take advantage of this unique opportunity to support the convention while highlighting the great work happening in your community.

Join Us for a Veterans Day Wreath-Laying Ceremony

The National Grange invites all convention attendees to participate in a special **Veterans Day Wreath-Laying Ceremony** during this year's National Grange Convention in Broken Arrow, OK.

Veterans Day – November 11

7:30 a.m. (0730 hours) CST

Veterans Park, 1111 S. Main St, Broken Arrow, OK

This meaningful ceremony is open to everyone attending the convention, and we encourage all members and guests to join us as we honor the service and sacrifice of our nation's veterans.

Veterans Needed for Ceremony Participation

We are seeking veterans representing all six branches of the

U.S. Armed Forces to assist with the wreath-laying ceremony. If you are a veteran and will be attending the convention, please contact Mark Gibbons at mark@retiresafe.org.

When responding, please include:

- Your branch of service
- Your rank at the time of separation or retirement

One representative from each branch will be selected to participate in the ceremony.

This year's Veterans Day observance is proudly sponsored by Potomac Grange #1.

We look forward to honoring our veterans together in a spirit of gratitude and remembrance.

160th National Grange Convention

November 2026

Broken Arrow, OK



Sun. 8

2:00 pm - Officer
& Delegate Meeting
Welcome Dinner

Mon. 9

9:00 am
Official Opening
of the
Convention

Tues. 10

Evening -
Oklahoma State
Poet Laureate

Weds. 11

Mini-Tours
Wreath-Laying
Ceremony

Thurs. 12

Youth Opening
Chief
Standing Bear

Fri. 13

Workshops
Presentation
of the
Seventh Degree

Sat. 14

Workshops
Celebration
Banquet

Registration opens August 1

Visit
**BROKEN
ARROW**
All times Central

Help Shape the Future of National Grange Conventions

*The future of our National Grange Convention
starts with YOU!*

Do you have experience in event planning, budgeting, member engagement, marketing, promotions, or program evaluation? Or do you have great ideas and a passion for creating meaningful experiences?

The Convention Management Team (CMT) is looking for Grange members from across the country to help design not only this year's convention in Broken Arrow, but the future of National Grange Conventions for years to come.

If you're ready to make an impact, we'd love to hear from you!

Interested? Contact CMT Chairpersons Jody and Jodi Ann Cameron at convention@nationalgrange.org to learn more.

Volunteer at Convention!

The National Grange Convention would not be possible without the incredible volunteers who step up to serve!

We are looking for enthusiastic volunteers to help make this year's convention a welcoming, successful, and memorable experience for everyone attending. Whether you can help greet guests, assist with events, support activities, or simply lend a helping hand where needed, your time and talents can make a huge difference.

Volunteering at Convention is a wonderful opportunity to:

- Meet Grangers from across the country
- Build connections and friendships
- Serve the organization we all care about
- Be part of something meaningful and memorable

No matter your experience level, there is a place for you to get involved. We encourage members of all ages to join us in helping make Convention a success.

If you are interested in volunteering, we would love to have you on the team! Please fill out the [volunteer form](#) to express your interest.

STATEMENT FROM NATIONAL GRANGE REGARDING MONROE CLASSIC, INC.

The National Grange decided not to renew its licensing Agreement with Monroe Classic, Inc. upon its expiration on August 26, 2026. Monroe Classic, Inc. has since requested that we "cancel our license agreement now and not after expiration" as we proposed. This request has been accepted. Therefore, effective immediately, Monroe Classic, Inc. cannot represent that it is a licensed or authorized vendor of Grange merchandise.

As before, any Grange may work with any vendor of their choosing (including Monroe Classic, Inc.) to create merchandise with Grange trademarks, names, logos, or other protected marks.

If your vendor requires a letter of authorization to use our trademark, please contact the [Communications Department](#).



NATIONAL GRANGE

OF THE ORDER OF PATRONS OF HUSBANDRY

View from the Hill



NATIONAL GRANGE POLICY UPDATES & ISSUE NEWS

July 2026

AGRICULTURE AND FOOD

Senate farm bill action expected

Farmers and ranchers have been anticipating Senate action on farm bill 2.0 for a while. The House passed its version of the legislation in May. Senate Agriculture Committee Chairman Boozman has postponed action in his committee while he attempts to resolve a few issues in the House bill that could endanger the bill's passage. The first is a provision to nullify California's Proposition 12 that imposes animal welfare restrictions on pork raised in other states and sold in California. Another sticking point is a proposal to exempt federally approved pesticides from state pesticide laws. As well, several Democratic members of the committee are pushing for restoration of SNAP (food stamps) benefits. Boozman says he still hopes for committee action by August 1. Congress will be in recess the entire months of August and October. If farm bill 2.0 doesn't see full Senate floor action in September, it will have to wait for the lame duck session after the midterm elections. Farm bill 2.0 completes action on a new farm bill that began with the One Big Beautiful Bill Act last year.

