EXTENSION LINE



Newsletter for the members of the Kenosha County Association for Home and Community Education

A Few Words from President Donna Zarovy

The 2024 KCAHCE Annual Meeting will be held January 20th, 2024, at the Kenosha County Center.

We will begin at 10:00 when we will make our Kindness Snowmen and then enjoy lunch at noon . The Annual Meeting will begin 12:30 pm. Thank you to everyone who participated in the service projects and delivered the friendly snowmen.

The 2024 programs are set. There is quite a variety. Hope you can participate and bring a friend. Let them know what HCE is about and all the great things we do – maybe they will join, too. Jerin and her crew (Merrymakers) have added a few "cultural arts" events.



The entry for our 2024 Cultural Arts Show is included with this Extension Line. There are many diverse things to make. Fill out your form and return it to Rita Larson by the deadline of March 30th. Hope we get lots of entries again this year.

We have quite a few things coming up in February and March. Please be sure to check them out on page 2. Also, your 2024 Program Books are enclosed. Let me know if there are any errors or omissions.



We are going to have a very busy 2024 with our education programs, our 3rd Families Branching out, and the 2024 Wisconsin Association for Home and Community Education Business Meeting and Annual Conference. I am the chair for this event along with Linda Feucht from Dodge County. There is a link and information about making your hotel reservations on the WAHCE website at <u>www.wahceinc.org</u>. Click on the link for Experience the Magic of HCE. A lot of work has been done planning and preparing for this event. I hope more of you will think about attending this year. It is at the Hilton Paper Valley in Appleton.

Information to register and the conference itself will be released May 1st.

A huge welcome to the four new members in the Bristol and Good Neighbors HCE Clubs. Their photos and bios start on page 5.

I hope you enjoy this year. It is going to be a true sharing, caring and learning experience.!

Sincerely,

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Donna Zarovy 2024 Kenosha HCE President



- The roof of the home symbolizes our past heritage with Extension Homemakers. The letters:
 - H (Home)
 - **C** (Community)
 - **E** (Education)

make it a suitable logo for the state, county, and club. The house without walls confirms a commitment to membership open to all regardless of race, color, creed, religion, sex, age, handicap or national origin.

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November 2, KCAHCE Education Program:

A huge thank you to Rebecca from Westosha Floral for leading us in the November 2nd education program. There were about 25 HCE members in attendance. We had fun learning how to make an evergreen swag for our homes. She supplied the greens, the wire coat hangers, and the decorations. Many even learned how to make bows. Rebecca made Christmas centerpieces, taught us some techniques and awarded them to two members.







January Community Service Project



At Fall Focus, the Good Neighbors and Bristol Club both signed up to lead our Community Service projects this year. Two projects were then coordinated to implement prior to the Annual Meeting correlating with KINDNESS WEEK and Valentines Day.

Members worked simultaneously on both the Kindness Snowmen and Gnome Treat containers. The Snowmen were intended as thanks and cheer for varying people and

organizations chosen by each club. And the Gnome Treat containers distributed to Westosha Meals on Wheels recipients for Valentine's cheer. Different Projects.

Different places. Different clubs. Message the same: Kindness and Cheer for Kenosha County.

~Jerin Moore

Announcements:

2024 Spring Event

The 2024 Spring Event is being hosted by the Good Neighbors Club on April 13th. More information and the registration form will be available soon. ~ *Linda Volling, President*

2024 Family Member Scholarship

The 2024 Family Member Scholarship Committee met January 16th. They are changing the due date for the scholarship to May 1st. The scholarship forms are being revised and will be available soon

~Rita Larson, Chair

KAFASI February 1 Education Program

The February education program will be held on the 1st at 1:00 pm at the Kenosha County Center. KAFASI, home to Kenosha's largest volunteer force, provides programs and services supporting community members of every generation and stage of life. Join as we learn about their programs and services from the more familiar Meals On Wheels to Music & Memory, RSVP, FGP and other focus areas with AmeriCorps Seniors Project Director, Rebecca Stevens. ~ *Jerin Moore, VP* **KCAHCE 2024 PROGRAMS** Most programs held on 1st Thursday of the month.

