



# "Whitepine Whispers"

News of Whitepine Grange #102

9 Faro Lane, Trout Creek, MT 59874

Published by Friends of Whitepine Grange

May 2024

## Observing the Original Memorial Day: May 30



**Thursday**

**May 30**

**7pm**

**Whitepine Cemetery**

The annual Memorial Day observance ceremony will be held at Whitepine Cemetery on Thursday, May 30, at 7pm. The ceremony features vocal music, specially prepared comments by military veterans, a formal flag ceremony, benediction, and the reading of names of more than 260 veterans who rest in Whitepine Cemetery. It concludes with TAPS, played by Roland Goertzen on his bugle.

### Have fun on the weekend...and then come and remember on May 30.

After the weekend barbecues, after the boats are launched for the season, after the sunburn and beer....it's time to observe the "real" Memorial Day on its originally intended date: May 30.

For decades, the "community" of Whitepine has held a traditional Memorial Day observance ceremony at Whitepine Cemetery every May 30. This was the date established at the start of it all, back in 1868, when Civil War General John Logan issued a "Memorial Day Order" proclaiming May 30 as Decoration Day. It was a day to honor the soldiers who had died in combat by decorating their graves with May flowers.

The name "Decoration Day" was formally changed by Congress in 1967 to "Memorial Day." It wasn't until 1968 that Congress passed the Uniform Monday Holiday Act, which established Memorial Day as the last Monday in May in order to create a three-day weekend for federal employees. When that happened, Memorial Day became commercialized and celebratory as the start of summer vacations. Much of the original sentiment and reason for Memorial Day was lost. It was, after all, created to be a day of mourning and honoring veterans who died in service to their country, not for retail sales and parties.

*Continued on page 3*

Get to know your state!

## From the Grangemaster:

# Bone up on the Treasure State

So how's your knowledge of Montana's working lands? Can you explain to someone how a grain elevator works? Can you name some cool-season crops? Warm-season crops? Ever heard of "pulse" crops? What's a "lamber"? Can you name the five most common trees you'll spot while driving around western Montana? Do you know what group places the white crosses along the roadways? Did you know there are roughly 150 nuclear missile silos in central Montana? What's a cow-calf operation? What makes "good" hay? What's a beaver-slide?

Lots of these facts and terms are foreign to our state's newcomers and, for that matter, to Montanans who've lived "citized" lives here in the Treasure State.

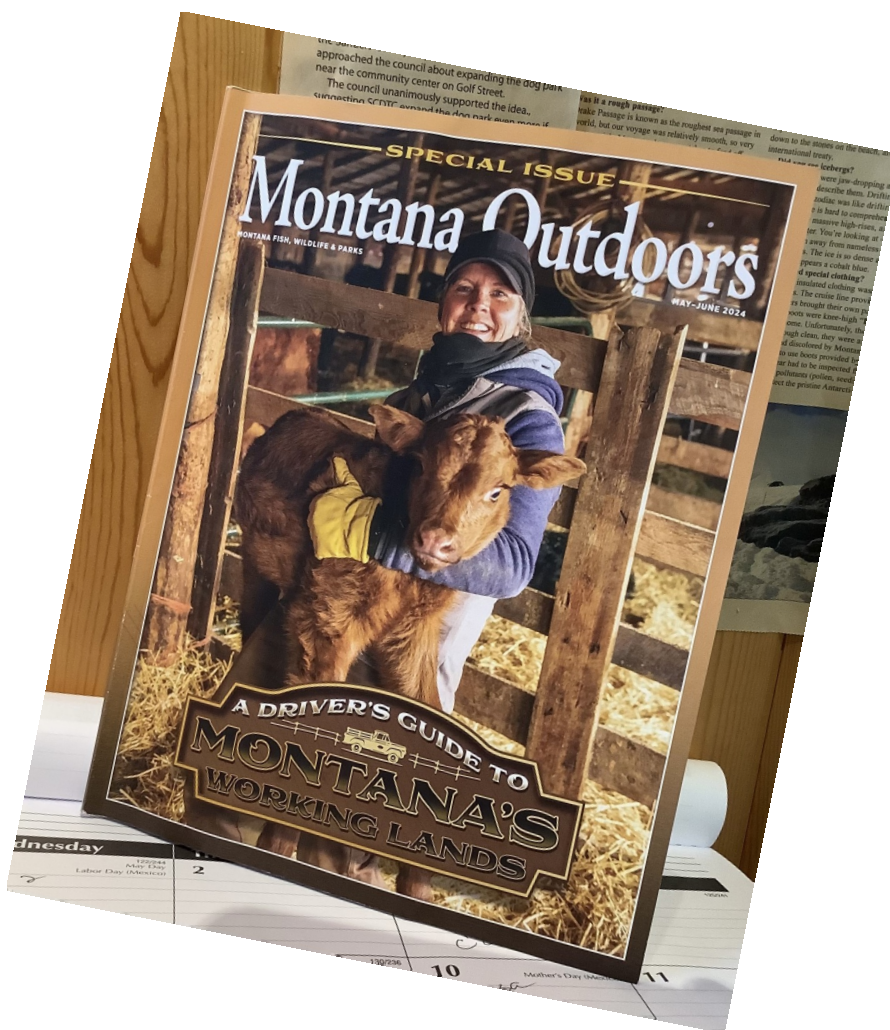
The Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks department has a published a delightful remedy to this lack of knowledge about Montana's economy and heritage. It's FWP's special issue of "Montana Outdoors," published for May-June of 2024.

