



Norwell Grange Stabilization Project 2023



# History of the Building

- District #2 Grammar School: 1871 – 1926
- First Norwell High School: 1888 - 1896
- Local American Legion Post: 1928 -1939
- Norwell Grange #410: 1941 to present (82 years!)
  - Under Grange ownership, this building has also been home to Norwell Karate, Dreamchaser's Theater Company, Studios of Dancing School, St. Helen's Parish (1950-51), First Baptist of Norwell, the Norwell Senior Citizens Association (1970's)
  - Featured in the movie *The Finest Hours* (2016)



# What is the Grange Organization?

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- Order of the Patrons of Husbandry, National Grange was founded in 1867, in Washington D.C., following the Civil War.
- A family oriented, community organization with roots in agriculture.
- The country's oldest a nonprofit, nonpartisan, fraternal organization, that advocates for rural America and agriculture.
- Today, the Grange is a social and community service group that strengthens individuals, families and communities through grassroots action, service, education, advocacy, leadership development and agriculture awareness.
- Granges exist in rural, suburban and urban communities with over 1,700 chapters.





# Building Repairs

Since 2019, the following repairs were completed or are in progress, under the current membership

- Tree Removal: \$5,000
- Mold & Asbestos Remediation & Removal: \$7,600
- Foundation Repairs: \$600
- Plumbing Repairs: \$500
- Emergency Exit Doors Replacement & Associated Rot Repairs: \$5,000
- Insulation in Addition: \$2,214
- Total: \$20,914

# Other Funding To Date

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## In-Kind Donations

- Rubber Roof Replacement on Addition: \$17,500
- Kitchen Equipment: \$25,000

## Monetary Donations

- Jan. 2021- Dec. 2022: \$41,955

## State Earmarks

- HVAC: \$45,000
- Kitchen & Accessible Bathrooms: \$75,000







# Stabilization Project Overview

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This project focuses on exterior repairs to maintain the historical integrity of the building, including:

- New Roof and Siding Replacement: \$138,000 \*\*
- Window Replacement: \$25,500 \*\*
- Paint: \$45,000
- Insulation: \$9,980
- Exterior Door and Ramp: \$10,000

**Totaling: \$228,480**

\*\* represents structural priorities

# Future Building Use Opportunities

## Grange Programming

- Agricultural/Homesteading Education
- Community Dinners
- Cooking/Home Economics Classes
- Dances & Entertainment
- Educational Speakers
- Harvest Festival/Holiday Markets
- Scholarships

## Possible Community Groups

Meeting place for:

- North River Gardeners
- Norwell Garden Club
- Norwell Farms
- Norwell Women's Club
- Girl Scouts
- 4-H

Rental Space

- Birthday Party's, Weddings, etc.





# Why Support Us?

- Preserve part of Norwell's history
- Create a gathering space focused on community education and service, rooted in our Town's agricultural history.
- Provide a new "old" gathering place to support the local agriculture and farming community
- Offer residents of all ages a place to learn classic homesteading skills for a new era.





# Questions?

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**Thank you for your consideration!**