

MARYJANES FARM®

Sister Issue

October 2014

With some
added pluck,

we came up with this easy way to click (er, cluck) your way back to the farm in between magazine issues. As with any nesting hen, we prefer to accomplish our work with regularity. That's why, if you're an official member of **MaryJane's Farmgirl Sisterhood**, our Sister Issue (formerly **MaryJane's CLUCK**) will be showing up in your e-mail box on the first day of every month (well, except for January, because we head henchos take a much-needed break every December). With a cluck-cluck here and a click-click there, we're here for you just when you need a sisterly cyber hug the most. Let the braggin' (er, clucking) begin!

Life made us
FRIENDS,
MaryJanesFarm
made us
SISTERS



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{ just a click away! }



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Sister Loves

{ staff picks ... only a click away! }

What girl doesn't love to shop, even if all you can afford is some window shopping? Here's where we treat ourselves and our readers to the things we love most. Come shop with us! Our favorites are only a click away.



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Carol



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Hello from Sister #1



Every Sister Has A Story

This month's featured Sister is anything BUT a random pick. Please welcome Sandi O'Connor to our **Outpost round-up**, where she'll join me for camping + glamour crafting, travel, outside décor, and the occasional outdoor recipe. I figure you just can't have enough reasons to get out the door and explore. Sandi is an accomplished glamer, having traveled extensively in her T@B trailer, now towing her more recent upgrade, an Airstream. When you come across Sandi out and about, put on the coffeepot.

What are the three things you are most proud of in your life?

I am most proud of my two wonderful daughters who have blossomed into such caring, thoughtful women. Both are extremely talented and productive in their own fields. I feel extremely blessed and honored to be their mom! I guess the other thing I'm proud of is the wonderful life my husband and I have created and share together. We're best friends, enjoy much together, and have wonderful adventures in our new Airstream!

What does your future life look like?

We love to have conversations about where our life will take us, and after downsizing our current lifestyle, hope to spend a lot of time on the road traveling our wonderful country. We don't know where our "base camp" of home will be yet. I've always thought it's great to live in different places. After we got our first travel trailer, I think we got the traveling gypsy bug!

What traditions have been passed down in your family?

Traditions in our family seem to last for a while, then morph into something else that accommodates each individual and where they are in life. As my daughters are now on their own (one married), we have to "share" them with their new families and situations. I like that our being together always allows a trip back down memory lane and do something we've always done (like putting a clothespin dressed up like Miss Piggy on our Christmas tree), but also lets us start new traditions with the newer members of the family.

What's a good book you've read lately?

I absolutely love Susan Branch's newest book, *A Fine Romance: Falling in Love with the English Countryside*.



Every Sister Has a Story

She published her journal from her last trip to England with the love of her life, Joe. I went to a book review and met her and Joe, and felt they are the most down-to-earth people on the planet. Susan is so talented, and I've always loved her charming artwork. The trip she writes about is just an added plus to this very personal work. I'm also reading Eleanor Roosevelt's autobiography, which gives a very interesting look into a time gone by.

What about you makes you smile?

I'm not even sure how to answer that; I guess I need to work on it!

What would you do with a million-dollar check, coming to you all in one fell swoop from an anonymous donor?

Oh, everyone's dream! I have a magnet from a dear friend that says, "Please Lord, let me prove I can handle a lottery win!" Of course, I'd pay off all my bills; at this point in our lives, we'd take an early retirement and put away money for our grown children's futures; then I would explore philanthropic paths.

What person has helped you most in life?

I would have to say the person who has helped me most in life is not just one person. My girlfriends that rallied around me and shored me up during my darkest times are the people who've helped me the most. I don't think there are very many bonds stronger than a good friend, and few jump right in when help is needed like they do. They may come in and out of our lives, but I like to think of them as angels sent when we need them the most!

If today was your day for show 'n' tell, what would you bring to share?

My show and tell would be our wonderful Airstream trailer. I love everything about this big silver trailer. I would show you how efficiently I've stuffed all the cupboards and what pretty accessories I have on hand. One of my camping friends, after touring my trailer said, "You could host a class reunion, or at best a small wedding, out of that trailer!" That makes me smile!

What's one thing about you few people know?

I tend to internalize a lot and am not good at sharing! There is probably a lot people don't know about me.

What are three things that show up most on your to-do list?

I'm a list maker; my lists have lists! I think several things appear on my daily lists, but most common is my schedule for that day, any special things I need to do or remember, and a reminder to be ever grateful! I have several different "jobs" for employment and they are all unstructured, so they don't fall at the same time or day of the week. Lists keep me sane!



Mary Jane 



Big welcome to our new and renewing Sisterhood members!

Adrienne Hutson
Amy Hughes
Amy McIntire
Anna Cook
Ashley Montague
Becca Killion
Becky Lorentz
Becky Zajac
Beki Hancox
Beverly Raab
Carla Crawford
Chirstine Holmes
Christi Clay
Christina Hudson
Cindi Johnson
Cindy Kinion
Colleen Gotori
Connie Lowe
Dawn LaFollett
Dawn Keig
Debora Carr
Debra Shanler
Denise Meister
Diane Rathje
Donna Howe
Donna Lees-Kennedy

Elaine Drane
Elaine Vaughan
Elizabeth Landin
Elizabeth Thomas
Emily Race
Fiona FixMitchell
Gilda A. Feuerlein
Irene Magee
Jamie Balam
Jeanne Betters
Jennifer Black
Jenny Jensvold
Jill Smithson
Jill Howard
Jo Anne Cox
Joyce Himebaugh
Joyce Brabner
Joyce Ward
Judy Mills
Kammie Reile
Karla Hendricks
Katherine Phillips
Kathryn Saucedo
Kati Stumph
Kelly Jansen
Kelly Bockmon

Keyla Gonzalez
Kim Honeycutt
Kimberley Bartholomew
Kimberly Nelson
Kristi Groth
Kristie Norwood
Lara Falcone
Larie Cifaratta
Larna Hively
Laura Kitchings
Lauren Trank
Linda Weatherly
Linda Ledue
Lisa Livingston
Lisa Englefireld
Lisa Raboud
Luanne Bailey
Lulu Miceli
Lynn Boehmer
Marge Bachman
Marina Logsdon
Marsha Jaramillo
Mary DeStaffany
Mary Ann Davis
Melissa Wagner
Pamela Sanford

Paula Ryan
Priscilla McGee
Rain Klepper
Rosemarie Thompson
Sandra McKinnon
Sandra Gold
Sandy Thomas
Sara Nevill
Scarlett Winters
Sharon Demers
Shelley Solace
Sheri Lynn Simmons
Stefanie Hoffman
Stephania Papi
Sue Feely
Suzie Bland
Tally Gordon
Tami Cole
Tammi Lexa
Tara Layne
Teresa Cochran
Terri Metzler
Tina Lemke

“A true friend
reaches for your
hand and touches
your heart.”

— Author Unknown

“ True friends are like
bright sunflowers that
never fade away, even
over distance and time.”

– Marie Williams Johnstone



Each Other



In the Shelter of Each Other



{EACH OTHER} with Megan Rae | to earn a Sisterhood badge in our {EACH OTHER} category, [CLICK HERE](#)



Megan Rae (Sister #2) grew up “on the farm”—MaryJanesFarm. She attended Gonzaga University and received a bachelor’s degree in Journalism. After marrying her college sweetheart, they moved to Kansas and bought their first home on a cobblestone street. Her love for writing, editing, and well, her Mom, finally brought her back to the farm. Raising her 7-year-old and 5-year-old farmgirls and working alongside her husband, mother, and family is the perfect lifestyle mix for Megan. She rounds it out with travel across the country to visit her five dearest college girlfriends who she loves with all her heart (they’ve all been in each other’s weddings), and one of her favorite farmgirls that she met when she lived in Kansas (scheduled around working the cows, of course).

Thanksgiving Table Runner

It’s that time of year again ... well, it shouldn’t be, but coordinating extended family for the upcoming seasonal festivities is no small task, and that means I start thinking holidays, oh, right about *now*. October is also my birthday month, so in my mind, the holidays actually do begin with my own celebration. ☺

As I began kindling my holiday spirit, I noticed that we had a pile of leftover fabric from our fall craft party featured in the “Kneading Time” Oct/Nov issue of the magazine. Sometimes I peruse the fabric-store shelves and find one or two fabrics (kind of like antiquing), and other days, I am so inspired I could buy entire bolts without even a single project on the horizon! Needless to say, the fabric we used for our fall crafts fell into the latter category. So, what was a girl to do with the leftovers?

Well, we’ve invited family to our place for Thanksgiving this year, and I didn’t have a table runner. Are you thinking what I was thinking? Scraps to the rescue! With a little handiwork, a bunch of 14" leftover strips became the perfect runner, connected by a binding and backing. The strips were different widths, so the table runner ended up just under 8' long. It hangs nicely over our table now and will work like a charm when we add the extra leaves. Plus, it will lend a lovely autumn ambiance to our dining room until it’s time to exchange it for the Christmas runner. Ready to host!

Meg





Sister Loves

{ our favorites ... just a click away! }

Kristi's
PICKS
(JUST A CLICK AWAY)



MAIL-ART MAVEN
(SISTER #4314)

Fall is the perfect time to sport my most beloved wardrobe accoutrement, the cardigan. It slips so easily over my standard jeans and t-shirt and is sometimes simply a work of art in itself. Here are a few of my favorites to keep you warm.

You can visit Kristi's picks by clicking on the photos.



National Geographic



Pilland



National Geographic



DenisesKnits



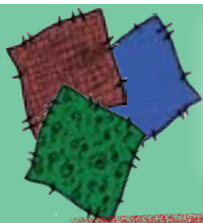
Pilland



Sierra Trading Post



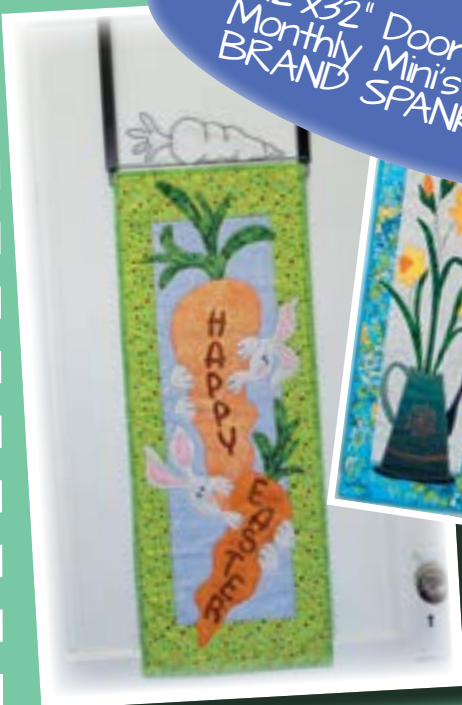
ModCloth



Patch Abilities, Inc.

Refreshingly "do-able" mini quilts

12"x32" Door Banners
Monthly Mini's Series #7
BRAND SPANKIN' NEW!!!!



12"x14" minis conveniently
display on a table stand
(choose from over 36
designs)



What makes our patterns "refreshingly do-able"???