"A Driver's Guide to Montana's Working Lands" is a beautiful color collage of information on what makes our state tick. The Table of Contents lists separate sections on crops, hay, reservations, livestock, logging, transportation, energy, semi-rural housing, and rural wildlife.

Whether you're a Montana native or a relatively new addition just getting to know the state, get yourself a copy of this issue. Go here and ask. FWP can even send you a digital copy on-line.



Jan Manning, Grangemaster



[montanafwp@announcements.mt.gov](mailto:montanafwp@announcements.mt.gov)

WHITEPINE GRANGE (406) 827-0102

# May 30 observance

*Continued from page 1*

The Whitepine community, however, has held fast to the original intent and has for decades held a service at the cemetery on May 30 of each year. One week prior to the date, volunteers from Whitepine Church gather at the cemetery to place wooden crosses and flags on the graves of every military veteran buried there, whether they died in service or not. The registry now lists more than 260 veterans at rest in the beautiful cemetery, some of whom date back to WW1.



Perhaps one of the oldest and most mysterious names on record is that of a young Army private named Stark Pancake. Although local historians have tried to research his roots, no one has been successful in learning the story of this veteran.

The general public is invited to attend and participate in the May 30 service at Whitepine Cemetery. It starts at 7pm and will be held under cover if weather is inclement. If you've never been to this event, you will enjoy it and find satisfaction in knowing how the Whitepine community has worked to honor the memory of area veterans especially on May 30 of each year.



## Whitepine Grange May Schedule

*Dates and activities are subject to change.*

- Fri., May 3 Men's Fitness, 4pm
- Mon., May 6 Functional Fitness, 9:30am
- Wed., May 8 "On the Ball," 9am
- Wed., May 8 Rough & Rowdy, 10:30am
- Wed., May 8 Rally Drop-in, 1pm
- Fri., May 10 Men's Fitness 4pm
- Wed., May 15 "On the Ball," 9am
- Wed., May 15 Rough & Rowdy, 10:30am
- Wed., May 15 Rally Drop-in, 1pm
- Fri., May 17 Men's Fitness, 4pm
- Mon., May 20 Functional Fitness, 9:30am
- Wed., May 22 "On the Ball," 9am
- Wed., May 22 Rough & Rowdy, 10:30am
- Wed., May 22 Rally Drop-in, 1pm
- Fri., May 24 Men's Fitness, 4pm
- Mon., May 27 Functional Fitness, 9:30am
- Tues., May 28 Grange meeting/Memorial Day
- Wed., May 29 "On the Ball," 9am
- Wed., May 29 Rough & Rowdy, 10:30am
- Wed., May 29 Rally Drop-in, 1pm
- Fri., May 31 Men's Fitness, 4pm

### The Grange:

*"Strengthening individuals, families and communities through service, education, nonpartisan grassroots advocacy and agricultural awareness."*

## Olive Branch Herbal Medicine is coming to town!

June 14 & 15, 2024

White Pine Grange, 9 Faro Lane  
Trout Creek, MT

Olivia is from the farthest reaches of N. Idaho and travels to teach. Last year she taught her 2-day class every weekend for 7 months in many Northern Western and Southern Western states. She is limiting her time this year but has agreed to travel to our town to teach as many as want to learn how to become herbally self-sufficient within our own area.



