

Changing With Today

COLUMBIA COUNTY ASSOCIATION FOR HOME AND COMMUNITY EDUCATION



March 2025

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I would like to thank everyone who braved the cold and wind to come to our February 6th Leader Training Program, "Curing Cabin Fever With Winter Crafts." We had three craft stations. Everyone had the opportunity to rotate to each of the craft stations. It was fun to see the smiles and joy of being successful learning a new craft. Tammy Smith's station showed how to make cards with a Valentine theme. Becky Gutzman's station showed how to make "plarn" from plastic grocery bags which then can be crocheted into mats for the homeless or handbags. Becky and Renee Tesch's station showed how to do Diamond Art and make key chains. Even for those that knew how to do these crafts, many tips were given to improve a project they might be working on. Thank you to the instructors for giving their time, preparation, and knowledge which made this program so much fun.

Now that our cabin fever is under control, spring fever is just around the corner. The last several weeks in February have been challenging between the snow, the cold, and a dead battery. Needless to say, I am having moments of wanting spring to arrive quickly. Here are three tips to get ahead of your spring fever:

1. Embrace active learning. On Thursday, March 4th, our Leader Training Program is a presentation on "The Metis in Wisconsin: Culture and Lifestyle." Mary Ellen Miller will talk about the Metis culture and their lifestyle in Wisconsin. There will be displays of clothing items and food samples that Mary Ellen will share with us.

April 17th will be our Rendezvous/Cultural Arts Contest and Show at Savanna Oaks, Fall River. This will be an opportunity to learn about horses. Our program is: "It's All About Horses!" The horses have already signed up to come, now it's your turn to sign up. There will be great food, a wonderful gathering of members and guests, and a time to view all the incredible cultural arts exhibits. Please sign up as soon as possible and before the deadline.

2. Plan a field trip. The 2025 Southwest District Spring Meeting will be April 10th. It will be hosted by Iowa County Association for Home and Community Education. Reservations are due **March 24**. There is a form included to give you details. Carpool and I guarantee the road trip will be informative. There's great food and you will get to meet with our Southwest District members. Best of all, it's a day out just to have fun and maybe travel on a road you have never been on.

SAVE THE DATE/ UPCOMING EVENTS

Mark your calendars:

Mar. 4, "The Metis in Wisconsin: Culture and Lifestyle," 1:30 p.m., ADRC

Mar. 18, CCAHCE Executive Board meeting

Apr. 1, Scholarship deadline

Apr. 4, Cultural arts registration deadline

Apr. 10, Rendezvous registration deadline

Apr. 17, Rendezvous/Cultural Arts & Textiles Contest and Show

May 8, "AI and Other Technology"

Sept. 20, bus trip to Milwaukee

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

Facebook group:
Columbia County Home & Community Education

(cont'd from p. 1)

3. Plan a garden for this spring to help our beautiful monarch butterflies. Last fall I attended our state's WAHCE convention in Appleton and went to a fantastic class called "Butterfly Garden Design." Several tips were given to set up butterfly gardens. I remembered how many milkweeds we had on our farm when I was a child, and now I see very few plants. This is most likely due to the fertilizer usage. I contacted a neighbor who had tons of milkweeds, and she collected seed pods in a bag for me. Picking the silk from the seeds made a huge mess on my kitchen floor! Silk was everywhere, but I was persistent. On a beautiful fall day in October, I sowed the seeds in all the areas I thought might work. I felt like a child tossing seeds and enjoying the fresh air with hope in my heart that maybe I'll see more milkweeds in the spring. Now as spring nears, I can't wait to see if I will actually have milkweed plants. Here is a link to learn more about the monarch and why milkweed plants are so important:

[Monarch — wisconsinbutterflies.org](http://Monarch—wisconsinbutterflies.org)

<https://www.nps.gov/articles/000/milkweed-and-monarchs.htm>

Maybe next year—bees!

Irish Blessing

May Your Mornings
Bring Joy
And Your Evenings
Bring Peace
May Your Troubles
Grow Less
And Your Blessings
Increase

Warm Wishes,
Kim Sweney, Co-President

March Leader Training

Thursday, Mar. 4
1:30 p.m.
Columbia County ADRC
Rms. 2-3, 111 E. Mullett St.,
Portage
"The Metis in Wisconsin: Culture and Lifestyle"
Sign up with Donna Kohnke:
(920) 210-5037
kohnke@centurytel.net

Rendezvous/Cultural Arts & Textiles Contest and Show

April 17, 2025
Savanna Oaks
100 Savanna Rd., Fall River

Register your cultural arts entry (ies) by April 4. Use the form included with this newsletter.