- small projects easily finish in 1 day!
- use fusible applique method - so easy peasy, you don't have to be an experienced quilter - beginner friendly
- applique stitching IS the quilting - no additional quilting necessary
- so affordable - patterns retail at \$7-9 each & over 130 designs to choose from.
- hangers & embellishments available with each pattern.

6"x22" long skinny minis
decorate ANY slim wall
(over 100 seasonal designs
to choose from! Yowza)



These are just a sprinkle
of our many many patterns
available. Hop onto our website
for a full product view:



www.ackfeldwire.com
(888-272-3135)

www.patchabilities.com
or call to request a catalog: 563-778-2101



Each Other



Don't Let Your Babies Grow Up to Be Mamas

{EACH OTHER} with Melyssa Williams | to earn a Sisterhood badge in our {EACH OTHER} category, [CLICK HERE](#)



Melyssa Williams (Sister #161) was homeschooled and spent a perfectly ridiculous amount of time reading and writing, usually in a tree, sometimes with pet chickens. Now she stays out of trees, but still reads and writes. There are three small fry in her house that refer to her as Mom, and keeping in tradition, she puts them in trees with good books. She is the author of the *Shadows* trilogy for Young Adults, and can be reached at ShadowsGray.com.

A Dapper Boy Have I

So the man cub has morphed from Dirty Goat Boy (Don't ask. Okay, okay, I'll tell you. He's a boy because he's dirty. Or is he dirty because he's a boy? Anyway, the goat part comes into play because he used to faint a lot as a baby and a toddler, and once we got over the weird, scary aspect of it, his auntie took to calling him a Fainting Goat Boy) into a dapper, jaunty little gentleman lately. This is because his daddy squirted him with cologne a couple weeks ago before church, and told him, "All the girls will find you irresistible now. They won't be able to stop kissing and hugging you."

You'd think, wouldn't you, that he would have found this gross, since he is 6, not 16, but nope ... a sparkle came into his brown eyes the likes of which I'd never seen.

He sidled up to me, right under my nose. When I stared blankly at him, he waggled his eyebrows suggestively.

And Daddy was right! I couldn't stop kissing and hugging him.

The problem now is two-fold:

1. He won't stop applying it. It's a little much for a wee boy. You can smell him coming a mile away. I keep hiding it. He keeps finding it. It could burn the enamel right off your teeth and melt your contact lenses. And his eyebrow waggling begins anew and with endless passion.
2. I used to be attracted to it. Because my man wore it. On special occasions. You know? For kissing and hugging? And now it smells like my son. I'm confused.

And lest you worry about him becoming a dandy, a well-coiffed boy with a European shoulder bag ... don't fret. He still won't bathe.

Which makes the cologne even harder to swallow. Because now it's Mountain Breeze mixed with wet chickens mixed with dirt mixed with graham crackers mixed with ranch dressing.

So, a dandy he is not. Dapper, he is. A dapper rake. Women, hold back your daughters!



Sister Loves

{ our favorites ... just a click away! }

Carol's
PICKS
(JUST A CLICK AWAY)



GRAPHIC DESIGNER,
UKULELE ENTHUSIAST
(SISTER #3)

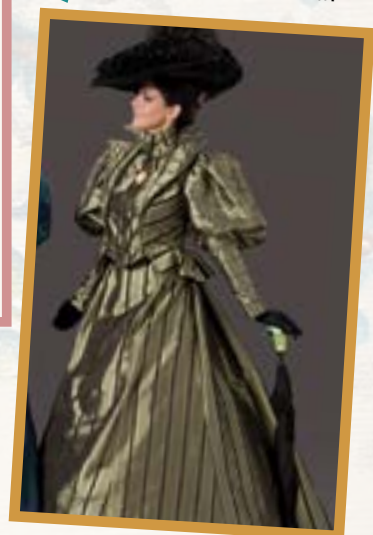
If you haven't discovered **Victorian Trading Co.**, you're in for a treat! Their stunning catalog is a mix of "nouveau Victorian gifts and collectibles," everything from greeting cards to home décor to seasonal kitsch to sumptuous Victorian furniture. And the clothing ... things to make a modern-girl's fancy long for the days of Downton Abbey. I've dreamed about splurging on one of their dresses for years, and when I got the latest catalog, the perfect dress nearly jumped off the page and into my wardrobe. (Did I mention that they have a wide selection of plus-size clothing, too, as well as period-perfect, wildly extravagant costumes from days gone by?) The wait's over. This time, I'm ordering that dress. And I won't worry that it's "butter upon bacon" ... I think it's rather "bang up to the elephant," and I'll be "afternoonified" for any occasion. (Figure out what all that means and find more delightful Victorian sayings [here](#).)



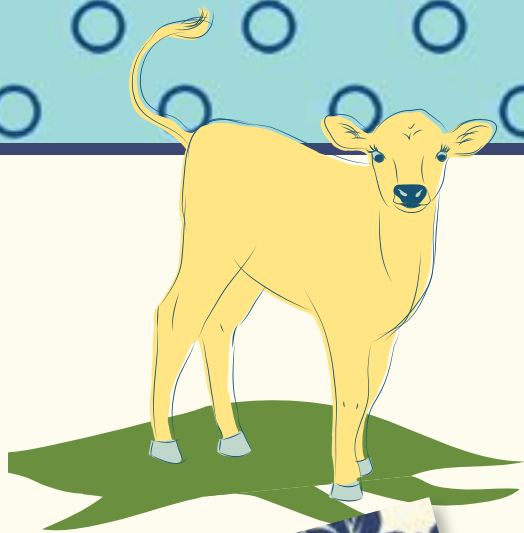
This is the one I'm buying!



How about a Gibson Girl costume, just in time for that gala Halloween ball?



You can visit Carol's picks by clicking on the photos.



moda MILK COW KITCHEN

FABRIC by Mary Jane ♥

With every purchase of my Milk Cow Kitchen fabric (available at MaryJanesFarm.org), we'll include a free copy of the 58" x 72" milk-can quilt pattern shown below. You'll find a list of the fabric you'll need to make the quilt under the fabric's product description. The first person to send a photo of their finished Milk Cow Kitchen quilt to iris@maryjanesfarm.org will get a free copy of my latest book, *Milk Cow Kitchen*.

For a video tutorial that shows how to turn my Milk Cow Kitchen fabric into an adorable kitchen towel, go to YouTube.com and type in "Fat Quarter Shop hanging hand towel." My fabric is also available at FatQuarterShop.com and your local quilt shop.

DON'T DELAY! SUPPLIES ARE LIMITED.

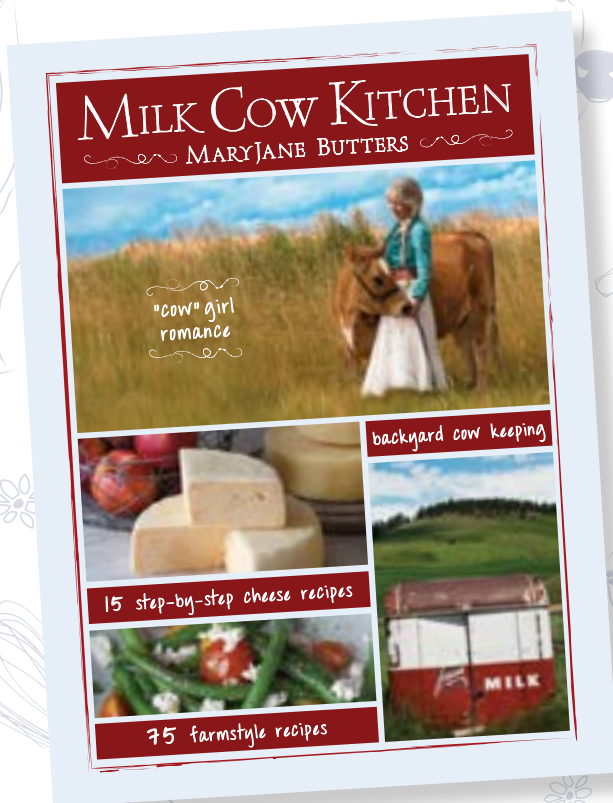




“In her fifth book, MaryJane covers just about everything cows and dairy. If you can make it past the food and cheese recipes without needing to eat, you’re a better “cow”girl than I. But the real gem of the book is the hooves-up, how-to advice on keeping a healthy, happy, backyard cow. Whether you’re a city-dweller or country gal, longtime cow-owner or recently ruminating on the idea of adding a cow to your life, I promise you have something you can learn from *Milk Cow Kitchen*. ”

– Laurel Bake, Dexter milk cow owner

MILK COW KITCHEN



My recipe for moo-cow love is 400 pages long with more than 1,100 photos that guide you through 75 fuss-free, farmstyle recipes, in addition to 15 step-by-step, super-simple cheese-making recipes that *really* work, plus how-to details for keeping a pet milk cow on your suburban half acre, a backyard lot in town ... or at least the fantasy of a someday cow grazing outside your kitchen window.

MaryJane



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October 2014

autographed copies available at
MaryJanesFarm.org

\$35/available wherever good books are sold

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“The recipe section of the book is chock-full of easy-peasy milk and cheese recipes, topped off with a ton of meals to make with your freshly homemade dairy goods. And the pictures—oh my, the pictures! ”

backyard cow keeping how-to
75 farmstyle recipes
15 step-by-step cheese recipes
milk cow décor



“Eye candy extraordinaire! But, there’s more to it than that. This is the first book I’ve found that really tells you HOW to “have a cow” without having a full-fledged farm ... and there are oodles of recipes, including 15 cheese recipes that I’m dying to try—even before I bring home a cow! ”



“Part coffee-table book with gorgeous photography and beautiful cows, part cookbook with step-by-step instructions on making nearly any kind of cheese you can think of, and part how-to manual on buying/raising/milking a cow, this book is an invaluable reference for anyone considering raising milk cows ... or living vicariously through those who do! ”



Sister Loves

{ our favorites ... just a click away! }



MARYJANE
CEO (QUEEN BEE)

In the spirit of the harvest, and with fond memories of stringing kernels of corn into little-girl necklaces, I thought I'd see what modern jewelry-makers were doing with natural seeds and nuts. All around the world, from the Andes to Latvia (I'll admit I had to resort to Google maps for that one; how about you?), Etsy women are using the bounty of the season to make interesting, beautiful adornments like those pictured here. Gather your seeds, ladies, and try your hand at a new twist on seed saving!



Gofenshefer

earrings from Job's tears seeds and sliced nut shells



DRAADdesign

bracelet made from acorn caps with copper paint



AndivaAugenglueck

earrings made from silk cocoons



ArtisansInTheAndes

coffee beans and tagua nut bead bracelet



ArcherOrganics

peach pit bracelet



LinBerSa

eucalyptus seed pod necklace



seed pods,
fruit pits,
seeds and
wooden bead
necklace

MostlySarah

You can visit
MaryJane's picks
by clicking on
the photos.