Administration addresses heavy metals and other contaminants in food

The USDA, HHS, and EPA have updated their memorandum of understanding to protect consumers from contaminants in the food supply. For decades, these departments have shared efforts to monitor and regulate meat, poultry, and egg products. The new agreement will adopt new methods to better detect and address potential food contaminant risks.

Support available for small and mid-size beef processors

The USDA will provide additional financial support for eligible beef processing facilities. A total of \$500 million is now available to support stronger and more stable market opportunities for beef producers. Payments to processors are intended to help establishments that have faced increased costs of acquiring cattle for processing due to the abnormally low numbers of cattle raised in the U.S. at this time.

AG WORKFORCE

New ag labor bill introduced

The National Grange applauds the introduction of H.R. 9535, the Saving Our Agricultural Workforce Act, by House Agriculture Committee Chairman Thompson and numerous bipartisan cosponsors. The legislation reforms the H-2A ag worker visa program to lessen administrative red tape, reduce worker procurement costs, allow workers to move among employers, provide for year-round workers, and further streamline the

H-2A program. The National Grange has been working with the Ag Workforce Coalition for over four years to get ag worker legislation to this point.

Small producers still need ag labor

The H-2A visa program was designed for large operations that need large numbers of ag workers. Even if the Thompson ag worker bill becomes law, the H-2A process will still be relatively expensive, an administrative challenge, and could present several uncertainties regarding implementation. The National Grange has advocated for a simple small producer program patterned after the old Bracero visa program that was so popular in the U.S. from 1942 to 1964. It allowed Mexican men to enter the country with a visa to work agricultural and railroad jobs. A small producer ag worker opportunity was not included in the Thompson bill because the administration is not interested in creating an ag worker program outside the H-2A.

HEALTH CARE

Affordability causing rural residents to fall behind on cancer screenings

Only 48% of rural adults have had a routine medical visit or cancer screening in the past year. That is compared to 56% of urban and suburban adults, revealing a widening rural disparity gap. This survey by independent research firm Atomik Research, included screenings for breast, cervical, colorectal, lung, oral, prostate, skin, and testicular cancers. A critical barrier for rural respondents accessing preventive care is cost, with nearly four in ten saying they are behind on screenings because they cannot afford them. The survey indicated ways to reduce barriers could be mobile screening units and connecting people to financial assistance.

National Grange files addiction comments

The National Grange responded to a request from the Department of Health and Human Services to file comments on chronic disease addiction. The Grange stated that alcohol use disorder (AUD) was a chronic disease that disproportionately affects rural communities. People living in rural America face barriers to prevention, treatment, and recovery, including limited access to providers, long distances to care, and the stigma that can surround substance use and mental health conditions. The Grange recommended that HHS should develop rural-targeted public awareness campaigns that elevate AUD as a treatable disease, reduce the stigma that keeps rural families from asking for help, expand evidence-based screening in primary care settings, and ensure federal programs meet rural Americans where they are.

RIGHT-TO-REPAIR

John Deere settles antitrust suit

John Deere agreed to make the same repair tools used by its dealers available to farmers and independent repair shops under a proposed settlement agreement filed July 8 to end an antitrust lawsuit brought by the Federal Trade Commission and five state attorneys general. Deere agreed to make available tools for reading and resetting electronic fault codes, reprogramming electronic components, restarting machines following emissions-related shutdowns, viewing technical manuals, troubleshooting solutions, and other repairs. The settlement requires the company to submit compliance reports every 60 days during the initial repair resources rollout with yearly reports over the next 10 years. Earlier this year, Deere also agreed to pay \$99 million and provide equipment owners with access to repair resources to settle a class-action lawsuit brought by farmers over the company's repair practices. Right-to-repair has been a long-term policy priority for the National Grange.

TRADE

Global tariffs to end

President Trump's 10% global tariffs expired July 24. These tariffs could be extended by an act of Congress, but no action has been taken, and there doesn't appear to be momentum in Congress at this point to extend tariffs. The President has touted tariffs as a key negotiating tool to achieve his "America First" trade agenda. Since entering office, the administration has entered into approximately 20 trade agreements or frameworks to open markets for U.S. farmers.

