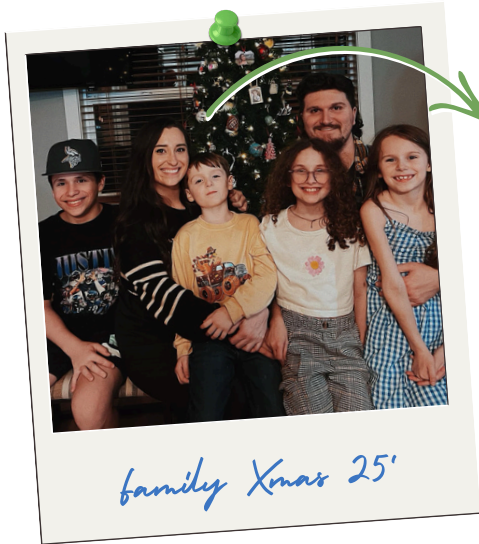


ROOTED IN ORTING

October, 2026 | Issue 1



A Little Hello

Hi there,

I'm Kierra. Owner of Kierra & Co.

I'm a mom of four, artist, and graphic designer right here in Orting. I created Rooted in Orting to celebrate our local businesses, our neighbors, and the history that makes this place home. So glad you're here.

Welcome Readers

Happy October, Orting! There's no prettier time to be in the valley: the air is crisp, the leaves along the Foothills Trail are turning, and Mount Rainier is starting to wear its fresh coat of snow. Grab a warm drink, get cozy, and let's catch up on everything happening around town this month.



Sponsor Us

Want a featured spot in Rooted in Orting? Sponsorship puts your business in front of your neighbors and helps keep this newsletter coming each month.

Reach out and let's find a fit that works for you.

Get Involved

This newsletter is better with your voice in it. Know a neighbor, business, or bit of local history worth featuring?

Have an event, question, or nomination? I'd love to hear it.

What's Ahead

This is just the beginning! Each month you'll find more of what you see here, neighbor spotlights, business features, local events, and Orting history. Thanks for being part of our first issue.

Connect with us

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What's Happening in Town

The month ahead at a glance

- Oct 2 - OHS Homecoming Football Game, Cardinal Stadium, 7:00pm. Come cheer on the Cardinals under the Friday night lights!
- Oct 2 – McMillin Farm Pumpkin Patch opens for the season
- Oct 3 - Red Hat Days Festival, Main City Park, 10am–4pm. A longtime fall tradition of markets and community fun.
- Oct 5 - OHS Daffodil Selection Ceremony, OHS PAC, 5:00pm.
- Oct 10 - Emergency Preparedness Event, Orting Multipurpose Room, 1–3pm.
- Oct 10 – McMillin Homegrown Night Market & Trunk or Treat (Classic Car Edition), 3–7pm
- Oct 17 - Friends of the Library Book Sale, Orting Library, 11am–4pm. Great books at great prices.
- Oct 17 – McMillin Children's Halloween Book Storytelling, 11am
- Oct 18 – Paint & Sip with Artvana at McMillin Farm Collective, 3–5pm.
- Oct 22 – Pottery Painting with The Mad Potter at McMillin Farm Collective, 5–8pm.

Orting Recreation's Fall 2 session kicks off Oct 16 with youth karate, dance, music, and more, sign up at teamsideline.com/cityoforting.

Cap off the season with the OBA's city-wide Trunk or Treat on October 31, 5–7pm! It's a safe, festive way for the whole community to celebrate Halloween together, presented by the Orting Business Association.

OHS Homecoming



Red Hat Days Festival



A fall tradition returns with a car show, vendors, a parade, and beard and bugle contests, plus an evening dinner, auction, and a dance at the Orting Eagles. Come join in on the fun for the whole community!

McMillin Farm Collective



Halloween
October 31, 2026

Small Business Spotlight

The Mercantile

Follow them on Facebook: The Mercantile- A Curated Collection"

|112 Washington Ave S | (360) 872-0395

Stop in and say hello:

Sunday 12-5 • Monday 1-5 • Tuesday-Saturday 10-7



Tucked just off the main street in downtown Orting is a little treasure hunt that many neighbors are delighted to stumble upon, often with the same surprised words: "We didn't know you were here!" With limited signage, The Mercantile is a bit of a hidden gem, so consider this your invitation: they're here, they're open, and they'd love for you to stop in.

What began as a small group of local makers looking for a space of their own has blossomed into something special, just six months in, the shop now houses over 40 local makers, vendors, and curators. It's not a thrift store or a typical boutique, but a carefully curated collection: boutique finds, home décor, antiques, repurposed furniture, handmade goods, and locally made treasures from goat milk skincare to honey, candles, and even cheesecakes. Every visit celebrates something homegrown in our valley.

At its heart, The Mercantile exists to lift up local makers. As one owner puts it, "I always say that I WANT my vendors to leave, not because I don't want them in my shop, but because I want them to grow so big that they need their own space."

Neighbor Spotlight - Mona Mitchel



At just four years old, Mona Mitchel traveled with her family from Nebraska to Wyoming by covered wagon, animals trailing behind, to settle the last homestead granted in the state of Wyoming.