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October 2014

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Flavoring Extracts Clays Wax Bitters Elixirs
& Syrups Herbal Sprays Capsules Lozenges
Extracts & Tinctures Balms Herbal Oils Bath
Products Facial Care Babies & Children Hair
Care Bodycare Massage Oils Bags Bottles Tin
Jars Spice Bottles & Jars Books & Entertain
ment Mountain Rose Merchandise Pet Supplies

ORGANIC

HERBS, SPICES, TEAS, & HERBAL SUNDRIES

Bulk Herbs & Spices Epicurean Organics Resins
& Burnables Culinary Oils Seaweeds Culinary
Salts Sprouting Seeds Peppercorns Seasoning
Blends Flowering Tea Black Tea Tea Accessories
& Infusers Green & White Tea Tea Pots, Presses
& Mugs Herbal Tea Red Tea Diffusers & Burn
ers Aroma Sprays Essential Oils Aroma Oil
Blends Hydrosols Candles Kits & Samplers

Each Other



Homeschooling with Melyssa



{EACH OTHER} with Melyssa Williams | to earn a Sisterhood badge in our {EACH OTHER} category, [CLICK HERE](#)



Melyssa Williams (Sister #161) was homeschooled and spent a perfectly ridiculous amount of time reading and writing, usually in a tree, sometimes with pet chickens. Now she stays out of trees, but still reads and writes. There are three small fry in her house that refer to her as Mom, and keeping in tradition, she puts them in trees with good books. She is the author of the *Shadows* trilogy for Young Adults, and can be reached at ShadowsGray.com.

Why Homeschooled Ballerinas Rock

Once upon a time, there were two homeschooled ballerinas.

It's pretty hard to imagine just how hip they were. Homeschooled AND ballerinas. In the '80s. YES, PLEASE.

Anyway, when you're even half as cool as we ~~were~~ are, things just come easily. Like for instance, six months ago, Lil' Sis gave me something from her musical player thingy. I think the kids call it an MP3 player?

Or an iPod? iPad? SmartPhone? Well, some such nonsense. (She doesn't know what it is either. I think it came free with her phone or something.)

"Make it play music," she says.

"Sure thing," says I, full of confidence and bravado. "Hubby, make this magical thing that looks like a tiny fashion plate from my old Barbie Fashion Plates, play music, k? K."

Hubby barely glances at it. "No can do. The SD card is empty."

I narrow my eyes at his mumbo jumbo. "Say what now? What about South Dakota?"

Hubby sighs, and sets aside his sandwich. He steeples his fingers together and looks at me patiently in his best Yoda impression. "Inside your fashion plate, there's another fashion plate. Like a card?"

"Like an ace of spades?"

Dramatic groan. "Like a computer chip, dear."





"I like chips." I wriggle my eyebrows.

"Never mind. Tell her she gave us an empty card."

"Who put who in the what now?"

face plants into his sandwich

So obviously, technology is dumb, and instead of sending back a full whatevertheheckthatwas, I am just sending her some cassette tapes of Vanilla Ice.

Cuz we're just that cool.





Farm Kitchen

Where the Cookin' Begins!



{ FARM KITCHEN } with Ashley Ogle | to earn a Sisterhood badge in our { FARM KITCHEN } category, [CLICK HERE](#)



Ashley Ogle (Sister #2222) was born and raised in northern Idaho, and has always had an intense interest in anything kitchen. Shortly after marrying MaryJane's son, Brian, at the historic one-room schoolhouse his grandfather attended, Brian and Ashley moved back to the farm and began renovating the 1890 farmhouse that both Brian and his grandmother grew up in. And in keeping with tradition, they're raising their family in the same house (two little girls: Adria, 4, and Alina, 1).

Ashley works at MaryJanesFarm as a recipe developer/food stylist, and now spends each day inventing and preparing the delicious food you see in our magazines, books, and websites.

Hummus

My whole family loves hummus. We habitually buy large tubs and fly through them in no time. One night, in the middle of one of our frenzied dipping sessions, I had the inspired idea that sweet potatoes would be a great addition to hummus. Knowing that hummus had to be a simple dip to prepare, and with the idea that we could save some money and flex our creative cooking muscles, I put on my apron and set to the task. It turns out, I was right. We enthusiastically ate through my tester batch, and after that, I began thinking of all the other wonderful flavors of hummus I could whip up. It's such a simple and fun dish to make that I can't wait to make more! My next trial? Roasted garlic and rosemary hummus.

Sweet Potato Hummus

Prep Time: 15 minutes, plus 30 minutes cooling time

Cook Time: 1 1/2 hours

Makes: about 3 cups

- 1 sweet potato (about 14 ozs or 1 1/3 cups)
- 1 15-oz can garbanzo beans, rinsed and drained (about 1 3/4 cups)
- 1/3 cup tahini
- 1/3 cup lemon juice (about 2 1/2 lemons)
- 2 T olive oil
- 1 1/4 t salt
- 1/4 t cinnamon
- 1/8 t ground nutmeg

1. Preheat oven to 400°F.
2. Wrap sweet potato in foil and place on a baking sheet. Bake for 1 1/2 hours, or until fork tender. Remove from foil and cool for 30 minutes.
3. Remove skin from sweet potato and discard (you will have about 1 1/3 cups sweet potato flesh). Add sweet potato, garbanzo beans, tahini, lemon juice, olive oil, salt, cinnamon, and nutmeg to a food processor or blender; blend until smooth.
4. Transfer to an airtight container and refrigerate until ready to use.





Outpost

Unleashing Your Inner Wild



{OUTPOST} with MaryJane | to earn a Sisterhood badge in our {OUTPOST} category, [CLICK HERE](#)

Campfire Coffee for the Modern Cowgirl

Thankfully, the rampant ruckus of modern living has not yet managed to snuff out the romance of campfire coffee. Just saying the name stirs notions of wood smoke, wall tents, and wild places. Campfire coffee has been the staple of many an outpost throughout history and has even inspired verse, such as this nostalgic excerpt from cowboy poet Charles Badger Clark's "Old Camp Coffee Pot."

*I hear the stir of horses' hoofs,
The solemn challenge of the owl,
The wind song on the piny height,
The lilt of rain on canvas roofs,
The far-off coyote's hungry howl,
And all the camp sounds of the night.
They rise—a thousand things like these—
From you, old well of memories.*

*Our fires are dead on hill and plain
And old camp faces lost and gone,
But yet we two are left, old friend.
And as the summers bloom and wane
May I meet you at dusk and dawn
By many fires before the end,
And drink to you in nectar hot
From your black throat, old coffee-pot.*

Alas, there are **a few good reasons** why women of a certain maturity (*ahem*) shouldn't guzzle coffee, but that doesn't mean we have to cast our cowgirl dreams to the wind. No, ma'am! Like any smart and resourceful frontierswoman, we simply have to find an alternative that meets our needs and pleases our palates.

Enter: herbal campfire coffee.

Lest you imagine a limpid soup of leafy greens, let me assure you that caffeine-free herbal coffee (a sophisticated twist on my **dandelion coffee recipe**) is robust and richly roasted.





Our friends at Mountain Rose Herbs offer a superb blend of certified organic and kosher botanicals (roasted dandelion root as well as roasted chicory root, roasted carob, and maca powder). When brewed, this “coffee” has a heavy, dark, and bold flavor with aromatic hints of caramel and chocolate.

As if that sensory seduction isn't enough to call you out of the tent in the morning, you'll love the fact that herbal coffee does offer a light lift. Pinitol, a natural chemical in carob pods, has been shown to mimic insulin in our bodies by increasing our cells' receptivity to glycogen, the blood's energy booster.

You can buy Mountain Rose's Herbal Coffee **here**. But DIY divas who are keen on making their own blend can buy the individual ingredients and **adjust the proportions to taste**.

Before you go galloping off to get your fabulous new fix (don't worry, herbal coffee isn't actually addictive), consider the other critical ingredient in this recipe for rugged refreshment: the pot! Ol' Badger Clark knew the importance of a trusty camp coffee pot, and if you don't own one already, you'll want to check out the darling ruby-red **GSI Outdoors Enamelware Percolator** at **GanderMountain.com**.



Happy camping!

MaryJane ♥





Outpost

Unleashing Your Inner Wild



{OUTPOST} with Sandi | to earn a Sisterhood badge in our {OUTPOST} category, [CLICK HERE](#)



I've always loved travel and had a lifelong dream of owning a travel trailer. It was only natural that I began posting as the Travelin' Sister #3956 on **Glampers on the Loose!** My husband and I, who live in coastal Massachusetts, bought our first trailer four years ago, and before I could even think about what was happening, we became immersed in the whole travel trailer culture. We've met wonderful people and made friends for life. Traveling several times a year to meet with friends has become something we look forward to while we're still working. Someday, we'll join the "on the road" culture and see what it's like to be out for months at a time!

Greetings from the Outpost!

In researching the meaning of "outpost," I favor Wikipedia's definition that states, "*in civilian terms denotes an outlying frontier settlement or colony in a remote or sparsely populated location, on the frontier of civilization or on or across political boundaries of the state, far away from the home or country.*" Now that sounds right where I want to be!

When we're on the road, heading to the destination that I've determinedly researched, we usually gravitate to quiet, calm campsites in woodsy areas. I'm not a fan of the RV parks where everyone is piled on top of one another. Throw in a river or waterway, and hubby and his fishing pole go a-missing! That's when I start "nesting," getting the trailer all set up with everything that makes us comfortable and cozy for the time we're lucky enough to be away. Part of the fun of being away is making it your own "frontier."





I like to try new recipes and new ideas for the grill and use seasonal decorations to highlight the campsite; it sets a special atmosphere. This is when some of my books and reading materials come out that I don't always have time for. It's so nice to be in a chair in the woods with no one to bother you—only you and your book, and occasionally, hubby. Come evening, it's time to light the campfire and bring out one of my favorite camping accessories: beacon blankets. My collection of plaid thermoses are handy with tea and cocoa and occasionally, hot mulled cider.

When we camp with friends, it's twice as enjoyable, as the memories of previous trips are related and relived, like the time my friend Cathie and I got lost returning from the bathhouse in the dark. Our fits of giggles led a state park ranger to find us and guide us home. How embarrassed we were!



continued ...



continued ...

The research I do in advance of our trips leads us to all sorts of interesting festivals, fairs, and local events. Shortly, we're on our way to Prince Edward Island, Canada, where we have tickets to attend a local Seafood Festival. We'll be visiting Lucy Maud Montgomery's home and the fictional home of the beloved red-headed orphan, Anne of Green Gables. These books were written long ago, but she's alive and well on the island with theater, musicals, and even an Anne store, with everything Anne!

Even though it's fun to get away, you can create your own outpost in your backyard or near home. The middle of our New England winters can bring you outdoors with a fun skating party at a local pond. You can bring all the comforts you would enjoy if staying longer—just be sure to bring lots of firewood and blankets! Do have fun creating your special outpost.





Garden Gate

Bloom Where You're Planted



{GARDEN GATE} with MaryJane | to earn a Sisterhood badge in our {GARDEN GATE} category, [CLICK HERE](#)

Fall Garden Checklist

It's almost time to tuck your garden in for her long winter's nap, but don't send her to bed without a little love. Spend a few fabulous fall days cleaning her up, cold weather prepping, and even planting flower bulbs for spring. After all, every gal needs a healthy bedtime routine! Heck, you might even tell her a story while you're at it. Here is a handy checklist to help you get your garden good 'n ready for her bountiful beauty sleep:

Garden Clean Up

- Pull up all annuals and pitch into the compost heap.
- Following the first frost, dig up and store tender bulbs indoors (think: gladiolus, cannas, dahlias, and caladiums).
- Cut back perennials damaged by frost, leaving those that still sport hearty seed heads (wild birds will love them).
- Empty plastic and clay pots for indoor storage in cold climates to prevent cracking.
- Pull weeds with abandon to get a jump on next year's chores.

