

Changing With Today

COLUMBIA COUNTY ASSOCIATION FOR HOME AND COMMUNITY EDUCATION



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear HCE Members,

We hardly had enough winter to finish all the indoor projects I had planned—like more quilting and knitting—and here we are, speeding into the busyness of spring! I am a very seasonal hobby-ist. As soon as the weather is nice, I want to be outdoors. Even though I plan to cut back on the size and style of my vegetable garden this year, there are still plenty of perennial flowerbeds, berry bushes and fruit trees that need attention. I purchased a new toy recently: a battery-operated mini-chainsaw. And that is really helping me with the bigger pruning tasks.

Have you heard of hügelkultur? It's a German word that means "hill culture." In gardening, it is a mound garden that starts with a layer of dead logs and branches, covered by other organic materials, and topped off with a layer of soil. The wood decays, returning nutrients to the soil for a waste-free garden. Another advantage is that they help conserve water, so many areas of the country that are drought-prone are using these gardens. Gardeners using tall, raised beds are using this method to avoid purchasing soil to fill the entire structure. My back is really tired of

April 2024

getting down to ground level to garden, so I am going to use old cattle watering tanks as raised beds, and will fill the bottoms first with the dead wood that I have been pruning. It's been a fun project to plan out this winter, and now it's time to get going on it. I'm excited to try something new!

Don't forget to make time for HCE events coming up this spring and summer. Cultural Arts and Rendezvous will be held in Fall River on April 23 at Savanna Oaks. The deadline for entering arts entries is April 6. For Rendezvous, send your \$20 check for the event to Carol Beck by April 12. Look back to the February newsletter for cultural arts categories; the registration form is in the March newsletter.

The Pennies for Friendship deadline is earlier this year: April 15. Thank you for contributing to this worthy cause. If your club chooses to contribute to a local food pantry, be sure to let Donna Kohnke know of that contribution.

There will be a very timely lesson on recycling and solid waste in Columbia County on May 2. We have been recycling in our county for about 40 years, but things change!

(cont'd p. 2)

SAVE THE DATE/ UPCOMING EVENTS

Apr. 6, Cultural Arts registration deadline

Apr. 12, Rendezvous registration deadline

Apr. 15, Pennies for Friendship due

Apr. 23, Rendezvous and Cultural Arts Show and Contest, Savanna Oaks

May 2, Leader training, "Is this Trash?"

View forms, newsletters, and WAHCE information at: <https://wahceinc.org/columbia-county-hce>

Facebook group: Columbia County Home & Community Education

You'll find out why the bins are no longer separated, and what happens to recyclables and waste once it leaves your hands.

Our cream puff fundraising efforts will get back into action this summer. Sign up to help with one of the events, and enjoy this treat without guilt—it's for a good cause!

Becky Gutzman, President

Rendezvous and Cultural Arts Contest

April 23, 2024

Savanna Oaks
100 Savanna Rd., Fall River

Register your cultural arts entry by **April 6**.

Register for Rendezvous by **April 12**. There is no registration form. Just send your name and phone number, along with your check (made payable to CCAHCE) for \$20 to: Carol Beck, CCAHCE Treasurer
5700 Prairie Stone Dr.
McFarland, WI 53558
(If you wait too long to send in your registration, you may CALL Carol by April 12 to register, but absolutely no mailed registrations will be accepted after that date.)

Contact person:
Donna Kohnke
(920) 210-5037
kohnke@centurytel.net

May Leader Training

May 2, 1:30-3:00 p.m.

ADRC

Greg Kaminski

"Recycling Update in Columbia County"

The presentation will cover what can be recycled in

Columbia County and the current status of recycling markets. It will also cover challenges to the recycling industry.

Contact person:
Donna Kohnke
(920) 210-5037
kohnke@centurytel.net

Pennies for Friendship

The question has come up concerning the collection of monies under the term "Pennies for Friendship." Since it is no longer a term used by ACWW, can we use that money for local and state programs and projects?

At this time WAHCE has chosen to retain that term for international collections. It has been the term for clubs, counties, districts, and state for a long time. It gives members an opportunity to touch the lives of women all over the world. Money collection under that term should be used for international purposes.

If you raise money for a local project, you just need to state how you will be using it.

Lylene Scholz, International Chair

Additional message from
Donna Kohnke, District International Chair: Clubs may send

their penny donations to Carol Beck as usual. Donations support the Wisconsin/Nicaragua partnership, Ventures in People, and other international programs.

OR

Clubs may deliver their penny donations directly to a local food pantry. Let Donna know where and how much you have donated. She will forward the information to be tallied for the Zero Hunger program.

CCAHCE Scholarship Update

The criteria for scholarship applicants has changed for 2025.

Currently a high school senior is eligible to apply if he/she is a relative of a Columbia County Home and Community Education member. A student is also eligible to apply if he/she will major in family living education, culinary arts, horticulture, agriculture, interior design, or fashion design. These majors have been broadened to include any family living, education, or health-related field.

The deadline for the 2024 scholarships has passed, but the new scholarship application forms for 2025 will be posted on the WAHCE website (listed in the right-hand column on page 1).

To the Columbia County Association for Home + Community Education,

Thank you for contributing the hearts to our "survivors of suicide" packages! Many families have expressed their gratitude for the extra step that we take to support them through hard times. Together we are making a difference in Columbia County + beyond!

-Maddy, Pamela, Courtney + Taylor from the Columbia County Medical Examiner's Office