

Changing With Today

COLUMBIA COUNTY ASSOCIATION FOR HOME AND COMMUNITY EDUCATION



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear HCE Members,

Wasn't Rendezvous a great event this year? I loved seeing so many of you, and learning with you about the "State of Dairying" in Wisconsin. I heard people asking about field trips to the farms afterwards and I bet you'll be looking for Crave Farmstead cheeses at the grocery store. Even though there were fewer cultural arts entries this year, the projects you entered were really nice. I think planning ahead is the key... by the time March and April arrives, I am busy doing outdoor work. My entries would have to have been created during the winter!

Spring has me thinking about family. We have many April and May birthdays in our family, plus Mother's Day and Father's Day to prompt us all to appreciate the people closest to us. The interesting thing to me is how our families change, and how we respond to that change. Think about your childhood, and how you made the transition to adulthood. Sometimes smooth, sometimes bumpy, would be my guess. My mom and dad were good role models of how to treat adult children, but even so, I chafed a bit (probably an understatement) when at age 85,

May 2024

Mom was trying to tell me what I should or shouldn't do in my life!!

If we are parents, we tried to do the best job we could to give our children a good foundation, enabling them to become responsible, caring adults. However, I never felt an obligation to make sure my children turned into another me (scary thought)! We need to recognize that our children become their own person, and when they form their own families, that new family will be a blend of what both spouses bring along from their history. Here's the rub: they might want and do things differently than you did as a family!! (And that's OK.) I understand that not all "in-law" relationships are smooth, and part of our role as the "more mature" adults is to make sure we are not the source of the bumps. My personal desire is to help when asked, if I can; give advice only when asked, and pray for my family always.

I look forward to seeing many of you at the May 2 lesson on recycling, and the May 21 Executive Board meeting. In the meantime, appreciate families, and I hope that YOU receive the recognition, thanks and love you deserve from your family, wherever they are, near or far.

Becky Gutzman, HCE President

SAVE THE DATE/ UPCOMING EVENTS

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

May 21, CCAHCE Executive Board meeting, 9:30 a.m., ADRC

June 28, Deadline to notify Donna Kohnke about food pantry donations

Aug. 15, Registration deadline for WAHCE Conference

Sept. 16-18, WAHCE Conference, Appleton

NO NEWSLETTER MAILED JUNE AND JULY

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

Facebook group: Columbia County Home & Community Education

Rendezvous and Cultural Arts Contest

Thank you to all those who brought amazing items to the Rendezvous! It was wonderful to see all the skills represented. Following is a list of the items going to the WAHCE conference:

Kay MacLeish-poem "Do You Know Your Chickens"
Amanda MacLeish-2 photos
Kelly Juarez-shadow box craft
Jane VanDenBerg-lap quilt
Kris Young-bed quilt
LuAnn Olson-deer scene cross stitch
Lori Rausch-mixed media cards
Donna Kohnke-half diamond dot of birds
Fern Bessac-tatted American flag
Sandy Pohl-plant photo and bracelet

Congratulations to you all!

—Cheryl Neef, Kay MacLeish
Cultural Arts Chairs



Morning refreshments at Rendezvous were provided by:

Bobbie Goodman
Kim Sweney
Cheryl Neef
LuAnn Olson
Donna MacLeish
Kay MacLeish
Carol Beck
Beth Hahn
Linda Heckel

Hearts for Suicide Prevention

The Columbia County Public Health Department is looking for our help in making more stuffed fabric hearts to include in suicide prevention boxes. This is an additional project using the same type of hearts

you created for the Medical Examiner's Office. While the ME's office responds to families who have experienced the death of a loved one due to suicide, the Health Department is placing these boxes around the county to raise awareness of suicide as a prevention method. Liz Miller showed us these boxes at Rendezvous. The boxes will include information and encouragement, such as our hearts that can remind people they are loved and needed.

Please drop completed hearts off at the Health and Human Services Building, 111 E. Mullet Street, Portage, by May 9. Thanks for your help!

—Becky Gutzman

Cream Puff Schedule

The schedule was circulated at Rendezvous, and I am elated that all the slots are filled! I will be giving a call to volunteers two weeks before the fair to remind them of their time commitments. Any questions, my phone number is (608) 429-3046.

—Bobbie Goodman
Fundraising Chair

International News

Shoebox (or any shoebox-size box) donations for our Nicaragua partners will be collected at the state conference in September. Boxes can be sent with anyone that is attending the conference. Below is a list of items to include in the boxes:

Sewing
sewing machine needles
spools of thread
scissors/cutting wheels
bias tape/lace/buttons
measuring tapes
pins/needles

Gardening
garden gloves
garden clippers
garden string
garden markers
other garden items

Cooking
wooden spoons
measuring spoons
measuring cups
cupcake papers
spatulas
other cooking items

Hair/Personal
combs/brushes
hair clippers
hair clips/barrettes
barber scissors
rollers
other hair items

Boxes should be tied and labeled with the name of the county and contact information along with a note listing the small items you have placed in the box. All items should be in good working order.

—Donna Kohnke
International Chair for SW District

Donations to Food Pantries

If you donate your club's pennies to a local food pantry, please report to Donna Kohnke how much and where the donation was made. Deadline: June 28.

Donna Kohnke
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