Winter Prep

- Wrap young trees (especially fruit trees) with protective tree wrap like the **Burlap Tree Wrap available at Gemplers.com**. Wrapping helps protect tender bark from sun scald and rodent nibbling. If you're not sure how to wrap trees, check out this **Winter Tree Wrapping video**.
- Cover perennials and strawberries with about 4" of a loose mulch that can be removed in the spring.
- Avoid cutting rose plants, which will survive the cold better with canes intact. Simply mulch rose bases with about 10" of compost to **protect the bud union** from cold.
- Water plants (especially evergreens, fruit trees, and shrubs) to hydrate them before dormancy and ensure they wake up healthy next year.
- Detach garden hoses, drain, and store in a sheltered place.
- Empty rain barrels and store in a sheltered place.



Pre-Planting for Spring

- In most regions, October is the month to plant tulips, daffodils, crocuses, and **other hardy bulbs**. Plant in clusters of eight or more with plentiful compost, and water well after planting.
- Peonies should be planted (or transplanted) in the fall. Learn how at **Almanac.com**.
- Mimic Mother Nature by planting wildflower seeds in the fall and winter. Fall planted seeds sprout and bloom about two weeks earlier than the same seed planted in spring. Learn more about planting instructions for your area at **American Meadows.com**.

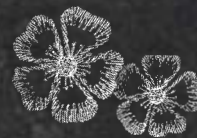
MaryJane



Stitching & Crafting Room



Stitches of Fun & Laughter!



{STITCHING & CRAFTING} with Rebekka Boysen-Taylor | to earn a Sisterhood badge in this category, [CLICK HERE](#)



Rebekka Boysen-Taylor (Sister #40) is a mama, middle-school teacher, and writer in Moscow, Idaho. She loves camping, chicken keeping, gardening, biking, and hanging out with her family. When she isn't out playing, she can be found knitting, sewing, or canning jam.

Crafting Goes Local!



This month, I had the pleasure of interviewing the kind and talented Amy Kenagy from **Paradise Fibers** about the creation of their locally-inspired yarn club.

Here's what Amy had to say:

"For many months, Sara and I have been collaborating to make this yarn club one that we would want to be a part of. We've contacted dyers—from small, local dyers like Becoming Art and Palouse Fiber Company to more well-known dyers like Madelinetosh, Blue Moon Fiber Arts, and Three Irish Girls—and asked them to create custom colorways based on photos that represent the Pacific Northwest. It's been amazing to research the local history and the great area that we live in, and then to see those colors come to life as yarn. We are pairing these yarns with patterns and including designs that show off the yarns. Each month, we will suggest patterns for both knitters and the crocheters, so there's something for everyone. For the flat rate of \$29.99, you get luxury yarn and patterns/goodies as well as a bit of history about the colorway, information about the pattern designer, and an introduction to the person/people behind the yarn. I will also provide tips and tricks that are appropriate to the pattern, and I am available to answer questions in order to help you on your way. It's like having a knit-along with an instructor each month!"

Farmgirl Tip: Want a yarn club inspired by your region? Offer to help your local yarn shop create one!



Sister Loves

{ our favorites ... just a click away! }

Karina's PICKS (JUST A CLICK AWAY)

By Small Means



Drops Design



CarinaSpencer

Pickles



Drops Design



CarinaSpencer



GRAPHIC DESIGNER
(SISTER #4)

Autumn is my favorite season. When the crisp air touches my cheek, I love to cozy up in knitted sweaters, slippers, and hats. This year, I thought it might be fun to knit some for myself or for gifts, instead of buying them. Check out some of the fun patterns I found.

You can visit Karina's picks
by clicking on the photos.





Make it Easy



Happy Hearts Make Light Work

{MAKE IT EASY} with CJ Armstrong | to earn a Sisterhood badge in our {MAKE IT EASY} category, [CLICK HERE](#)



CJ Armstrong (Sister #665) was our 2010 Farmgirl of the Year, and she's the one woman we know who's capable of stealing anyone and everyone's heart. CJ and her sidekick daughter, Robin, can be found in campgrounds around the country glamming up their tricked-out tent or Reiver's Rest, their new trailer, wearing CJ's tricked-out aprons. CJ makes the world a MUCH better (and properly aproned) place! See CJ's creations at [FarmFreshAprons](#).

Picture Frame Card Display

A few years ago, when I started making artist trading cards (ATCs), tiny art pieces that measure only 2 1/2" x 3 1/2", I wanted to have a display that would show them off, hold several cards, and be versatile. At a local thrift shop, I found a wonderful picture frame in excellent condition, with the opening measuring 16" x 22", and after gathering up some wire, buttons, and glue, I made a display that works not only for ATCs, but other cards as well.

You'll Need:

- a sturdy frame
- 20-gauge craft wire to wrap around the frame and stretch in a zig-zag pattern across the opening
- buttons
- Aleene's 7800 All-Purpose Adhesive
- clamps
- wire cutters and pliers
- mini clothespins



After deciding how you want your cards to look, wrap the wire around one side of the frame, going entirely around

once before stretching it to the other side. Twist the ends to secure. I glued buttons on the front of the frame over the wire to further secure the wire from slipping on the frame. (Aleene's 7800 All-Purpose Adhesive is my favorite for most projects. But it doesn't set up immediately, so you'll need clamps to hold the buttons in place while the glue dries and sets.)

I used a wreath hanger that goes over the top of a door and hung the display on the hook. I like to be able to move it around from door to door. With a handful of mini-clothespins, you can hang and display any number of your favorite cards to enjoy.





Erin McIntosh is the Marketing Manager at Mountain Rose Herbs. Born and raised in the sunny Florida swamps, Erin now makes her home in the evergreen Pacific Northwest, where she studied herbalism, botany, and ethical wildcrafting at the Columbian School of Botanical Studies. She spends her days crafting culinary recipes, making botanical illustrations, gardening, hiking, foraging for wild edibles, photographing pretty flowers, and formulating herbal medicine in the magnificent Oregon Cascades.

Easy Fall Remedy: Four Thieves Vinegar



Variations of this recipe have been treasured since Medieval times, when it is said that a band of thieves raided the homes of plague victims, protected only by an herbal-infused vinegar formula the robbers had concocted. The herbs they used in this tale vary from story to story, but many well-known immunity boosters and anti-microbial herbs can be combined to create this potent medicinal preparation.

This Four Thieves vinegar formula is super versatile and perfect for the fall season ahead! It can be taken by the spoonful or added to water, used in place of regular vinegar in many recipes, or made into a surface cleaning spray to help keep the germs away.

Turning this classic remedy into a delicious salad dressing helps the medicine go down easy and has become one of my favorite ways to use it! I go a bit lighter on the herbs when making a dressing, but you can increase the amount of each herb to 1 T for an extra medicinal kick or to use for cleaning. If you are using fresh herbs, chop them up and fill the jar half full. Then fill the rest of the jar with vinegar, infuse for a month, and strain.

Four Thieves Vinegar

- 1 to 2 T dried organic sage leaf
- 1 t to 1 T dried organic lavender flowers
- 1 t to 1 T dried organic rosemary leaf
- 1/2 t to 1 T dried organic thyme leaf
- 1/2 t to 1 T organic peppercorns
- 16 oz raw organic apple cider vinegar (or white vinegar for a cleaning solution)



Place the herbs in a pint jar and fill to the top with gently warmed apple cider vinegar. You don't want to boil the vinegar, just heat it on low for a few minutes until it reaches the temperature of warm bath water. This will help get the extraction process going. Close with a plastic lid or place a piece of natural parchment paper under the lid to keep the vinegar from touching the metal. Allow to extract for four weeks. Next, strain the vinegar into a clean glass jar.





Four Thieves Vinaigrette

organic extra virgin olive oil
2 cloves of organic garlic, crushed
prepared mustard
salt and pepper

To make the vinaigrette, mix together 1 part vinegar, 3 parts olive oil, and 1/2 part prepared mustard. Add crushed garlic, salt, and pepper to taste. Whirl the mixture together in a blender until combined or shake vigorously in a capped glass jar.



Four Thieves Surface Spray

16 oz spray bottle
16 oz 1:1 solution of herb-infused white vinegar and water

Use this aromatic and disinfecting solution for cleaning kitchen counters, cabinets, refrigerator shelves, blinds, painted wood surfaces, painted walls, molding, fan blades, and more.





Cleaning Up

The Work of Our Hands



{CLEANING UP} with MaryJanesFarm | to earn a Sisterhood badge in our {CLEANING UP} category, [CLICK HERE](#)

Fall Rug Redux

We're all thinking about snuggling in for the winter soon, so it's time to freshen up our dens before we hunker down. That's right—fall cleaning! And there's no better place to start than the dustiest décor in most households: rugs.

Whether you have elaborate Oriental masterpieces, braided beauties, hall runners, or just a couple of door mats, you can be sure that the fibers are full of particles best parted with. Nobody wants to be cooped up for months with all that dander and duff—am I right? Wall-to-wall carpeting has its own cleaning regimen, and you probably have that routine down pat. But rugs can require an extra dose of TLC.

Basic Rug Cleaning

- Vacuum rugs regularly (both sides, if possible).
- Rotate 180 degrees, and repeat every six months, to reduce damage caused by foot traffic and sunlight.
- Shake small area rugs vigorously outdoors to remove dirt and grit.
- Launder bath mats and door mats per care instructions. If your rug has fringe, divide the fringe into several hanks and wrap each one with cotton string before placing rug in a zippered pillowcase or mesh laundry bag.
- Beat it! Not just an old wives' tale, rug beating is an effective method of cleaning without chemicals or water. Hang small rugs outside on a clothesline and gently beat with an old-fashioned beater like the **Classic Rattan Carpet Beater from GarrettWadecom**. Large rugs can be flipped over on the floor, lifted up one section at a time, and beaten. Vacuum or sweep each section's dirt before moving to the next.



Braided Rugs

- Check stitching and repair breaks before cleaning.
- If your small rug is washable (check label), place it in a pillowcase or laundry bag and wash in cool water on a gentle cycle, then tumble dry on a low setting.
- Limit vacuuming to once a week (or less frequently) because suction can loosen stitching, and skip rotary brushes on braided rugs to prevent excessive fuzziness.



Antique Oriental Rugs

- Special care is prudent when cleaning delicate antique rugs. Place a piece of nylon screen over the rug, secure it with books or bricks, and vacuum over the screen to minimize wear and tear.
- Avoid catching fringed edges in your vacuum, which can pull the warp threads and cause distortion of the entire rug.