Thank you to Jerin Moore, Vice President of Program, and the Program Committee of the Merry Makers Club for coordinating the 2024 programs.

- January 20, Saturday, KCC*, 10:15 am "Kindness Snowman" Community Service Project, Noon Pizza Lunch (RSVP) 12:30PM, KCAHCE Annual Meeting
- **February 1**, Thursday 1:00 PM, KCC*, "Kenosha Area Family and Aging Services (KAFASI) Overview"
- March 7, Thursday, RSVP, \$10, Lunch & "March into Spring Plant Potting Planting Potpourri", Paul Sikorski, at Milaeger's in Sturtevant, WI
- **April 13** Saturday, Noon, KCC*, Spring Event -- luncheon Fee and RSVP. More info soon.
- April 13 11:30 am, drop off Cultural Arts Entries for Judging at Noon (entry form enclosed)
- April 26, Friday, "Families Branching Out Expo" Set-Up, KCC*, 2-4PM
- April 27, Saturday, KCC*, 10:00 am 2:00 pm. "Families Branching Out Expo"



- May 2, Thursday, 6:30PM, KCC*, "Decluttering/Downsizing", Amber Miller, AARP
- **June 6**, Thursday, 6:30PM, KCC*, "Hospice Alliance & Palliative Care Overview", Rita Hagan, Director
- August 8, Kamp KCAHCE, Time, program and location TBD, \$
- September 5, Thursday, 6:30PM, KCC*, "Back 2 School 4 Brain Health", Cindy Lester, ADC, MC, Ageless Grace® Educator
- October 19, Fall Focus, Time, program and location TBD, \$/RSVP
- **November 7**, Thursday,1PM, KCC*, WAHCE "Finding Gratitude" education program, Mary Metten, Extension Health & Well Being Educator
- **December 5,** Thursday, 11:00 am, Cultural Arts, "St. Nick's Crafts", with Jerin Moore and Donna Zarovy, (lunch is on your own) Birchwood Grille. Please bring a sack of oranges for the Shalom Center.

*KCC, Kenosha County Center

Bristol Club



Bristol Club gathered in November at Willowbrook Assisted Living facility, in honor and remembrance of Mary Tunkieicz, a 40-year member. In her honor and spirit, members enjoyed a box lunch, and crafted Harvest Pumpkins for the facility with five of Mary's resident-friends. Coordinated by Jeri Moore, Mary's daughter, Jennie, Facility Director, Olivia and crafting help from Mary Flanagan; we joined in 'Maryment' with our new friends gathered round.

Additionally, we renewed Membership dues, and added three new members~ Heidi Konz, Marge Larson and Jennie Tunkieicz to our club!

In December, we celebrated the season at the Boathouse, exchanged Christmas cards, donated to Goodfellows, discussed a possible 'PB&J' drive for Shalom Center, welcomed guest, Barb Zaloudek Scholwin (who has since joined), and discussed our February Meet Up; possibly at the Community Room at Vee O'Neal's residence.

Although we'll finalize plans at the January 20th Annual Meeting, we expect to have a potluck or brown bag lunch, with Jeri bringing her husband's butternut squash soup. Afterwards we'll make gnomes for Valentines Day fun with members chipping in a few dollars to cover costs. At 17 members, we are now the largest Kenosha County Club, and look forward to all mixing it up and becoming better acquainted.

~Jerin Moore, Co-President

Good Neighbor's -- Holiday Decorations

Good Neighbors Linda Volling, Kim Brandes, and Sandy Wolff shared what they learned at the November Educational Meeting with the rest of the Good Neighbor Members. Linda brought the supplies and demonstrated the steps to make the Holiday Swag that they learned at the Educational Meeting from Rebecca with Westosha Floral. Those who attended the Education Meeting enjoyed it and thought Rebecca



did a marvelous job! The ladies also showed pictures of the other items they crafted that day!

Christmas Project



Once again, as done for many years, in lieu of a Christmas dinner or lunch out, the Good Neighbors members selected an organization to help at Christmas time. This year the Good Neighbors Group decided to concentrate on the Veterans Village in Racine once again, a complex of 15 tiny homes, each housing a Veteran.