OF INTEREST

Large benefit cuts loom for Social Security and Medicare

The Social Security retirement program is just six years from insolvency according to the program's trustees. At that point, the law requires benefits to be reduced by 22% at the start of 2033 to ensure the program's costs do not exceed its revenues after the retirement fund is exhausted. Later that same year, the Medicare Hospital Insurance trust fund is projected to become insolvent, cutting spending by 11%, which will threaten retirees' health care access. Congress has kicked the Social Security and Medicare insolvency cans down the road for decades. Now, as Social Security and Medicare enter crisis mode, will Congress have the fortitude to act to prevent these massive cuts?



VIEW FROM THE HILL

is written and compiled by

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Government Affairs Director

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PERSPECTIVES - ON FARMING

"The farmer is the only man in our economy who buys everything at retail, sells everything at wholesale, and pays the freight both ways."

- John F. Kennedy, 35th United States President (1961-1963)

"Farming is a profession of hope."

- Brian Brett, Canadian writer and organic farmer

"No race can prosper until it learns there is as much dignity in tilling a field as in writing a poem."

- Booker T. Washington, American educator, author, and orator

"Agriculture is our wisest pursuit, because it will in the end contribute most to real wealth, good morals, and happiness."

- Thomas Jefferson, 3rd United States President (1801-1809)

"I would rather be on my farm than be emperor of the world."

- George Washington, 1st United States President (1789-1797), surveyor, and farmer

A vertical poster with a dark blue background on the left and a gold background on the right. The left side features the 160th National Grange Convention logo and the National Grange logo. The right side has a white border and contains the text: "Save the Date", "NATIONAL GRANGE HONORS NIGHT", and "Friday, November 20 8:30 pm ET / 5:30 PM PT streamed live on Facebook & YouTube".

160th National Grange Convention

ROUTE TO THE FUTURE

Save the Date

NATIONAL GRANGE HONORS NIGHT

Friday, November 20
8:30 pm ET / 5:30 PM PT
streamed live on Facebook & YouTube

NATIONAL GRANGE

THE COUNTDOWN IS ON: ONE YEAR UNTIL GRANGE REVIVAL 2027!



One year from now, Grangers from across the country will gather for our fifth Grange Revival – and for the first time ever, we’re bringing this incredible experience to the eastern United States!

From July 19-24, 2027, we’ll call the beautiful Great Smoky Mountains of western North Carolina home as we gather in Bryson City for a week of fellowship, adventure, laughter, and making memories that last a lifetime.

When we launched Grange Revival in 2019, the vision was simple: create an event where Grange members and friends could unplug, reconnect, and enjoy being together outside the meeting hall. Four Revivals later, it has become one of my favorite Grange traditions.

If you live in North Carolina, or anywhere up and down the East Coast, this is your chance to experience Grange Revival close to home. Otherwise, it’s road trip time!

Whether you’re a longtime member, a new Granger, or simply curious about what makes our organization special, you’ll find a welcoming community, great conversations, outdoor adventures, campfires, and plenty of opportunities to build friendships that stretch across state lines.

There is truly something for every age and every interest.

Mark your calendars now. Tell your Grange friends. Invite your neighbors. Start planning that family vacation.

The mountains are calling, and so is the Grange. We’ll see you in Bryson City!



Reservations at the campground can’t be made until after January 1 - so stay tuned!

Learn more and see what’s in store at grangerevival.com.

REQUEST ALZHEIMER’S MATERIALS FOR YOUR LOCAL FAIRS

One in three older adults dies with Alzheimer’s or other dementia. The need for awareness, access to healthcare, and patient and caregiver support is great—but nowhere more so than in rural areas.

This summer and fall, the National Grange and the [Alzheimer’s Association](https://www.alz.org) are partnering to raise awareness about Alzheimer’s Disease and Related Dementias at fairs and festivals across the country.

Our organizations are working together to help meet those needs. For Granges - State or Community - interested in taking up this cause, the Alzheimer’s Association is providing outreach materials. These can be shared with you in a printable format, or brochures can be shipped to

you. It will take about three weeks to ship the materials.

But the partnership doesn’t have to stop there. The Alzheimer’s Association has local chapters across the nation, providing services within each community. [Find your chapter](#). And answers and resources are available anywhere in the country through the free 24/7 Helpline at 800-272-3900.