Deep Cleaning Specialty Rugs

- Check for colorfastness by blotting a small area with a damp cloth. If dye comes off on the cloth, stick to vacuuming and spot-cleaning as necessary.
- After thoroughly vacuuming to remove loose dirt, lay your rug on a plastic tarp outdoors and use a sponge or stiff brush to apply a solution of mild liquid soap and warm water. Rub the pile firmly with linear motions in the direction of the nap, but don't scrub too vigorously. Wash fringes with the same solution. Rinse thoroughly with running water.
- Squeeze out excess water (a rubber window squeegee works well for this).
- Lay flat or place on a rack to dry. Flip to make sure the rug is thoroughly dry before returning it to the floor.
- If the pile feels stiff when dry, brush gently or vacuum.

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The Scoop

MaryJanesFarm News



Index Available!

We have all the back issues of *MaryJanesFarm Sister Issue* available for download on our website.

CLICK HERE to read back issues.

[TIP] Use the search/find tool in your browser to look up keywords in back issues.

Farmgirls Unite!

If you are hosting a farmgirl event, open to all farmgirls, send the event description, date, location, and contact info to megan@maryjanesfarm.org. Megan will keep Sisters up-to-date on upcoming gatherings.

Upcoming Events:

Stranded in Morro Bay, Morro Strand State Beach, Morro Bay, CA, October 16–18, 2014 (see p. 51)

5th Annual Farmgirls on the Loose Campout, Bedias, TX, October 17–19 (see p. 51)

Mitten Kitten Glampouts, MI, June 5–7, July 10–14, and August 7–10, 2015 (see p. 51)

If you're a Sisterhood member, **click here** to download a FREE Glampers on the Loose logo!

Enter your Sisterhood number;
password is: Glampin (case-sensitive)

(Fun logo ideas: frame it, use
it for transfers on shopping
bags, totes, and pillows, or
make it into a sticker
for your trailer!)





daily entries fresh from the farm



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October Sister



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Even though I live on a farm, I have days when I like convenience food.

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On nights when you don't have the energy to even chop up some veggies (you know those nights),

I'm really there for you.

All you need is one of my instant pouch-cook meals. Simply add boiling water directly to the stand-up package, fold the top down, and wait a few minutes. No need to be a hiker, no backpacks ... pure farmgirl. Most of my Farmhouse meals contain two standard servings, and they're unlike anything you've ever tasted. I promise. It's that good!

MaryJane 

“My family LOVES your instant organic meals! I enjoy the Couscous & Lentil Curry, my husband loves your Alfredo Pasta with the Garlic Pesto Fry Bread, the kids are wild about Chilimac, and we all love the skillet-bake Brownies! Thank you, MaryJane!”

– Annie, Colorado

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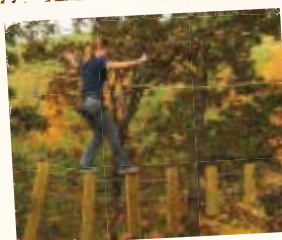
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Farmgirl Sisterhood

Share in the Fun!

Farmgirl Chatter

What are farmgirls chatting about?

Check it out at The Farmgirl Connection link [here!](#)

Farmgirl Calendar

Stranded in Morro Bay, Vintage Trailer Rally & Tasting, Morro Strand State Beach, Morro Bay, CA, October 16–18, 2014

ALL events optional, but plan to have fun!

12 wineries
10 restaurants
Rhythm & Blues by the Sea

Register online at CCSPA.info

Camp with us:

3 nights, 1 camper: \$220

Ticket price includes a single spot for three nights, and the following for one camper:

- three breakfasts
- welcome happy hour on Thursday evening
- beverages for camper potluck/s'mores cookoff on Friday night
- BBQ lunch on Saturday
- wine-tasting event on Saturday night

5th Annual Farmgirls on the Loose Campout, Bedias TX, October 17–19

YES!! 5 Years and going strong!

All MJ Farmgirls invited.

This is held at an Arabian Horse Ranch owned by a Farmgirl. She is an awesome hostess to open up her ranch for all our girls to drive campers and set up tents around her barn. Click [here](#) to learn more.

Mitten Kitten Glampout

When: June 5–7, Friday to Sunday

Who: Lindy Brown from Paddle the Mitten

Where: Mitten Kitten Glampout, Seven Lakes State Park, Fenton, Michigan

continued ...



continued ...

How: e-mail inquiries to Lindy@paddlethemittensup.com or 810-626-8923

Website: **PaddleTheMittensUp.com**—2015 Events

Celebrate National Glamping Weekend with us! 2015 will be our 2nd year for providing Glamping in Michigan. Our group is called the Mitten Kittens and we love to stand-up paddle, but you don't need to stand-up paddle to join us. It is NOT a requirement. We are all about making women feel good about themselves and others around them. Our trips offer a variety of activities, including yoga, hiking, swimming, antiquing, zentangling, stand-up paddling, relaxing, and more! Seven Lakes State Park is a quiet, peaceful gem in Michigan.

Ages usually range from 30s to late 60s (you must be 21 years of age); we are a unique and diverse group. All activity levels are welcome. I honestly can say that I have never had anyone not enjoy their time on my "retreats." As we get closer to February, I will have prices and details. Early RSVP is suggested—we do fill up our Glampouts!

Two types of camping:

1. Bring your own camper or tent and join us at our main base camp.
2. Stay in the 1965 vintage Airsteam or our glamped-out bell tent (space limited).

Mitten Kitten Glampout

When: July 10–14, Friday to Monday

Who: Lindy Brown from Paddle the Mitten

Where: Mitten Kitten Glampout, Young State Park, Boyne City, Michigan

How: e-mail inquiries to Lindy@paddlethemittensup.com or 810-626-8923

Website: **PaddleTheMittensUp.com**—2015 Events

Voted one of the United States' most beautiful lakes, Young State Park sits on the shores of Lake Charlevoix. Join us for 4 days of enjoying the sandy beach, sun, fresh water, and sisterhood. Area attractions and activities include yoga, good food, hiking, sightseeing, stand-up paddling the Jordan River, stand-up paddle yoga on Lake Charlevoix, shopping in Boyne City, and antiquing at Deer Creek Junk in East Jordan. Nighttime campfires on the beach under the sapphire black sky with brightly shining stars. Ages usually range from 30s to late 60s (you must be 21 years of age); we are a unique and diverse group. All activity levels are welcome. I honestly can say that I have never had anyone not enjoy their time on my "retreats." As we get closer to February, I will have prices and details. Early RSVP is suggested—our Glampouts sell out fast!

Two types of camping:

1. Bring your own camper or tent and join us at our main base camp.
2. Stay in the 1965 vintage Airsteam or our glamped-out bell tent (space limited).





Mitten Kitten Glampout

When: August 7–10

Who: Lindy Brown from Paddle the Mitten

Where: Mitten Kitten Glampout, Leelanau Peninsula, Michigan

How: e-mail inquiries to lindy@paddlethemittensup.com or 810-626-8923

Website: **PaddleTheMittensUp.com**–2015 Events

Voted one of the United States' most beautiful places in America by *Good Morning America*, join your guide, Lindy, for a memorable weekend. From early morning yoga, stand-up paddling, hiking, sightseeing, wine tasting, and enjoying the local fresh farm fare, you will not be disappointed to join this Glampout. We will be Glamping and renting a house for those who are coming from out of state or do not have a trailer. I also will have the bell tent available. This is one of our most popular weekends of the year. Ages usually range from 30s to late 60s (you must be 21 years of age); we are a unique and diverse group. All activity levels are welcome. I honestly can say that I have never had anyone not enjoy their time on my "retreats." As we get closer to February, I will have prices and details. Early RSVP is suggested—our Glampouts sell out fast!

Three types of accommodations:

1. Bring your own camper or tent and join us at our main base camp.
2. Stay in our glamped-out bell tent (space limited).
3. Stay in our Mitten Kitten-approved comfy and cozy beach house.

Farmgirl Chatter

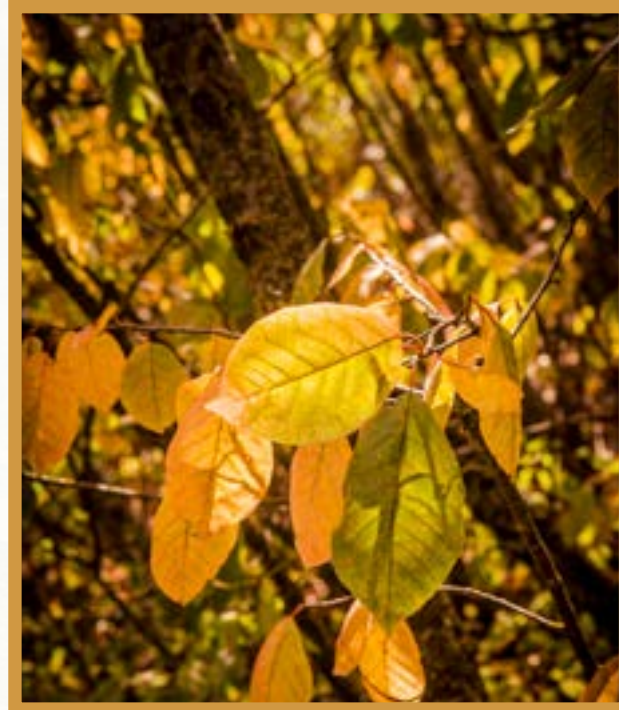
Across the Fence: Hold on to Summer ... or decorate for Fall? Submitted by texdane

I love fall! I'm always as excited as a racehorse to transition to fall décor. This year, though, I find myself not ready. Maybe it's because we've had such a great summer. The garden is still giving us goodies. The weather is cold in the morning, summery by afternoon. Hmmm ...

Have you decorated yet? Share your ideas [here](#).

Barnyard Buddies: Cleaning the chicken coop. Submitted by Madinet85

I was wondering if anyone has a sort of chicken-coop rake/ implement they'd recommend?



continued ...



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We have a fairly large chicken coop, 15' x 5', for 6 chickens. Their droppings mostly collect under the roosts, and not so much everywhere else. I'd like to be able to kind of filter the droppings out of the bedding, much like a cat box scoop. That way, the coop stays a little cleaner, and I can go a little longer in between bedding changes.

Any suggestions? Share your suggestions [here](#).

Barnyard Buddies: If animals could talk ... Submitted by cajungal

Sometimes I have a dialogue with my animals. I look at their face and can almost hear them talking back to me.

This morning, one of our 7 cats was hanging off the screen on the back porch door and just wailing. I stood by the door and glared at him. He stopped meowing and looked back at me as if saying, "Hey lady, I'm hungry. Get out here right now."

What have your animals said to you? Share your story [here](#).

Barnyard Buddies: Mason bees. Submitted by YellowRose

I have been hearing about mason bees, so I ordered a book on them. I wanted to study them before I decided if it's something I need to invest my money, energy, and time in.

The book came yesterday and I have just skimmed through it. Hope to really start reading it today.

Any common sense help and personal experience with Mason Bees will be appreciated.

Lately, I have seen small, non-aggressive bees visiting my plants, so today I ordered reed tubes. Will wait until next spring to put tubes in back yard. I have to wait and see where the morning sun shines at that time of year.

I have from now to then to find a container for the tubes. If the local bees like the tubes, it will save me from having to buy mason bees.

Share your experience [here](#).





Farm Kitchen: Giant pepper harvest—need recipes.

Submitted by krissy

We harvested a mountain of peppers (jalapeño, serrano chilis, habanero, bell, etc.) and there are more than normal. We have already made salsa (both red and green), so we don't need more of that.