A collection was taken up to purchase Amazon Gift

cards for each Veteran living there. Member Holly Pilarek hosted a Saturday in December where we all spent the afternoon putting together gift bags of treats to accompany the gift cards and writing a Christmas Card to each Veteran.

Thanks to Holly's festively decorated home, snacks galore, giving all of us an opportunity to visit and accomplishing something nice for others, it was a lovely afternoon. The gift bags were delivered by Kim Brandes and her father on Tuesday December 19th, just in time for the holidays! As always they were extremely appreciative of our gifts and support.

Good Neighbors -- October

Fall Focus 10/14/2023 – Everyone who attended the Fall Focus event at Casa Capri was extremely pleased with the event. 36 KCA Members attended. Kudus went out to Tricia for MC'ing, Linda for the Centerpieces, Holly for Auctioning the baskets, and Cheryl for Casa Capri arrangements and food selections. Everyone agreed that the event was very successful and that the attendees seem to really enjoy it. The Auction brought in \$681, jelly \$80, Pennies for Friendship \$47, and an additional donation to Scholarships of \$25 was collected at the event. The left-over funds from Dinner Tickets and the budgeted amount came to \$46.34 was agreed to be transferred to the Community Service Committee funding and be sent to Women and Childrens' Horizons for their Winter needs.

Spring Event 2024 – Ideas were discussed for the event. Karen suggested and will be contacting Vijak Panian at the Kenosha County UW Extension office to see if he would be

willing to do a program on the Community Garden they have there. Once we know if it would be possible and his availability, additional plans can be finalized, i.e. date, to serve a lunch or not, etc. Possible dates are April 6th, 13th, or May 4, planning around Easter and the KCAHCE Families Branching out event on April 27th. Karen will advise accordingly.

Community Service Committee – The last collection for Sleep in Heavenly Peace was at Fall Focus. An additional eight Polar Fleece Blankets with matching pillowcases and eight sheet sets were collected that day. All items have been delivered and the very successful Community Service project for 2023 is now completed. Margaret will write up a committee report and submit it for the Winter Association meeting in January. The total donations for the year came in at: 31 pillows, 36 twin sheet sets, 8 blankets with pillowcases and 5 twin comforters!

~Margaret McCabe

JJ's December Meeting

The JJ's HCE Club held their annual holiday luncheon at the 75th Street Inn in Salem Lakes. All members were in attendance. Most of us had attended the Westosha Floral education program and were thrilled with our swags.

After lunch we held a gift exchange using the "Right Family Christmas" to pass our gifts around. We collected Pennies for Friendship and also funds for a holiday donation. We decided to send our holiday donation to Matthias Academy. We were so impressed with their school and the things they do with the students.



We decided to change our meeting time and date to the third Monday at 10:00 am for 2024.

~ Donna Zarovy

Welcome to all new HCE Members

Good Neighbors New Members

A warm welcome to the two new members of the Good Neighbors Club – Jessica Kapusten and Annee Williams. They will be featured in the April Extension Line.



New BRISTOL CLUB Members~

JENNIE TUNKIEICZ recently joined HCE after being a household member, to bring her mom to meetings. With Mary's October 1st passing, the Club encouraged Jennie to continue ~ bringing a special connect for all. For with Mary's recent 40-year membership recognition, HCE was also in Jennie's young blood too!

Recently retired in 2022, Jennie served as Chief of Staff for Kenosha County Executive Jim Kreuser. She previously worked as a newspaper reporter and editor for 21 years at the Kenosha News and the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel. In 2022, she received the Susan B. Anthony-Women of Influence Award for Business/Government/Non-profit, the UW-Parkside Distinguished Alumni Award, and was named Kenoshan of the Year by Kenosha.com. She currently serves on the HarborMarket Board, Kindness Week Committee, Susan B. Anthony-WOI Committee, Arts Fund of the Kenosha Community Foundation, and the Empowerment Team of 100+ Women Who Care. We are honored to have Jennie in her 'Moms Club', sharing her wealth of community, and special 'Kenosha light'.