These days, her roots are right here in Orting, where she's lived since 2014. Mona is known for her cards, a craft her daughter first introduced her to in 1992. She took to it quickly and soon surpassed her teacher, crafting cards out of everything from used dryer sheets to shaving cream, dreaming up styles most people would never think to try.

Every Monday, she shares that gift, teaching a class she designs herself at the Senior Center, the place she calls her second home. What she loves most is the gathering, everyone pulling up a chair to make something together.

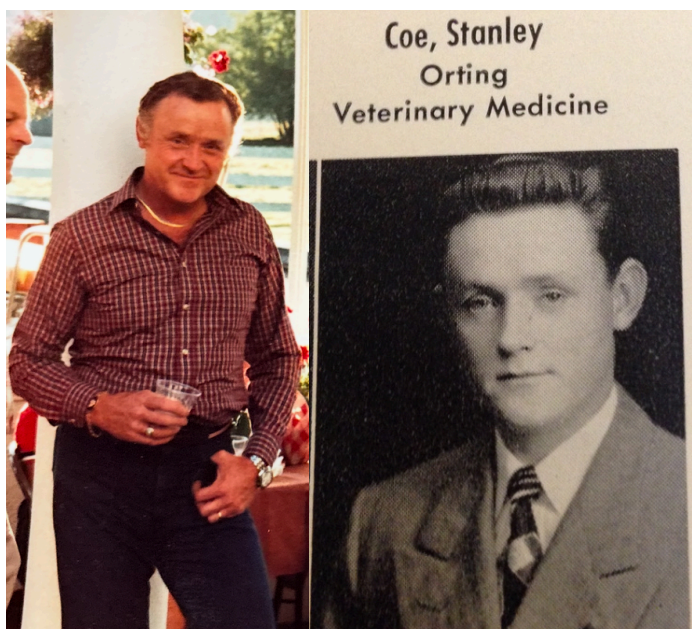
Her friend Kari, one of her students, nominated Mona for this spotlight, calling her cards "a bright light" in her week. Ever humble, Mona was surprised to hear how much she means to everyone around her.

Beyond her class, the Senior Center is simply where Mona's life happens, it's where she's met most of her friends, and where she still turns up for lunch and for pinochle on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Mona has long lived by a simple belief: people won't remember what you say, but they'll always remember how you treat them. Her advice to the younger generation carries that same spirit, give of your talents, be generous, and enjoy doing so. At 96, she's still living both, one handmade card at a time.



A Hometown Farewell: Remembering Dr. Stan Coe



"The mountain is out!" It was one of Stan Coe's favorite things to say, and for a man who spent his whole life loving the view of Mount Rainier, it worked as a greeting. He read the sky like the valley boy he was. "The mountain is wearing a cap," he'd note, "that means rain tomorrow."

Stan grew up right here in Orting, and you could never quite take the Orting out of him. He stayed proud of this town and that mountain all of his 93 years. The Coe name goes back a long way here, too: generations ago, the family ran Coe's grocery on Washington Avenue at Bridge Street, right where Los Pinos sits today.

Even after his career took him to Seattle, his heart stayed in the valley. In his busiest years he'd take Wednesdays off to fish the Toutle or the Carbon, and when he settled into a Seattle home, it mattered to him that it have a view of the mountain, so much so that he kept a telescope in the living room to bring it closer.

His work ethic started early. Long before he found his calling, Stan delivered papers, picked berries, and pulled lumber, working such a long list of odd jobs that he sometimes fibbed about his age to land them. A job with a Puyallup veterinarian eventually pointed him toward Washington State University, where he earned his Doctor of Veterinary Medicine in 1957. He'd remain a devoted Cougar for life, as anyone stuck behind his "WAZZU1" license plate could tell you.

Caring for animals gave him real purpose, and it found its fullest form in the free Seattle clinic he helped build, known today as the Doney Coe Pet Clinic. Ever humble, Stan was quick to credit the idea to his colleague Dr. Doney, but it was his own tireless work and dependability that grew the clinic into what it became. When it was renamed in his honor in 2018, it was a well-earned tribute, though the thing he'd most want remembered was never the name on the door. It was the lesson at the heart of his life's work: the strength and healing power of the bond between people and their animals.

Those who loved him remember the smaller things just as fondly: the Sunday yogurt pancakes with a mystery flavoring he'd make everyone guess, the vanilla milkshakes he loved right to the end, and the check he'd quietly pick up before anyone else could reach it. And the way you had to ask "Right hand?" and watch him raise it like he was being sworn in, just to know if he was telling the truth or pulling your leg.

In his later years he loved photographing Mount Rainier from his living room, but it was his moon shots that made his daughter Cindy ask, 'Right hand? These aren't from NASA?'

More than any single accomplishment, Stan is remembered for a lifetime of quiet kindness: showing up to help, and always being right where he said he'd be, when he said he'd be there. He led by example, doted on his grandsons, and carried his warmth everywhere he went.

Those wishing to honor him may consider a gift to the Doney Coe Pet Clinic or the WSU College of Veterinary Medicine.

Rest easy, Dr. Coe. Orting is proud to have been your beginning.