Hubby is thinking of a relish or something, but we need a recipe. We don't have a dehydrator and have just let them air dry in the past.

Any ideas would be welcomed and appreciated!

Thanks, girls! Share your recipe [here](#).

Farm Kitchen: Canning or freezing carrots. Submitted by danyel

I am interested in putting up the carrots that we grew, I want to be able to use them in stews and soups, or as glazed carrots. What's the best way to put them up that doesn't make them soft before I use them? Any ideas? Share your ideas [here](#).

Farm Kitchen: Rosemary salt. Submitted by prariehawk

I dried some of the rosemary from my herb garden and put it in a tin and poured kosher salt on it and mixed it up. I'm going to let it sit for about a week and then blend it in my food processor so I'll have rosemary salt. Never tried it before, so I'm not sure how it'll turn out ...

Share your ideas [here](#).

Garden Gate: How my garden grows. Submitted by Cissik

This year, I used heirloom seeds and planted a variety of stuff. I'm sharing the photos taken today of what the veggies look like. I know I'll be pickling some green tomatoes. We've eaten tons of ripe ones. Will also be making some tomato basil jam. I just love how the garden came out and how great everything tastes. How have the rest of you done? Share your story [here](#).



continued ...



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Garden Gate: Cold frame. Submitted by Simply Satisfied

I planted a cold frame with lettuce, green onions, Swiss chard and carrots last week. This is my first cold frame attempt in fall, but I'm hoping for nice produce this fall and winter.

Does anyone else use a cold frame for fall crops, and what have you had success with? Share your ideas [here](#).

Stitching & Crafting Room: Yarn

I am looking for a cheap place online to purchase yarn. The closest Joann's and Hobby Lobby-type stores to me are in the next town, which is about a 20-minute drive. I have 3 children under 8 with one on the way, and it's becoming increasingly difficult to get over there when they have good sales going on.

Any good suggestions??? Share your suggestions [here](#).



Oso Mudslide Update

Brandy Ogle Ward (Sister #250, bducky55) was one of the 43 people who were taken by the Oso, Washington, mudslide earlier this year.

Brandy took great pride in being a farmgirl, as you can see from this photo that she posted in January on my Facebook page with the following message:

“MJ~look what my neighbor surprised me with!!!!”

The Oso mudslide is one of the worst disasters ever in Washington state. Her home, which was directly in the path of the slide, was swept away, and Brandy's husband, Timothy, was one of the people seriously injured in the slide. This article, by Rikki King in The Daily Herald on Sept. 21, tells Timothy's story.

After Oso: recovery more than medicine, stitches

STANWOOD, Wash. (AP) - Saturday mornings were relaxed at Tim and Brandy Ward's house on Steelhead Drive.

They would scramble the extra eggs from their hens as a treat for their five German shorthaired pointers. They'd brew a big pot of coffee.

On March 22, the couple planned to spend their day making jelly from the strawberries Brandy Ward grew in her garden—different varieties she planted in three, 30-foot-long rows.

But first, Tim Ward was going to hop in the shower. He took off his wedding band and his eyeglasses, and heard rumbling like the sound Navy jets make when they fly over the valley. The water pressure suddenly dropped. The bathroom lights flickered, then went out.



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Tim Ward heard Brandy call his name. She was in the kitchen, probably looking out the window. It was the last time he heard her voice.

A river of mud, water and branches smashed through the walls of their home.

Tim Ward felt “thousands of pounds of pressure” on his chest. He squeezed his eyes shut and tried to keep his mouth closed as he was carried along. Fearing he would drown, he prayed.



Photo by U.S. Army Staff Sgt. Rory Featherston via Wikimedia Commons

“I said, ‘Lord, I don’t have time to die right now. I have too much left to do,’” he said. Then he lost consciousness. He woke up buried in a debris pile, 600 yards from where his house had stood.

Brandy was gone. After 37 years together, he just knew. “It was that husband-wife communication feeling you have,” he said.

From under the tangle of branches, lumber and insulation, he yelled for anyone who might be able to help: “Is anybody out there?” He kept calling and tried whistling, too. His whistle was how he called in the dogs at night, so he figured his neighbors would recognize the sound.

He could hear someone nearby moaning in pain. Later, he would learn it was Larry Gullikson, 81, who also survived and lost his wife. The Gulliksons lived across Highway 530 from the Wards.

Tim’s military training told him to assess his own condition, then see if he could help others. The pain was immense. He felt his hands, arms and head. Everything was fine.

“I got down to my waist,” he said, “and my waist wasn’t where it should have been.” His legs pointed in impossible directions, his pelvis and right hip crushed.

He kept calling out. Finally, someone answered. It was Kris Langton, a Darrington man who scrambled over the mud those first few hours trying to reach his family on the other side. Langton found survivors and flagged down rescuers.



Langton was about 100 yards away and couldn't see Ward. He told the injured man to signal in some way, to help him pinpoint the location. Ward found a scrap of sheet metal and held it above him. It took Langton an hour to get to him, wading through the muck.

He managed to wave down a Navy rescue helicopter team. Rescuers put a helmet on Ward, to protect his head while they used a chain saw to cut him free from the debris. They taped his legs together, to protect them from further injury.

The rescuers asked about Brandy. "She's no longer with us," he told them. "She is with Christ." He was lifted out in a helicopter rescue basket, more than three hours after the slide.

Ward saluted the flight crew as he was pulled aboard, the way the Army taught him. His right arm wouldn't move, so he used his left. It seems strange to him now, the habit, the formality in that moment.

At Harborview Medical Center in Seattle, he remembers someone using oil and cotton swabs to clean the Oso mud from his eyes and nose. He stayed conscious long enough to tell hospital staff to contact his daughters and his bosses, and to give his family the right to make medical decisions. Then he passed out again.

Minutes, hours and days became a blur. The medications gave him hallucinations. Staff woke him every two hours to turn him over.

There was a 12-hour surgery, and 18 pieces of hardware placed in his body: brackets, screws, bolts. Dozens of staple marks run up his legs and back. The pain, even now, can be cruel.

Ward spent more than two weeks at Harborview, then transferred to a rehabilitation center in Warm Beach. All he owned was a hospital gown. He kept warm with a fleece blanket sent by a stranger. It was a comfort to him, like a child's teddy bear.

For now, Ward's family is the key to his recovery. He lives with his daughter, Brittany Juarez, and her husband near Stanwood. Daughter Tiffany Burdette brings over the grandkids. Together they talk, and listen, and cry. He sees a therapist and attends weekly survivor support groups in Oso. His recovery is more than medicine and stitches, he said, but guided by something bigger than himself.

Tim met Brandy in the school band in the ninth grade. He played saxophone, flute and clarinet. She played clarinet and oboe. After high school in Miami, Florida, he signed up for the U.S. Army and she went to college. One day, he ran into her at the mall while he was on leave. She was working at a department store and as a hospital candy striper, bringing magazines to children in the wards and holding the babies. He asked her out, and they went bowling. The first movie they saw together was "Jaws."

It proved the perfect choice. When Brandy got scared, she wanted to snuggle. Tim and Brandy married in 1977 and had their girls. Tim went to technical college, and was hired in aviation electronics at the Everett Boeing plant.

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Brandy worked in a lab at Providence Regional Medical Center Everett. They lived in Marysville before they found their house on five acres in Steelhead Haven in 1989. They knew it was the place they'd been looking for.

On their first visit to the neighborhood, Oso firefighter Seth Jefferds walked over to introduce himself. He and Brandy later persuaded Tim to become an Oso fire commissioner.

Through the fire department, they became part of the tight-knit community. They helped with fire department salmon bakes and Christmas parties, where Tim often was asked to say grace. Steelhead Haven reminded him of where he grew up.

Neighbors had the keys to each other's houses. "Everybody knew everything about everybody, and we all helped each other," he said. Brandy's group of friends called themselves "The Farm Girls." She loved her craft room and shopping at the fabric store. When their daughters were young, she kept them busy with riding lessons, soccer, gymnastics and church. She sewed their Halloween costumes and Easter dresses. For Christmas, she made them matching flannel nightgowns, complete with sleeping bonnets, like on "Little House on the Prairie." When the girls got older, they helped Brandy make the Christmas fruitcake and spritz cookies.

She and her friend Kris Regelbrugge cleaned and dressed the turkeys the Wards raised for Thanksgiving dinners. The women helped themselves to each other's extra fruit and vegetables.

"We all had gardens out there," Tim said. "As simple as it sounds, it was extremely peaceful." Brandy worked in the garden until it grew dark.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Rory Featherston via Wikimedia Commons

Members of the Washington Air National Guard, pause for a moment of silence.



When she hinted that she was hungry, Tim knew it was time to start dinner. In the afternoons, while relaxing in their camping chairs, Tim and Brandy, both 58, watched as the dogs chased rabbits. They liked to watch the chickens scratch and scramble, or “Chicken TV,” as they called it.

At night, bonfires were a common sight along Steelhead Drive. People saw the smoke and knew to head on over. “The guys would sit around and have a drink, and the girls would sit around and listen to the guys lie,” Tim said.

One day, Brandy told Tim they were going for a drive, and he should bring the checkbook. When they got to Tulalip, he was told to choose a puppy from a litter of German shorthaired pointers. They named the puppy Samson.

During a furlough from Boeing, the couple moved temporarily to Darlington, South Carolina. While away, they decided to get another dog—they named her Delilah—before moving back to Oso. Samson and Delilah had several litters of puppies. From those, Jacob, Moses, and Jeremiah joined the family.

Jeremiah was nicknamed “Blue” because that was the color he looked when he was born. Brandy Ward blew her own breath into the puppy’s lungs. Blue was the only one of the dogs who survived the mudslide. He was discovered trapped under a cedar tree, where he was pinned for three days. He wound up losing a hind leg.

Someone, Tim doesn’t know who, paid for Samson, Jacob, and Moses to be cremated. Delilah’s body never was found.

Tim Ward and Blue are healing together. The rehab center in Warm Beach allowed Blue to visit a few times a week. Blue slipped into his bed as soon as the nurses left for the night. He thought it was a secret, Tim said, but the nurses knew better—they told him he sure seemed to be shedding a lot.

Tim’s first task in physical therapy was to learn how to sit up. His atrophied muscles wouldn’t work. They weren’t responding to his brain as they had before. The next day, he had to swing his legs over the side of his bed. A nurse wrapped a tether to him and held on in case he fell. Ward didn’t tell many of the other patients at the rehab center why he was there, other than he’d had major surgery.

He made new friends, including a woman in her 70s who was living two doors down the hall. They practiced using their new wheelchairs together. One day, he saw the woman crocheting squares of yarn, and he asked her what she was working on. She told him her friends were using the squares to make blankets for the Oso mudslide survivors.

Tim Ward told her to give him a minute, that he had to get something from his room. When he came back, he showed her his afghan, and told her he’d received one of those blankets. The woman realized who he was, and she cried.

The community support has been overwhelming, he said. Among other groups, the United Way, the Red Cross, Catholic Community Services, and the Stanwood Camano Family Resource Center have all chipped in.