This is a rare opportunity to attend this 2-day class. She caters the class around the plants in our area and teaches so we have a better understanding of what is available and how to use them. She also teaches how to understand which plants you need for what ails you and the most potent of those plants. First day is a classroom setting where you can be prepared to have your minds blown! Second day is a field trip where she will have already scouted out for 2 days before class time. We will learn to identify and gather various medicinal plants available in our area. You will touch, taste, smell and become acquainted with the various plants. Returning to the classroom, you will get hands on experience making tinctures & cough syrup. We will get to make Olivia's famous Olive Tea (which is consumed around the world) and drink heartily.

The link below will answer many of your questions. Register here:

<https://forms.gle/djCdijk6dHVpmT1BA>

*Olivia also does private property walk-throughs (while she's in our area).*

*Contact her for further information and available dates.*

## Fitness Classes take a summer break, but you should not!

Whitepine Grange's "Functional Fitness" classes are taking a break for the summer. Now it's time to use that fitness to enjoy outdoor activities like gardening, hiking, swimming and lawn sports.

Functional Fitness classes will start up again in the fall; watch for announcements. These classes meet at least once a week and involve one hour of gentle cardio, strength training, agility and balance, all set to popular music. Most of the attendees are women wanting to remain active in their senior years. One of the greatest aspects of the class is the socializing that takes place before and after each class. Friendships have formed, renewed and strengthened in this mutually supportive group.

Remember to keep fitness and physical movement a part of your daily routine this summer. Those summer activities are not a substitute for regular cardio and strength training. Cutting firewood, clearing brush and pruning trees are your "extra" activities, made possible by maintaining a regular exercise routine. Find half an hour every morning or evening to devote to moving your body in calculated routines that will help prevent injuries when you do the "fun stuff."

- *Movement is the best medicine.*
- *Exercise is the Fountain of Youth.*
- *Exercise dramatically decreases your chances of developing diseases and cognitive decline.*
- *Set a healthy example for others you care about.*
- *No excuses! Anyone can improve their lives by getting their bodies back in motion.*
- *Exercise is more effective than antidepressant meds.*
- *You are worth it!*

## Twelve-year-old Tristyn treats Grange members to amazing martial arts demo



At the Grange members' monthly meeting in April, Tristyn Campbell treated an eager audience to his demonstration of two forms of martial arts using a "bo staff" (fighting stick) and nunchakas, aka nunchucks. Tristyn has been training in karate and other disciplines for about five years. His parents are Grange members Craig and Melissa Campbell of Thompson Falls.

## Gym for Gents

A men's fitness class at  
Whitepine Grange

**Every Friday 4-5pm**

Instructor:

**Francois Comunetti**

*Author, Judo Sensei, Fitness Expert*



This class is for any men who want to maintain their fitness level or get back into shape.

Seniors welcome and encouraged.

No charge, but donations to Whitepine Grange accepted

**For more info, call Francois: (406) 827-4397**

*Whitepine Grange is on the corner of Hwy 200 & Fero Lane, near MM38, between Thompson Falls & Trout Creek*

# Yard Sale items wanted!

One of the biggest annual fund-raisers for Whitepine Grange is the yard sale we hold on Sanders County Yard Sale-ing Weekend. We need good items, so please clean out your garages and closets and bring us your good stuff.

**This year the Grange sale will be on SATURDAY ONLY, June 29.** It'll be indoors, protected from sweltering sun or bothersome rain.

We invite you to donate your gently used (or new) items of quality. You can deliver them to the Grange any time between now and June 27. If no one is there, just leave your boxes on the front porch and they will be taken care of.

**PLEASE.....no books, no clothing (unless it's high value vintage), no rusty frying pans or broken spatulas. We do NOT want to have to haul a bunch of stuff to the dump or back to a thrift store when all is said and done. Our resources of time and volunteers to do this are limited.**

This will be another "FREE" sale—in other words, shoppers can choose what they want and leave a donation. The Grange is currently raising funds to purchase a new refrigerator, as our old one is on its last legs. Your participation—through donated items and through shopping with us—will insure that we get that new fridge before the ice cream melts!



## Highway Cleanup crew comes through again

Each year Whitepine Grange members get together for a litter cleanup on HWY 200 between mileposts 48 and 50. It's part of our community service, and we always have a good crowd of volunteers turn out for the affair. This year was no exception, with 14 Grange members showing up to help with the project.