Register for Rendezvous by April 10. There is no registration form. Just send your name, phone number, club name (or individual) along with your check made payable to CCAHCE for \$20 to:
Carol Beck, CCAHCE Treasurer
5700 Prairie Stone Dr.
McFarland, WI 53558
NO MAILED REGISTRATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED AFTER APRIL 10.

8:00-9:00 a.m.—Cultural arts entries check-in

9:00-9:45 a.m.—Registration with coffee, juice, and snacks

9:45-10:00 a.m.—Opening announcements

10:00-10:45 a.m.—Baraboo River Equine-Assisted Therapies

10:45-11:00 a.m.—Break

11:00-11:45 A.M.—Ojibwe Spirit Horses & Il-Bit Ranch

Noon—Lunch: scalloped potatoes and ham, cornbread, brownie with ice cream

Cultural arts announcements

Baraboo River Equine-Assisted Therapies, Inc (BREATHE): a place where horses and people smile! Brian Hawkins will share how BREATHE provides equine-assisted activities and therapies to children and adults with special needs, while supporting the physical, mental and emotional health of everyone in their interactions with horses and staff.

The Ojibwe Spirit Horse was almost driven to extinction decades ago because they were considered a nuisance. Melanie Lichtfeld of Columbus will share the story of how she rescued two of these wonderful ponies and is educating the community about preserving this breed. The ponies will be coming to Savanna Oaks to meet us!

Food pantry donations of paper products or cash will be collected at the registration table.

Fall Field Trip

Save the date: Sept. 20, 2025

Columbia and Sauk County HCE members are planning a Saturday bus trip to Milwaukee! We'll be visiting historic Greendale, a "Greenbelt" community, and see the artistic chimneys around town. After lunch, we'll travel up to Cedarburg, where we'll tour the Wisconsin Museum of Quilts and Fiber Arts.

We plan to use a coach bus for comfortable, stress-free travel, leaving at 7:30 a.m. from Portage, and returning about 4 p.m.

Mark your calendars now, and more details on cost will be coming out soon.



**Wisconsin Association for Home
and Community Education, Inc.**

2025 Southwest District Spring Meeting

Wisconsin Association for Home and Community Education (WAHCE)

Hosted by: Iowa County Association for Home and Community Education (IAHCE)

Date: Thursday, April 10, 2025
Location: Hollandale Village Hall, 200 5th Ave, Hollandale, WI
Cost: \$15 per person (registration deadline is March 24, 2025)

Agenda

9:00 Arrival and Morning refreshments, View Iowa County Cultural Arts Show
9:30 – 9:40 Welcome, Pledge, County Roll Call, HCE Creed, Announcements
9:40 – 10:50 Jeff Kirsten, Department of Ag, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP), Safe Online Shopping
10:50 – 11:00 Break
11 – 12:00 Southwest District business meeting
12:00-1:00 Lunch and County Connection Time
1:00 – 2:15 ROTATIONS: Card Making with Joni Martin, Iowa County Cultural Arts Show viewing, Vintage Clothing Display with Jeanne Massey
2:15-2:30 Closing: Door Prizes, Invitation to Fall meeting, Prayer Creed and depart for home

Reservations are due **March 24** and are non-refundable – only transferable. For questions about registration, contact Jeanne Lissner, ICAHCE Treasurer at 608-228-1098

Southwest HCE Spring District Meeting, April 10, 2025

Name(s) _____

Total number attending _____ x \$15 = \$_____ Check payable to IAHCE

Mail registration form and check to: Jeanne Lissner

Iowa County HCE Treasurer

300 5th Avenue, Hollandale WI 53544

CCAHCe REGISTRATION FORM FOR CULTURAL ARTS & TEXTILES ENTRY
Rendezvous and Cultural Arts & Textiles Show and Contest
April 17 — Savanna Oaks, Fall River

NAME: _____ PHONE: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CLUB/INDIVIDUAL: _____

Send this registration form for all entries (including written entries) by **April 4, 2025** to: Kay MacLeish, N3703 County Rd. U, Merrimac, WI 53561

If you are registering a written entry, please mail the document by **April 4, 2025** to: Cheryl Neef, N7647 County Rd. SS, Pardeeville, WI 53954

Please list your entry category(ies) below with a title or brief description. For example:

5—JEWELRY

5A—Bracelet

blue/white beaded bracelet

_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

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