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Meanwhile, the Wards' property sits vacant. The house is gone. The mortgage isn't. It's not clear what will happen with the land, whether the county will buy it out. The path of the North Fork Stillaguamish River, known to flood, is still shifting. The building codes have changed, and Tim Ward isn't allowed to rebuild there, even if he wanted to.

His therapist told him to avoid major decisions, like moving and making big purchases, for at least a year. Small items from the home were recovered and returned. Brandy's Girl Scout sash. His flight helmet from the Army. Family photographs.

His laptop was found, but it was "folded like the letter 'U' where it bounced against a tree." His kids bought him another wedding ring, because his was lost in the mud.

They told him Blue would remind him of "the children," as he and Brandy called their dogs, but he needed the ring to remind him of Brandy, who he always called "my bride."

Tim keeps his bride's urn in the spare room at his daughter's house where he and Blue sleep on a donated bed. He misses sitting with her by the fireplace at night, the constant blur of the dogs around them.

"We may be separated for a while, but they're with me and we talk to each other all the time," he said.

He was still at Harborview when Brandy was recovered. Doctors told him from the amount of trauma that happened so quickly, she couldn't have felt any pain. Her body was identified through serial numbers on medical implants in her knee and spine. Tiffany Burdette made a computer slideshow of pictures of her mother. Her daughter Addy, who's 2 1/2, kisses the pictures on the screen. If she hears her grandmother's name, she turns her head toward the door to see if she's coming.

Tim Ward relies on his faith and his family to get by. He doesn't want to question God's choices, he said. He figures he'll find out in Heaven.

Work doesn't seem as important anymore. Boeing has promised him that his job is safe, but if it comes to it, the company can make airplanes without him. His memory falters—the names and dates slipping out of reach.

He enjoys sitting on the porch with a glass of sweet tea. Blue lies under the trees nearby. They watch the grandchildren play.

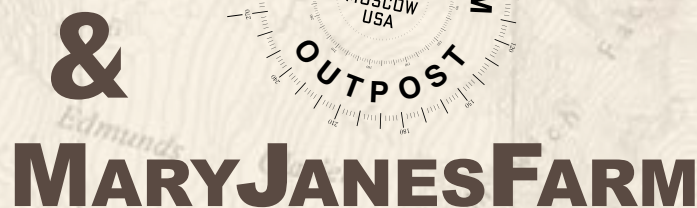
The physical therapy will continue into next year. He relies on a walker—a simple task, going to the grocery store, remains a painful challenge—but he can see a future again, for himself and for those he loves.

He's been thinking about the years he has left, and who he wants to be. His purpose in life no longer is being a good husband and taking care of 5 acres out on Steelhead Drive.

"It's to be a father and a grandfather, to be somebody who can point out that it's OK, that this is something we can all get through," he said.



Ben Woodward looks up at a sign commemorating the moment of the Oso mudslide. (AP Photo/seattlepi.com, Joshua Trujillo)



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I just wanted to let you know that we love your products. We were on the ground in Tacloban, Philippines, four days after the typhoon hit, doing relief work and setting up operations for our teams out there. Conditions that first week were challenging and extreme. We never complained, and your instant (just add water) pouches of food sure helped. We ate the awesome Outrageous Outback Oatmeal in the mornings and fought over the Shepherd's Pie in the evenings. We didn't have the luxury of taking a lot of them, but when the 15 of us were able to sit down to eat them, it was all smiles. Thank you! ”

– Kirk Jackson, TeamRubiconUSA.org



When we received the above e-mail and photo from Kirk Jackson of Team Rubicon, a veteran-focused disaster relief organization, we were humbled and pleased that our just-add-water organic meals found their way to the Philippines after the devastating typhoon in 2013. We also knew we wanted to help this great organization carry on their inspiring and important work.

So we teamed up with the Team: For every 3-lb box of our emergency food you buy (<15 to >25 servings, depending on entrée), we donate two single-serve pouches of food to Team Rubicon to help feed them when they travel to help those in need. Each box of emergency food contains one 3-lb bulk oxygen-free mylar bag of our just-add-water organic meals for emergency preparedness long-term storage. Shelf life: 15+ years.



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for you
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two
**single-serve
pouches**
for
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Surviving any kind of disaster is stressful. Why compound your burden by eating bad food? You need nourishment, not the mindless calories found in most preparedness meals that are overly laden with salt and preservatives; laced with pesticides, herbicides, and fungicides; and formulated using genetically modified ingredients.

Team Rubicon & MaryJanesFarm

The Mission

Team Rubicon unites the skills and experiences of military veterans with first responders in order to rapidly deploy emergency response teams, oftentimes arriving on the scene before traditional aid organizations.

MaryJanesFarm helps feed Team Rubicon's emergency response teams by donating two pouches of food for every box of emergency food sold. That's where you come in. Every time you buy a box of our emergency food, you're feeding Team Rubicon.

Team Rubicon Saves Lives

Since its creation in January 2010, Team Rubicon has impacted thousands of lives—in Haiti, Pakistan, the Philippines, and here at home most recently during Hurricane Sandy; the tornadoes in Moore, Oklahoma; and massive flooding in Colorado. Team Rubicon reaches victims outside the scope of where traditional aid organizations venture.

Team Rubicon Engages Veterans

Thousands of U.S. military veterans, many returning home after fighting 10 years of war, find a renewed sense of purpose for their skills and experiences through Team Rubicon.



MaryJanesFarm just-add-water organic meals—everything from instant pastas and rice to soups to breads to desserts—are perfectly complemented by the BioLite Camp Stove (BioliteStoves.com) that boils water with nothing but twigs. And, by converting heat into electricity, it can also charge your flashlights, phones, and other gadgets while you cook.

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for a hefty dose of inspiration, watch Team Rubicon on YouTube.com/TeamRubiconUSA

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To find out more,
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My sentiments exactly!

This adorable 8" x 8" plaque, printed on canvas and stretched on a wood block edged with burlap, is available at BraveGirlsClub.com. Sisters Melody and Kathy believed there needed to be a place where women could go to feel supported and never alone, no matter what struggles they were having. They wanted to create a place full of good news, good people, good ideas, good adventures, and good times—a place where they could teach women that no matter what curveballs life handed them, they were going to be okay. Get a daily dose of Brave Girl magic by subscribing to the free Brave Girl Daily Truth e-mail affirmation messages—a little present the girls have been giving the world five days a week since 2009. Also sign up for Brave Girl Camp Art + Life Retreats, take online empowerment classes, encourage other Brave Girls with the Brave Girl Truth Card Exchange, and more. Read all about Brave Girls Club in the "Yesteryear" Aug/Sept 2014 issue of *MaryJanesFarm*.



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Farmgirl Sisterhood



Social Media

I'm doubling back to make sure you're aware of all the social media happenings at MaryJanesFarm, because you won't want to miss a thing—especially the moment when YOU'RE the sister featured on one of our Facebook pages simply because you're just so farmgirl awesome or you've earned a badge or your blog post from our Sisterhood blogging community over at **GirlGab.com** was featured. (This is my favorite daily pleasure. I LOVE GirlGab!)

As ladies of the Sisterhood, now numbering 6,065 (and counting), we've earned an amazing number of Merit Badges so far—8,688 total! We've recently started alerting earned Badges daily on our MaryJanesFarm **Facebook** page. We started out alerting just the expert-level earners, but decided recently to alert all levels AND add photos if you include them. We're just so darn proud! Can you hear the clucking?

My blog, **RaisingJane.org**, is a little bit more of the fun and frilly that you've come to expect from MaryJanesFarm, and is my outlet for conversation in between magazines.

If you're a Facebook or Twitter kind of gal, you'll find my posts teased on my **Twitter** account and my **Facebook** account. Updates for all things glamorously glampifying for International Glamping Weekend can be found **here**, at its Facebook fan page.

Facebook and Twitter not your thing? Then, our **Pinterest** page can keep you up-to-date with recipes, projects, products, and beautiful images captured here at my farm.





Exclusive for Sisters!

Sisterhood Necklace

We've partnered with Elaine Tolson of Washington to offer this lovely bit of vintage-style jewelry—for Sisterhood members only. Your necklace will be emblazoned with your own unique Sisterhood number, setting your braggin' rights in stone. Whether you wear it as a secret code for those in-the-know, or as a conversation starter about the Sisterhood, is up to you. **Click here to order yours.**



Hello Elaine!

Thank you so much for my beautiful charm. I received it last week and have enjoyed wearing it and showing it to my friends and family. Can't wait to get our Chapter off the ground here in Cherry Valley.

Thank you again,
Mary Bronson



Elaine!!!

Thank you so very much for the beautiful Farm Gal necklace!!! I beyond love it! I really feel part of something grander when I wear it. You made my day when I opened my little burlap bag, truly.

kindness counts,
Kim



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# Merit Badge Awardees



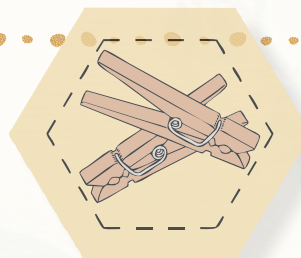
## Merit Badge Awardees

### Betty Hoffman: Dapple Grey Lady #5589

Beginner badge: Garden Gate / Backyard Farmer

Intermediate badge: Garden Gate / Backyard Farmer

Expert badge: Garden Gate / Backyard Farmer



### Christine Slaughter: cms123168 #5837

Beginner badge: Garden Gate / Backyard Farmer

Beginner badge: Stitching & Crafting / Knitting

Intermediate badge: Garden Gate / Backyard Farmer



### Emily Race: Simply Satisfied #3591

Beginner Badge: Make it Easy / Relaxation

### Erin McBride: notathreatinsight #3762

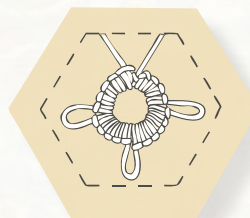
Beginner badge: Farm Kitchen / Recipes

Beginner badge: Garden Gate / Herbs

Intermediate badge: Garden Gate / Herbs

### Joanna Green: Joanna #5965

Beginner badge: Stitching & Crafting / Aprons



### Linda Cole: #4879

Beginner badge: Outpost / Fishing

Intermediate badge: Outpost / Fishing

Expert badge: Outpost / Fishing

### Linda Woodruff: #5951

Beginner badge: Each Other / Know Your Roots

### Nancy Boyd: NancyOH1 #2508

Beginner badge: Each Other / Blogging

Beginner badge: Garden Gate / Gaining Ground

Intermediate badge: Each Other / Blogging

Expert badge: Each Other / Blogging



continued ...