~Jeri Moore and Jennie Tunkieicz

MARGE LARSON is a longtime friend of HCE and of Bristol Club President Joann Kevek She is an Illinois native who moved to Kenosha when her husband was employed by Carthage College, and she accepted a teaching position for Kenosha Public schools. Later on she taught at Armitage Academy, where she set up a special computer curriculum for the students.

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Marge has always loved cycling, and could be seen all over town on her bike. Sadly, she had to give up this activity due to health problems. Marge loves to travel and has been all over the world, New Zealand, Europe, United Kingdom, South America, and the 50 states. She especially liked the Lewis and Clark reenactment trips from Missouri to Washington state ~ a four-year summer commitment. Now somewhat handicapped, she enjoys spending time with her furry friend, Cherie, a shelter dog. We warmly welcome Marge!

~ by Joann Kevek



Jeri Moore has known **HEIDI KONZ** since the 90's, when both moved from IL to build their homes in the River Crossing subdivision. A native Milkwaukean, Heidi's best moments growing up included serving as a presiding officer and working with her sister in "Job's Daughters".

At the young age of 18, Heidi was hired to work with the Director and Deputy Director of a federally funded program, "Project Turnaround" ~ to help victims and witnesses of crime. She worked in this capacity for 15 years in the Milwaukee DA's Office, with the program's success launching into other states.

A recent retiree, (18 years with the City of Kenosha), Heidi worked in varying departments including: Public Works, Police, Neighborhood Services, Museum, and Kenosha Water Utility.

Her varied interests include: reading, especially American History, interior decorating, doll collecting, traveling, Badger and Packer games, gardening, and refinishing antique furniture. She's traveled extensively in Europe, is a YMCA and Senior Center member and volunteers in a reading program at Nash School. In addition to her interests, she keeps busy with her two daughters, aging Mom, and hubby.

Side Note: When Jeri explained our HCE organization, and invited her to join, she replied: "Oh, kind of like Girl Scouts for adults"! Jeri is pleased to have Heidi in HCE and thru this interview to have learned so much NEW about her neighbor-friend! Wilkommen Heidi! ~Jeri Moore and Heidi Konz



BARB ZALOUDEK SCHOLWIN is the most recent, new member of the Bristol Club; joining just after the December meeting. Barb and Jeri Moore met (virtually), thru their neighborhood FB page, and Jeri invited her to join.

Originally from the Mayfair neighborhood in Northwest Chicago, Barb and her husband moved to Kenosha in 2005 to be close to their two daughters and grandchildren. She loves to garden and has received the distinction of Master Gardner. She also enjoys cooking, and especially baking.

She has traveled extensively in Europe, with the Czech Republic her favorite destination. Recently she went on an African safari in Botswana, Zimbabwe and Zambia.

Barb is a "Life Long Learner", and recently won a scholarship to learn the Czech language. Besides studying Czech, Barb volunteers at Hospice Alliance. We welcome to Barb, and are happy you are with us!

~by Mary Flanagan

WHAT IS (FBO)?

Families Branching Out is the 2022 brainchild of HCE, Country Cousins member, Donna Deuster. For the past two years under the leadership of Donna Deuster, Chair and Co-chairs, Donna Zarovy and Jeri Moore with guidance from Mary Metten, Extension Health and Well Being Educator, we've been able to expand ~ exhibitors, participants and outreach. This year due to Donna Deuster's full-time employment, Donna Zarovy and Jeri Moore will Co-chair the event.

Additional Committee members include Kim Brandes, Teri Constant, Mary Flanagan, Claudia Gray, Vee O'Neal, Holly Pilarek, Marcia Richards, Ruth Rossman and Mary Starr.

Most of last year's exhibitors are returning. New exhibitors are being obtained, and Mary Metten has informed us that Kenosha County's Safe Kids Strong Families campaign is going to hold their annual Family Fun

Run/Walk directly preceding FBO at KCC, on the walking path. If you have any exhibitors you would like to see, let us know.

WHY (FBO)?

