

# Changing With Today

COLUMBIA COUNTY ASSOCIATION FOR HOME AND COMMUNITY EDUCATION



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hello and welcome to 2025!

Twenty-five years ago, we were all relieved that computers hadn't shut down the world as we knew it... remember Y2K? It's hard to believe that 25 years have passed, and we have grown accustomed to more technology than ever. Smart phones, online shopping, cars that remind us of every caution needed, robo-vacuums, and virtual assistants (think Alexa and Siri) are some of the ways technology is here to help us live better! In this year's programs, we'll investigate some new technology, AND we will have opportunities to learn about "old-fashioned" ways to live a better life. While there is no program in January, here's an overview of the rest of the year:

We'll shoo away cabin fever February 6 with some winter crafting.

March 4 we'll learn about one of the early native peoples of Wisconsin, the Metis.

How many of you were horse-crazy as kids? At Rendezvous April 17, we'll be all about horses.

## January 2025

On May 8 we will get an update on AI and other technology.

September 4 we'll learn why sitting is considered the new smoking.

We'll turn to indoor garden efforts as we learn about houseplants on October 2.

And in November, we'll do some arm-chair traveling on November 5 at Fall Council!

Don't these sound like interesting programs? I am so grateful to the program planning team of Kim Sweney, Bobbie Goodman and Donna Kohnke who worked with me to develop this year's lessons, many of which were suggested topics from you members—thank you! Pay attention to meeting locations this year, as we are trying out some new meeting places.

Our HCE Executive Board will meet on Tuesday, January 21 at 9:30 AM at the ADRC building. I hope that all committee chairs and officers will be present to make sure we are guiding our county efforts in a positive direction.

Warmly,  
Becky Gutzman, Co-president

## SAVE THE DATE/ UPCOMING EVENTS

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

*Mark your calendars for the upcoming programs:*

Feb. 6, "Curing Cabin Fever—With Winter Crafts"

Mar. 4, "The Metis in Wisconsin: Culture and Lifestyle"

Apr. 17, Rendezvous, "All About Horses"

May 8, "AI and Other Technology"

View forms, newsletters, and WAHCE information at: <https://wahceinc.org/wahce-counties/>

Facebook group:  
Columbia County Home & Community Education

## February Leader Training

Thursday, Feb. 6

1:30 p. m.

Columbia County ADRC  
Rms. 2-3, 111 E. Mullett St.,  
Portage

"Curing Cabin Fever—With  
Winter Crafts!"

Join us for a round-robin afternoon of crafting fun. Each person will have a chance to learn diamond painting, card making, and creating and using plarn (plastic bag yarn). Because we'll be ordering the supplies for diamond painting and card making, it's important to sign up soon.

Sign up with Donna Kohnke:  
(920) 210-5037  
kohnke@centurytel.net

## Club Donations

Donations from your club or individuals are welcome any time for the Bookworms reading program or the Youth Encouragement Awards given at the Columbia County Fair. All donations should be sent to the CCAHCE treasurer:

Carol Beck  
5700 Prairie Stone Dr.  
McFarland, WI 53558

## Cream Puff Help Needed

We recently received word that Chris Berger will be resigning as Cream Puff co-chair after this summer's season. Chris and her husband Jim Froelich have been invaluable in conducting this important activity! We appreciate their willingness to haul and store the equipment, as well as clean, set-up and troubleshoot the whipper. Thank you, Chris and Jim!!

This has been our major fundraiser and has allowed us to continue the other important community work that we do. Please consider who and how we can keep this going forward. Besides a willingness to work, a means of transporting the whipper will be needed. Think creatively about how we can replace Chris and Jim's contributions. If you have any interest at all, even if you don't have the transportation, please contact Bobbie Goodman at (608) 408-7457 or [rbgood90@gmail.com](mailto:rbgood90@gmail.com). Thank you all.

## CCAHCCE Executive Board Updates

Last year, the Board made the decision to end the positions of Sunshine Chairman and Education Program Coordinator at the end of the 2024 term. It was also decided to roll the Update Editor position into the Newsletter position. We thank Avis Link, Linda Heckel and Dorothy Neitzel, respectively, for their long service in these positions.

Kay MacLeish has agreed to serve another term as co-chair of Cultural Arts, and Donna MacLeish has agreed to continue for another term as Bookworms Coordinator. We appreciate your willingness to serve.

Dorothy Neitzel is no longer a member, thus we need a volunteer to serve as co-chair of the Scholarship Committee with Liz Miller. Anyone can fill this position; if you have had a relative receive our scholarship, won't you consider helping in this way?

If interested, please contact:  
Becky Gutzman  
(920) 382-4511  
[buckhill@centurylink.net](mailto:buckhill@centurylink.net)

## Blast from the Past

In 1988, "Columbia County Extension Homemakers" celebrated 50 years as an organization. This is a list of the clubs at the time (775 members!).

### Cambria Center clubs:

Rosedale, Cambria, Jess, Rustic, Kozy Korners, Woodside, Merri-Moms, Prairie;

### Portage/Caledonia Center

**clubs:** Caledonia, Circle, Durwards Glen, Forty Niners, Garrison, Idle Hour, Jolly, Something Special;

**Columbus Center clubs:** Black Sheep, Busy Lizzies, Buzzin Dozens, Dot Dash, Happy, Helpful Lassies, Moon Glo's, Petticoats, Round Robin, South Columbus, Sparkettes, Spin and Chin;

**Lodi Center clubs:** Country Women, Leeds Highlighters, Oakwood, Pal, Peppy Sixty-Niners, Stitch and Chatter;

**Poynette Center clubs:** Arlington Neighbors, Dekorra, Farmette, Inch, Jacob Low, Lowville Center, New Settlers, Pauquette Featherdusters, Pine Hollow Moonbeams, Potpourri Homemakers, Town and Country;

**Wisconsin Dells Center clubs:** Acornettes, Fireside, Levee, Lewiston, Newport, Newport Neighbors, Twilight;

**Fall River Center clubs:** Hopeful, Handi, Otsego, King's Corner, Hampden, Bennett;

**Pardeeville Center clubs:** Belle Fountain Belles, Castle Builders, Marcellon, North Scott, Pumpkin Hollow, Pleasure Hill, Riverside, So and Sew