Bill Beck brought his dog Brandy along as a helper.

Volunteers included Carrie Greene, Bill Beck, Serena Pearson, Patty English, Susan



Carrie Greene patrols the shoulder of Hwy 200.

McFarland, Tom and Debbie Mason, Guy Engebretson, Jan Manning, Christine Munday, Sharon Thompson, David Yeargin, and Bill and Shirley Gilchrist.

Those who've done this in the past know how enjoyable it is, especially when weather cooperates as it did for us on our clean-up day of April 20. The new folks who showed up this year also commented on how surprisingly fun it was.

Watch for announcements of our next highway cleanup, which will probably be in April 2025 unless someone loses a garbage bag between Mileposts 48 and 50 before then.

(Photos courtesy of Debbie Mason.)

# Wilderness First Aid Class Certification

## Class coming to Whitepine Grange

Are you a hunter, hiker, camper or do you just love the outdoors and to travel? Join us for this Basic Wilderness First Aid Course. The Basic Wilderness First Aid (BWFA) course will help you prepare for the unexpected. This fast paced, hands-on training is designed to meet the needs of outdoor enthusiasts and individuals working in remote locations. It will introduce you to caring for people who become ill or injured far from any medical care. Classroom lectures and demonstrations are combined with realistic scenarios. Book is not included or required but can be purchased in advance from Amazon or [www.nasar.org](http://www.nasar.org) No refunds, please see policy on website. If you don't require the certification, please reach out directly @ [montanahealthandsafety@gmail.com](mailto:montanahealthandsafety@gmail.com) we can offer a few seats at a reduced fee without certification. Please bring lunch, snacks and drinks.

## RENT THE GRANGE FOR YOUR EVENT

Great for kids' parties, classes, meetings, dinners, sew days, etc.

Whitepine Grange has a full kitchen, WiFi and large-screen TV all included in the rental fees as low as \$50 . Contact [whitepinegrange@gmail.com](mailto:whitepinegrange@gmail.com) Or call the Grange, 406-827-0102.



## BASIC WILDERNESS FIRST AID

TROUT CREEK, MT



**JUNE 4TH, 2024 IN  
TROUT CREEK, MT  
9 AM TO 5:30 PM**

This is the 8-hour Basic Wilderness First Aid Certification from NASAR. This course will provide you with a strong foundation in First Aid. Including: splinting, assessment, transporting, bandaging, CPR refresher and much more! Register via website by May 30th.



**\$135 WITH  
CERTIFICATION**

CONTACT US: 406-314-7024  
[www.montanahealthandsafety.com](http://www.montanahealthandsafety.com)

### Whitepine Grange #102 Officers 2024

**President:**

Jan Manning

**Vice-President:**

Carolyn Nesbitt

**Secretary:**

Patty English

**Treasurer:**

Dona Pope

**Executive Committee:**

Gene Pope , Debbie Mason, Tricia Cottrell

# Join Whitepine Grange today!

*For yourself, your family, your rural neighbors & community!*

## MEMBERSHIP TYPES - Check Box

Individual Membership: \$35/year       Family Membership: \$70/year

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Birth \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email (please print clearly) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
What are your hobbies? (so we can plan programs of interest to you and maybe utilize your expertise) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**For Family Memberships:**

Spouse/Partner's Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Birth \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
Email (please print clearly) \_\_\_\_\_  
Children:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Birth \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Birth \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Birth \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Birth \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

### Seven winning reasons to join Whitepine Grange:

- Build a support network with your rural neighbors.
- Great monthly programs on topics of local interest.
- Family friendly activities like potlucks, parties, dances and Bingo.
- Community service projects like highway cleanup, the dictionary program, Family & Friends shut-in outreach, and military care packages.
- Exercise classes for all ages.
- A gathering place for neighbors.
- Your membership dollars help pay for upgrades and maintenance for this historic building. Whitepine Grange was chartered in 1938. The building was constructed in 1961. In 2023 the Grange is still going strong! Join Whitepine Grange #102 and become part of its long, wonderful story!



Please make checks to "Whitepine Grange #102"  
Return this form, with payment, to any Whitepine Grange officer, or mail to:

Whitepine Grange #102  
PO Box 1313  
Trout Creek, MT 59874