

May 2026 Goldnotes

Sheboygan County Association for Home & Community Education Presidents Message



Dear HCE Member,

It was a delight to celebrate with all of you at Rally/Recognition Day. The food was plentiful; Cultural Arts exhibits were outstanding and the fellowship with each other was fun. Thanks to all who had a hand in putting the evening together.

As we move into the summer season, we take a little break from the busyness of HCE and can devote some of that free time to enjoy family gatherings and maybe travel around the beautiful state of Wisconsin and beyond. There is one date that you should reserve for HCE Summer Tour. Marie Kalies has planned what looks like a fun outing to the Two Rivers area on June 17. See details in this Goldnote.

I would like to share this Summer Blessing I came across:

*Bless your joyful chaos of coming and going,
Bless your love of sunlight and warm breezes.
Bless your cool nights with bursts of stars.
Bless your ears ringing with the play of children,
and parents calling them in or shooing them out.
Yes, even bless our ears with the sounds
of lawnmowers and trimmers
May you be blessed these summer weeks!*

Joyce Smies
Sheboygan County HCE President

NVON—National Volunteer Outreach Network

Are you beginning to recognize this organization name and acronym? NVON is part of the over-arching framework for HCE. The National Volunteer Outreach Network is comprised of member organizations working together to promote communication, education, and volunteerism for all people.

The national convention for NVON will be held in Wisconsin Dells July 14-16. The opportunity to attend a national convention does not happen often. We look forward to hearing from those attending.



One of the goals of the organization is to focus on mental health. “Break the Stigma, Ignite Hope, Mental Health Matters” is the current project. Thank you to those who supported the fund-raising effort by buying a raffle ticket at Rally/Recognition Day.



Wednesday, June 17 -Summer Tour to Two Rivers

Monday, July 13 -12:30 PM Executive Board Meeting
Extension Room 5024

September 3-7 -Sheboygan County Fair
Plymouth, WI

Monday, September 14 -3:00PM
Executive Board Meeting
Extension Room 5024

Monday, September 14 -6:00PM
Iris Paper Folding
Extension Room 5020/5022

September 20-23 -WAHCE State Conference
Lismore Hotel, Eau Claire, WI

2026 Sheboygan County Association for Home & Community Education Officers

Joyce Smies
President

Marie Kalies
Vice President (Program)

Myra Eischen
Secretary

Nancy Wagner
Treasurer

Newsletter Edited By:
Joyce Smies
Julie Boedecker

Thank you for all of your help.

September Education Meeting: Monday September 14, 2026, 6:00 PM

Monday September 14 at 6pm Amanda Smith will be giving our Fall Craft program, Iris Paper Folding! I am excited to learn something new and hope you are also!

Please e-mail Mariek6968@gmail.com or Text Marie Kalies @ 920-676-7871 to sign up. We really need good numbers so Amanda can prepare! See you all then! Note the time, 6:00pm at the extension office.

WI Association HCE Webpage:

www.wahceinc.org

WI Association Sheboygan County HCE Webpage

<https://wahceinc.org/sheboygan-county-hce/>

Rally/Recognition Day Recap

The following members received a certificate acknowledging their years of membership in Sheboygan County HCE: Ellen McNeese, Nancy Wagner and Alice Walter. Not shown: Marilyn Voskuil and Joyce Hameister.

Lakeview Club hosted the event and appreciated all the assistance from all members with providing food, participation in the program and help in cleaning up. "Many hands make light work."



2026 Cultural Arts Winners

1. PAINTING/DRAWING - Amanda Smith – Alcohol ink drawing
2. CRAFTS - Amanda Smith – Cards
3. DIAMOND ART – Myra Eischen – Cardinals and Lillies
4. POEM - Myra Eischen - 65
5. HERITAGE SKILLS - Amanda Smith – Tatted Doily
6. PAINTED OBJECT - Amanda Smith – Wood Sheild
7. KNITTING - Phyllis Nyhof – Baby Blanket
8. CROCHETING - Nancy Wagner – Baby Blanket
9. HAND STITCHING - Nancy Wagner – Winter Lodge Sample
10. SEWING - Joyce Smies – Adult Wear
11. SMALL QUILT - Marie Kalies – Tree Skirt (16E)
12. SMALL QUILT – Marie Kalies – Somersault Bargello (16C)



Thank you to all who participated in our Cultural Arts Show. Big THANK YOU to Susan Crane for judging our entries. Also, to Nancy Wagner, Peggy Watson and Ellen McNeese for all your help.

****This year I would like all entries to me or to the Extention Office by September 18th. You can call me at 920-207-0009 and drop off your entries at my home. You can either pick up your entry Tuesday from me at State or see me about picking up any other time.

Thank you again, you are all winners.

Pam Fiedler

Cultural Arts Chairperson



Fall SE District Meeting

Sheboygan County will be hosting the Fall Southeast District Meeting on Wednesday, October 14th, 2026. Some of the details have already been arranged but there are still many opportunities to get involved to help showcase Sheboygan County to the rest of Southeast District.

The meeting will be held at Crossroads Church, 4321 Co Rd A, Sheboygan. We have invited Michelle LeMahieu to present the afternoon program. She will share the development of Livasu Community and the work of Dementia Innovations. She has graciously offered to give tours to anyone interested in seeing the community. By July, the first group of owners will be moved onto the property.

The morning will begin with a light breakfast buffet, coffee & juice. Southeast Director, Carolyn Dreier will conduct the business meeting in the morning. Lunch will be served at noon and the program will follow.

You will be able to be involved in several ways. We will need hostesses, both at the door directing people and at the registration table providing name tags and handing out materials. Myra Eischen and Kaye Keys have volunteered to head up the food committee. They will be looking for some food donations and help with serving and clean-up. Amanda Smith has volunteered to do the centerpieces. She will look for some assistance.