**Nikki Hurlbut: MrsHurlbut #5131**

Beginner badge: Stitching & Crafting / Crochet

**Peggy Smith: Forever Young #1815**

Intermediate badge: Garden Gate / Heirlooms Forever

Expert badge: Make it Easy / Relaxation

**Sharon Scheidt: Sharon Scheidt #6026**

Beginner Badge: Garden Gate / Putting Away for Winter

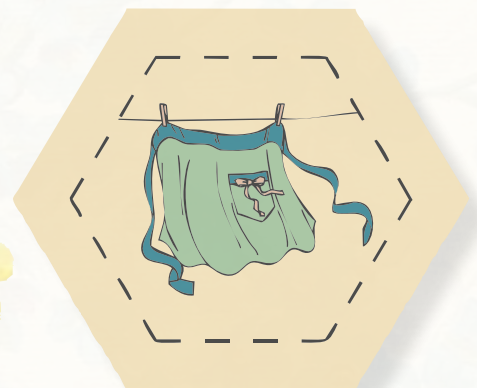
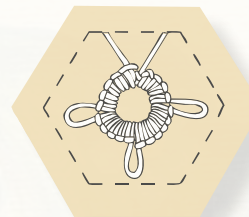
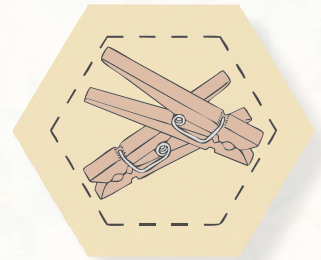
Beginner Badge: Stitching & Crafting / Buttoned Up

**Sylvia Jacobus: Cissik #5389**

Beginner badge: Garden Gate / Heirlooms Forever

**Tara Felts: #6027**

Beginner Badge: Make it Easy / Make it Pretty





# Farmerettes & Young Cultivators



## What's a Farmerette?

Farmerettes are young farmgirls-in-training between the ages 14–18. They can earn the same Merit Badges as adult Sisters, so long as there is a Farmgirl Sisterhood member nearby to work with them. **Click [here](#) to find out more.**

## What's a Young Cultivator?

Young Cultivators are girls and boys between the ages 6 and 13. They can work with Farmgirl Sisterhood members to earn badges, but have their own unique program. **Click [here](#) to find out more.**







## Young Cultivators Group

Rebekka Boysen-Taylor, our Stitching & Crafting columnist, also coordinates a Young Cultivators group. She'll report on their activities here and in future issues.

### Animal Identification

At last month's county fair, my daughter visited the Idaho Fish and Game booth to play "Name That Critter." A game warden told her stories about different animals as I looked on, remembering the same game from my childhood fairs. The difference between my daughter and me is that, as a child, I considered this to be an old-fashioned frontier game. I grew up in a modern suburb, and our food came from a supermarket or a potted tomato plant on the back porch. Bella is growing up in rural Idaho, where "found" food like wild game is an essential part of many people's diets. To her, playing "Name That Critter" is practical preparation for hunting season. She has learned to use a bow and plans to begin hunting in a year or two. Her interest in tracking animals started when she was in 3rd grade. Her class studied a local ecosystem and the animals in its food chain by learning all about their scat. The students worked hard creating accurate models of said scat and created a **display** to help visitors at the local Philips Farm learn about the animals that call it home. Animal scat turns out to be one of the best ways for children to identify animals in a given area, since the noise of children usually scares wild creatures away. Another good way to identify animals is through their prints. To help your young cultivator recognize many common animal prints, download this free **animal track guide**.







IN 1997, I took over stewardship of The Barron Flour Mill, a four-story, 124-year-old building on the National Register of Historic Places. Joseph Barron, the third-generation miller who spent his life there milling grains, eventually pioneered the first certified organic flour in the Northwest. I created this easy-to-use organic baking mix in honor of Joseph and all the frugal farm women who served their families wholesome food ... on a budget.

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# Meet our Bloggers

*Being a farmgirl isn't where you live, but how you live!*

Farmgirls are tapping away at their keyboards to bring you news from the homefront, no matter where you live or what your interests. Rebekah Teal, a former judge, writes about being a farmgirl in the city; Alexandra Wilson blogs from the rural perspective; Nicole Christensen gives you the suburban viewpoint, and Debbie Bosworth writes from the beach. You can click to our farmgirl blogs right on our home page ([MaryJanesFarm.org](http://MaryJanesFarm.org)). While you're there, sign up for our e-mail blog alerts and recipe of the week.

## city FARMGIRL



**Rebekah Teal** is a farmgirl from a large metropolitan area who recently made her dreams come true by moving to a farm. Given her dyed-in-the-wool city-girl background, she still writes our **City Farmgirl Blog**. She's a lawyer who has worked in both criminal defense and prosecution, and she has been a judge, a business woman, and a stay-at-home mom. She's not only down-home citified, she's a true-blue farmgirl ... in (the occasional) pair of stilettos!

Mustering up the courage to do the things you dream about, she says, is the essence of being a farmgirl. Learning to live more organically and closer to nature is Rebekah's current pursuit.

## rural FARMGIRL



**Alexandra Wilson** is a budding rural farmgirl living in Palmer, Alaska—the agricultural seat of the last frontier—and she shares her adventures on our **Rural Farmgirl Blog**. Alex is a graduate student at Alaska Pacific University, pursuing an M.S. in Outdoor and Environmental Education. She is focused on developing a program to inspire young women to become beginning farmers. She lives and works on the university's 700-acre educational farm, and has just welcomed the newest member of her family, baby Ava Maureen. Alex loves to rock climb, repurpose found objects, cross-country ski on the hay fields, travel, practice yoga, and cook with new-fangled ingredients.

## suburban FARMGIRL



**Nicole Christensen**, our current **Suburban Farmgirl Blogger**, calls herself a “knitter, jam-maker, and mom extraordinaire.” Born and raised in the great state of Texas, she now resides in suburban New England in picturesque Connecticut, just a stone's throw from New York state.

Married close to 20 years to her Danish-born sweetheart, Nicole has worked in various fields and has been a world-traveler, entrepreneur, knitting teacher, and homemaker, but considers being a mom her greatest job of all. Loving all things creative and domestic, Nicole considers her life's motto to be “Bloom where you are planted.”

## beach FARMGIRL



**Debbie Bosworth** left her lifelong home in the high desert of northern Nevada 10 years ago and washed up on the shore of America's hometown, Plymouth, Massachusetts, where she, her “beach-bum Yankee” husband of 20 years, and her two homeschooled kids are now firmly planted. Debbie writes our **Beach Farmgirl Blog**.

“I found a piece of my farmgirl heart when I discovered MaryJanesFarm. Suddenly, everything I loved just made more sense! I enjoy unwinding at the beach, writing, gardening, and turning yard-sale furniture into ‘Painted Ladies’! I’m passionate about living a creative life and encouraging others to ‘Make Each Day their Masterpiece.’”



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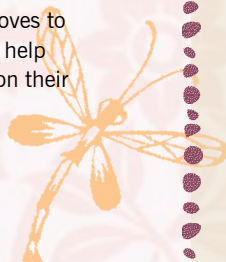
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ranch  
FARMGIRL



**Dori Troutman, our Ranch Farmgirl Blogger,** is the daughter of second generation cattle ranchers in New Mexico. She grew up working and playing on the ranch that her grandparents homesteaded in 1928. That ranch, with the old adobe home, is still in the family today. Dori and her husband always yearned for a ranch of their own. That dream came true when they retired to the beautiful green rolling hills of Tennessee. Truly a cattleman's paradise!

Dori loves all things farmgirl and actually has known no other life but that. She loves to cook, craft, garden, and help with any and all things on their cattle farm.



suburban farmgirl

## Nicole's Favorites

### Juice Beauty Concealer

Happy October! Fall's a wonderful season! I look forward to autumn, decorating with pumpkins, mums, and Halloween décor. Halloween's always a favorite time. Last year, I went to a costume party dressed as the 1940s; this year I might go for a 1980s look! In the 1980s, shoulder pads, legwarmers, and full-face makeup was *the* style. Back then, many women looked older because of such heavy makeup.

Fast-forward to the present. Heavy makeup's a "don't," no matter what age! Many days, I only have time for quick basics, enough to look polished. But one product I *won't* go without is concealer! Without it, I tend to resemble a Halloween zombie! I have dark under-eye circles, caused by heredity. Lack of sleep makes them more prominent, and dark circles become increasingly noticeable as we get older because skin becomes thinner with age.

Even before changing to natural and organic cosmetics, I've been sensitive to face makeup. I've never worn makeup base. I don't like the way it looks or feels, like my skin can't "breathe." I prefer a good concealer only where needed: under the eyes, or to conceal an occasional blemish.

The quest to find a concealer that covers without being heavy or irritating has always been a daunting task. Many "natural" ones tend to melt away. Liquid concealers would irritate my eyes, or spread where I didn't need product. Stick concealers could look cakey, streak, or be difficult to blend. One concealer I tried even dried out my skin, making it peel!

Finally, I've found a product that conceals while looking natural, blends perfectly, and is made with natural ingredients, to boot! **Juice Beauty's Correcting Concealer** has everything I look for in one tube. Packed with powerful organic skin protectors such as aloe juice, grape seed, pomegranate, raspberry, acai, goji, and other fruit extracts, this cream-to-powder finish concealer is easy to use and covers flawlessly! There's no "scary" ingredients like parabens, petroleum, phthalates, dyes, or fragrances. It conceals my dark circles without seeping into fine lines. I discovered it a few months ago, and found it lasts without needing touch-ups even on hot, humid days, yet doesn't feel dry in crisper, less-humid weather. I use my ring finger to gently pat the product where needed, using "Ivory," a pale (yet not "ghost-like") shade; for darker complexions, there's "Sand." Find Juice Beauty Correcting Concealer for \$18 at stores such as Whole Foods, Ulta, or at **JuiceBeauty.com**. Using concealer under the eyes is a great beauty trick, and this one's a real treat!



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# Magazines, Books & More



Our Oct/Nov issue (Kneading Time) hit newsstands on September 16. In it, you'll meet a real-life fairy who knits up forest-inspired fancies, get inspired by our super-easy pumpkin décor, meet the farmer next door at Yonder Way Farm, learn how to make Roman blinds, find unique Thanksgiving recipes, and more!

[Click here](#) to subscribe to *MaryJanesFarm* magazine.

If you're a subscriber, you should have received your magazine by about September 10. (Those of you near postal hubs get faster delivery; rural delivery takes a little longer.) If you didn't receive your magazine, you can call our publisher's subscription department at 800-476-4611 to check on your delivery.

## MaryJanesFarm Calendar

We're working on our new **2015 calendar** now. Each month's top page features a full-color image from our farm and each calendar page includes dates, holidays, inspirational sayings, lunar phases, and fabulous farmgirl culture. This is a Project F.A.R.M. (First-class American Rural Made) product. All 26 pages are printed here at the farm on 8 1/2" x 11" card stock and are bound with black spiral wire, unfolding to 11" x 17". You can order the new calendar in next month's issue!

### Current Holidays:

October 1 ~ World Vegetarian Day  
October 2 ~ World Farm Animals' Day  
October 3 ~ National Diversity Day  
October 5 ~ World Teachers' Day  
October 10 ~ World Egg Day  
October 13 ~ Columbus Day  
October 15 ~ International Day of Rural Women  
October 16 ~ National Bosses' Day  
October 17 ~ Wear Something Gaudy Day  
October 18 ~ Sweetest Day  
October 25 ~ Make a Difference Day  
October 26 ~ Mother-in-Law Day  
October 31 ~ Halloween

October  
Sisterhood  
Special!  
(see p. 46)

### Magazine "Goodies" on the MJF Website

"For those who are looking for the magazine portion of the website, here is the place to find additional patterns, instructions, recipes and such! Yum!" – Alee, Farmgirl Sister #8  
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