FBO was developed as a free, hands-on community wide expo which aims to:

- strengthen families
- provide a resource event fair
- cultivate "learn care share" mindset
- engage community
- encourage volunteerism
- model "learn by doing"
- promote HCE in the community

WHY THE HAPPY FAMILY TREE?

To encourage interaction, and wider involvement, CHS Marketing Club under the direction of Luke Wagner was contacted to develop a logo. Results were judged with The HAPPY Family Tree designed by Vinny Greco being chosen to represent our event values.

WHEN is FBO? -- Please SAVE THE DATES:

- Friday, April 26, KCC set up.1:30PM
- Saturday, April 27, KCC, 10:00 AM 2:00 PM
- Saturday, April 27th, Time TBD Pre event Walk Run

HOW CAN I HELP?

Help is needed prior to the event to distribute flyers, obtain funding, advertise the event, and do the preliminary set up on Friday. BUT – we also need help on Saturday to "run" the event, man the HCE booth, act as hostesses, and take down after the event is over. Please call Jerin or Donna to say "YES – I want to help!"

WHO DO I CONTACT?

Please contact Jerin Moore at 262-697-3459 (jerin1947@gmail.com or Donna Zarovy at 262-857-7502 (zarovy@frontier.com) to volunteer.

~ Jeri Moore, Co-Chair





Wise Wisconsin Learning Series

Mary Metten, Extension Kenosha County Health & Well-Being Educator Extension Line January 2024

It's January, it has started to really feel like winter in Wisconsin, and the holiday season is behind us. During this part of winter, days may start to run together, and many are thinking ahead to longer and warmer days of spring and summer to come. If getting out and about gets difficult at this time of year, consider checking out sessions of the upcoming series from UW-Madison Extension.

The Wise Wisconsin Learning Series is set to begin February 7th. This virtual series will bring eight separate sessions to all Wisconsin residents that are lifelong learners. These excellent and varied topics give an assortment of things to explore. Visit <u>https://go.wisc.edu/z96rcd</u> to find more information and register.

HCE 101: Some interesting information about the creation of HCE:

OUR HERITAGE



During World War 1, 15 emergency home demonstration agents began work in 17 counties to teach the use of wheat, sugar, and meat substitutes. Nellie Kedzie Jones, the third State Leader of Home Economics Extension worked tirelessly for 15 years to have home agents established in counties and Home Demonstration Clubs organized throughout the state. Records show that in 1932 she organized 690 clubs in 43 counties. It was under her guidance that the project leader system originated.

The first meeting to consider the formation of a state Home Demonstration Council was called by State Leader, Blanche L. Lee in 1939 during farm Home Week on the UW-Madison campus. A state Home Demonstration Advisory Committee met June 3, 1939 to elect officers. The first official meeting of presidents of county Home Demonstration Councils was held January 30, 1940, 22 counties were represented. The purpose of the council was to:

- Provide representation of rural women on state committees concerned with issues which affect home and families in rural communities.
- Develop an awareness of national and international interests and needs.
- Develop leadership abilities of rural women. Facilitate statewide acquaintances of rural women.

In 1969, the Wisconsin Home Demonstration Council changed its name to the Wisconsin Extension Homemakers Council. In 1993, the organization followed the lead of the national association and became the Wisconsin Association for Family and Community Education. The following year the state association voted to withdraw from the national association and chose the name, Wisconsin Association for Home & Community Education, Inc.

~ Donna Zarovy

Recordkeeping Recommendations

Written by Jonathon Ferguson A part of the Tip Sheets program

Saving receipts, paystubs, tax forms, and other documents can be important. But it can be challenging to know which documents to save, how long to keep them, and which papers to throw away.

This information sheet provides tips on documents you should save, how to save documents, and how to throw documents away.