For more information about how Alzheimer’s and Dementia impact your state, visit the [Alzheimer’s Disease Facts and Figures](#). To order materials for your state fair, contact Lorna Prophater at lprophater@alz.org or Letitia Thompson at lsthompson@alz.org.

REPORTS AND CONTESTS DUE SOON

September 1 is the deadline for many National Grange programs

Before the excitement of National Grange Convention begins this fall, there's one important date every Grange should have circled on the calendar: September 1.

This date marks the close of submissions for many of the National Grange's annual reports, recognition programs, and contests. Whether your Grange completed an outstanding year of community service, has a family with generations of Grange membership to celebrate, or has talented Junior and Youth members ready to showcase their skills, now is the time to get those entries together.

Applications for [Distinguished Grange](#) are due September 1 for Community, Pomona, State, and Junior Granges. If your Grange had a successful year, don't assume you aren't "Distinguished." Take a few minutes to review the application. You may be surprised by how many requirements you've already met, and even if you don't qualify this year, the application is a great roadmap for planning an even stronger year ahead, and you should submit a [Grange In Action](#) application, instead. This is also a

reminder that State Grange Presidents should submit their State President in Action reports, too.

The deadline also includes [Legacy Family](#) applications recognizing multi-generational Grange families, and a wide variety of [Junior](#) and [Youth](#) contests and awards. From photography, creative writing, public speaking and craftsmanship, to leadership, community service, and membership challenges, there are opportunities for members of all ages to be recognized at the National Convention. And although [Community Service](#) reports aren't due until December, now is a good time to think about those, too!

Don't wait until the last minute. Gather your photos, reports, and supporting materials now, submit your entries by September 1, and make sure your Grange's accomplishments are part of this year's National Grange celebration. You can't be recognized for the work you did if no one knows about it!

Information on all National Grange contests and programs can be found at nationalgrange.org/programs.

ARE YOU
ENGAGED
YET?

JOIN OUR NEW MEMBER PLATFORM
THROUGH THE NATIONAL GRANGE WEBSITE

- Manage your Grange, instantly contact members, and post updates in your Digital Hall
- Connect with Grangers nationwide on "the Porch" or at "the Potluck"
- Post your Grange Fundraisers for members across the country
- Access member-only materials
- and more!

VISIT NATIONALGRANGE.ORG
AND CLICK "MEMBER LOGIN" TO GET STARTED.



ENCOURAGING CREATIVITY IN THE AGE OF AI

Courtesy of Feature Impact

In an era when machines can generate ideas in seconds, hands-on learning and creativity may be more important for today's children than ever. In fact, due to the rise of artificial intelligence (AI), 73% of parents believe creativity is an essential trait for their children to develop.

This finding comes from a survey commissioned by [Crayola](#) and conducted by Talker Research of 2,000 U.S. parents of children ages 8-12, along with children in that same age range. The survey also revealed the impact of technological advances, such as AI, on how parents nurture their kids' creativity and how kids and parents view AI differently.

While parents worry about what skills kids may lose due to AI usage, children themselves are more focused on what technology could unlock and seem to be far more optimistic about the impact of AI. According to the study, 35% of parents said they worry AI will reduce their child's ability to think creatively and 30% fear it will compete with them, limiting their opportunities in the workforce. In contrast, only 22% of kids share their parents' concerns about AI hurting their creative thinking abilities and only 21% fear job competition.

Consider these additional trends identified in the survey.

Kids Crave Hands-On Creativity



Photo provided

Despite growing up in a digital-first world, the children surveyed expressed a strong desire to engage in hands-on creative experiences. When they make something by hand, they're more likely to preserve it (46%), display it at home (68%) or give it as a gift (48%), turning creativity into something tangible, lasting and meaningful.

The children surveyed also said they want adults to ask for their creative ideas and listen to them (52%), provide supplies for creating (51%), encourage problem-solving (47%) and give them more time to create (46%).

Feedback Provides Motivation

Creativity flourishes when adults praise young artists for their effort, ideas and decision-making rather than judging how "good" the art looks, the survey found. While the least creatively motivating feedback parents can provide is to tell kids their art looks good (22%), creating with parents or other family members (65%), having their art displayed (45%) and being recognized for the work involved (46%) were some of the most motivating actions.

"When we emphasize effort, process and thinking over outcomes, kids feel safer taking creative risks," said Cheri Sterman, senior director of education at Crayola. "Research – and kids themselves – are pointing us toward a more supportive way to nurture creativity in the age of AI."