Documents to save until they expire, are updated, or are no longer valid:

- U.S. identity documents like driver's licenses, social security cards, permanent resident cards, birth certificates, passports, death certificates, and others
- Court filings
- Military records
- Marriage licenses and divorce & custody decrees
- Insurance documents for health, auto, home, and other insurance policies
- Adoption documents
- Wills, powers of attorney
- Warranties for purchases
- Real estate documents
- Any documents related to identity theft or a dispute with a creditor
- · Household member's health information such as prescriptions, vaccination history, and others
- Financial documents such as retirement plan documents, bank account & routing numbers, beneficiary forms, investment account numbers, and others

Documents to save for certain time periods:

- Tax filing documents such as W-2 forms and 1099 forms. These documents, and any others related to tax filings, should be kept for at least seven years.
- Medical bills. These documents should be saved for at least 1 year or until any billing dispute is resolved, whichever is longer.

The best way to save documents can depend on your preference or situation. No matter your preference, it is important to save documents in a secure place and it can be helpful to save documents in multiple ways.

How to save documents:

Paper storage—you save the printed documents.

- Home filing cabinet
- Fireproof document box
- Safety deposit box at a bank or credit union

Electronic storage—you save digital copies of documents.

- Personal cloud storage. May be available through your email account or other online service
- Digital safety deposit box through a bank, credit union, or other online service
- USB storage device
- Personal computer

Saving documents is important. However, throwing away documents is important too! Getting rid of documents, you no longer need, such as an old utility bill, can help keep your personal information safe. Here are tips on how to securely throw away personal documents:

- Shred documents. Check your city's website and local stores for free document shredding events.
- from electronic device. Use 'secure delete' software to delete electronic documents.



2024 WAHCE Annual Business Meeting & Conference Invitation and



Hotel Reservation Information



Come "Experience the Magic of HCE" at the 2024 Wisconsin Association for Home and Community Education Annual Business Meeting and Conference in Appleton, Wisconsin September 16th – 18th, 2024. The conference center has been newly remodeled and features great meeting rooms and very nice guest rooms. We have a great line up of speakers and workshops. There will be tours and some on-site hands-on projects for those who wish to be creative.

Hotel Information

We will be staying at the Hilton, Paper Valley, 333 W College Ave, Appleton, WI 54911. Guests can start making their reservations right away by either calling 1-800-774-1500 and mentioning the WAHCE Annual Meeting group block (they should not need a booking code but just in case it is WAHC). The website invitation is posted and has a direct link to hotel reservations.

The standard rooms have either one king bed or two queen beds and are at the \$119 rate for one or two people which includes handicap accessible rooms, \$129 for three people and \$139 for 4 people. If you want a Junior Suite, the rate is \$159. In order to see the ADA compliant rooms on the booking link, make sure the accessible rooms box is checked on the top of the page.

Contact:

Details and Registration for our 2024 Conference will be in the May Issue of UPDATE or on the website <u>www.wahceinc.org</u> after May 1, 2024. If you have any questions, please contact us via phone or email.

Donna Zarovy, Conference Chair, 262-857-7502 or 262-945-7502, <u>zarovy@frontier.com</u> or Linda Feucht, Conference Co-Chair, 920-387-4029 or 920-344-6406, via email at <u>lafeucht@gmail.com</u>.

Please come and be merry, Make new friends ~ meet old. Join in learning, sharing And much more, I know. Make friends, KINDred Enjoy workshops each day "Learn • Share • Care" The WAHCE way! Do join and be merry, Enjoy camaraderie Come to State Conference And the "Causes" of HCE.

~jerin moore, KCAHCE VP

I KCAHCE Executive Board

Donna Zarovy, President Jerin Moore, Vice President Margaret McCabe, Treasurer Ruth Rossman, Secretary

Extension Line Committee

If anyone has any ideas for articles, please let us know. We encourage clubs to submit articles and pictures from their meetings A special thank you to KCAHCE members who helped assemble this newsletter. Please send all address corrections to us.

Donna Zarovy zarovy@frontier.com Marcia Richards richardskreuserm@gmail.com

How to find us:

- On Facebook: Kenosha County Association for Home and Community Education. Find county info, local happenings, and any changes to our calendar.
- On the state website: <u>https://wahceinc.org/</u>Find information and forms for all Wisconsin HCE counties.
- On the county website: <u>https://wahceinc.org/kenosha-county-hce/</u> contains information specific to Kenosha County.