Purposeful support from parents and teachers also helps to minimize speed bumps that may interfere with kids' creative growth. This belief is deeply personal with 8 in 10 parents polled admitting they wish the adults in their lives had done more to nurture their creativity when they were children.

Creativity is Essential to Future Success

In a world increasingly shaped by AI, parents recognize creativity as one of the few skills machines can't easily replicate with the majority of respondents (85%) agreeing that creativity equates to success for children in the future. In fact, creative individuals were viewed as stronger problem-solvers (49%), better communicators (35%) and more likely to succeed in their careers (34%) than non-creatives.

"As AI continues to insert itself into our lives, this study suggests that creativity won't disappear, but warns that nurturing it must be intentional," Sterman said. "For parents and educators, the challenge isn't resisting technology, but ensuring imagination, experimentation and original thinking remain central to how children grow up alongside it."

Find more ways to nurture creativity at [Crayola.com/CreativeMoments](#).

Everyday Moments of Creativity

Adults can nurture creativity by weaving simple, creative moments into daily routines. That belief is at the heart of efforts like Crayola's Create More Creative Moments [initiative](#), which has sparked conversations about why creativity matters and how it shapes children's future success.

Consider these kid-tested creative experiences to boost imagination and creative confidence:

- Sketch during an outdoor walk.
- Draw a new book cover.
- Make up a new ending to a story.
- Write new song lyrics.
- Plan meal theme nights and experiment with new recipes as a family.
- Turn errands into small games.
- Ask "what if...?" to help children imagine.

Recipes from the Heartland

The America's 250th Grange Workgroup is celebrating our country's 250th Anniversary by "throwing back" to some classic recipes from Grange cookbooks. Do you have favorite recipes that evoke the American spirit which you would like to see published again? Send them to Lew Gaskill at olgaskill@comcast.net. Please include which Grange cookbook your recipes come from.

This week's recipes are from
The Country Classics Cookbook - Boylston Grange #111, Boylston, Massachusetts (1993)

Sweet Salad

Courtesy of Helen Sauer
Millbury, MA

2 small cans mandarin oranges
1 medium can crushed pineapple
1 can condensed milk
1 can cherry pie filling
2 (8 oz) containers Cool Whip
(Optional) Fresh strawberries, blueberries, or raspberries

Drain mandarin oranges and pineapple and put in large bowl. Add condensed milk and stir carefully. Add cherry pie filling and Cool Whip and any optional ingredients. Stir; refrigerate.

Scrambled Egg Casserole

Courtesy of Marcia Hickory
Gen'l Rufas Putnam House B&B
Rutland, MA

2 Tablespoons butter
2 1/2 Tablespoons flour
2 cups milk
1/2 teaspoon salt
1/8 teaspoon pepper
1 cup American cheese, shredded

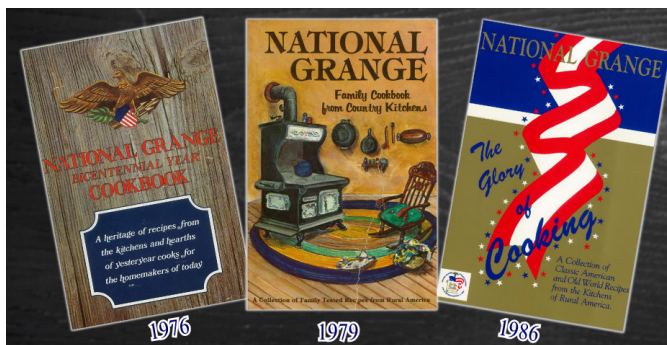
1 cup cubed ham
1/4 cup chopped green onion
3 Tablespoons melted butter
1 dozen eggs, beaten
4 ounces sliced mushrooms

Topping:

1/4 cup melted butter
2 1/4 cups breadcrumbs

Cheese sauce: Melt 2 Tablespoons butter; blend in flour and cook 1 minute. Gradually stir in milk; cook until thick. Add salt, pepper and cheese; stir until cheese melts. Set aside.

Sauté ham, onion and mushrooms in 3 Tablespoons butter until onion is tender. Add eggs and cook over medium heat until eggs are set. Stir in cheese sauce. Spoon eggs into greased 13x9-inch baking pan. Combine topping ingredients. Spread evenly over egg mixture. Cover; chill overnight. Uncover and bake at 350 degrees for 30 minutes.



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