Watch for more details after the July Executive Board meeting.

Saying Goodbye to Troung Tran



Mid-April, I received a phone call from Truong Tran, sharing the news that he and his wife Abby, had made the decision to leave Sheboygan County and move back to Florida. This was a difficult decision for them, but they made it with family considerations in mind. Jayna Hinz, Area Extension Director, shared this with us:

The UW Extension-Sheboygan County's Human Development and Relationship (HDR) Educator resigned from the position in May of 2026. The former HDR Educator, Truong Tran, and his family made the decision to return to Florida. Sheboygan County's Extension Area Director started the process of refilling the position. In the meantime, Extension is working to cover programs already promoted. An update will be shared when the position is filled. If you have questions, please reach out to Jayna Hintz, Area Extension Director (920-418-0251 / Jayna.hintz@wisc.edu).

While Truong's time in Sheboygan County was short, he served us well. We will miss him and are ready to welcome his replacement.

March Education Program Recap: Healthy Recipe Substitutions

Twenty-five ladies attended the Monday morning program led by Myra Eischen, with assistance from her friend Linda Waddell. We explored some substitute ingredients that can be used for people with special diets.

Myra had handouts, with recipes showing the original recipe alongside substituted versions.

From homemade Taco Seasoning to Gluten Friendly Pasta Salad! Attendees also enjoyed tasting samples, making the program both informative and delicious.



Honey or maple syrup for sugar.
Sugar free chocolate Chips. Milled
flax seed for chopped pecans and so
much more!



April Education Recap: Making Meaningful Memories and Healthy Brains

Twenty-Six members attended the April Education led by Truong Tran, assisted by Marie Kalies. The program started with trying to fill in the blanks on songs from the past. Our members did very well at these. Then we tested them on childhood memories, from first kiss to what we ate for breakfast on Monday.

We talked about Brain Health and Normal Aging compared to Dementia. We discussed the benefits of a Meaningful Active Lifestyle.

How Normal Aging and Dementia Compare	
Normal Aging	Signs of Dementia
Making a bad decision once in a while	Poor judgement and decision making
Missing a monthly payment	Inability to manage budget or handle finances
Forgetting which day it is but remembering later	Losing track of the day or the season
Sometimes forgetting which word to use	Difficulties having a conversation
Occasionally losing things	Misplacing or losing items frequently

Members were given a copy of “Brain Health Bingo” and challenged to put it on their refrigerator and get a “Bingo” at least once a week.

Actress Jane Fonda gave her ideas on how to live 7.5 years longer using Positive Attitude. (She was born in 1937 and will be 89 years old in December).

Truong gave us tips on how to keep our minds strong, Strategies from 3 different Extension programs: Savor memories, Communicate Positive XYZ Statements and Share your legacy.

Savoring Memories

- Notice it
- Write it down
- Ponder it
- Tell someone
- Make it lasting



We talked about the Kewaunee County Mastery Makers program as well as Planning Ahead. The program was packed with information; this was just a short recap. I hope everyone enjoyed it!

Community Outreach for 2026

Kindred Heart Families

Donations for May, June, and July-School daze, Busy bags and Welcome bags

School daze items -New backpacks, notebooks, binders, folder with pockets, wood #2 pencils, mechanical pencils, highlighters, crayons, dry erase markers, pencil cases, black and blue pens, red pens, scissors, markers, rulers, glue sticks, calculators, colored pencils, bottle glue, pencil sharpeners, headphones, copy paper, tape, flash cards, paint.

Busy bag items -Small diaper/wipe packages, drinks, snacks, baby bottles, water bottles, small craft kits, small books, activity books, pens/pencils, activity packs, coloring books with crayons, small stuffed animals, small blanket, small games, small puzzles.

Welcome bags -New pillows, new blankets for twin bed, new stuffed animals, new bottles, sippy cups, children's cups, formula, water, juice pouches, snacks-individually packaged, mini diaper packs, wipe packs, small toys, small puzzles and games, small arts and craft kits, activity packs and books, reading books, coloring books and crayons, journals, stationery, pen sets, postage stamps, shampoo and conditioner, bath wash, toothbrush and tooth paste, brush/comb, feminine hygiene, new socks and underwear, new shoes.

Any items can be brought to board meetings or educational meetings. Items can also be dropped off at Immanuel Lutheran School, 1626 Illinois Avenue, Sheboygan, on Monday, Tuesday, or Thursday from noon to 5pm.

We will be collecting Toy Drive items in September, October and November. Suggestions for toys will be in future Goldnotes.



Member to Member Recipe Theme

Just want to let everyone know early so you have time to start looking for a good recipe. Franklin HCE members have chosen "Recipes for Special Diets" as the theme for our recipes for Member to Member in October. A few ideas would be gluten free, diabetic, heart healthy, low sodium, vegetarian, etc. More information to come in the future.

Sheboygan County HCE Summer Tour 2026

Wednesday, June 17, 2026

- 1). Hamilton Wood Type Museum **\$10** 10AM till 11:30am
Address: 1816 10th St, Two Rivers, WI 54241 Phone: (920) 663-8671
<https://woodtype.org/>
<https://www.facebook.com/hamiltonwoodtype>
- 2). Lunch at the Lighthouse Inn on the Lake 11:30 till 12:30
Address: 1515 Memorial Dr, Two Rivers, WI 54241 Phone: (920) 793-4524
<https://www.lhinn.com/>
<https://lighthouse.hrpos.heartland.us/menu> (Just X out of ordering to see menu)
- 3). The Historic Washington House Museum and Visitor Center, (replica of Ed Berners' ice cream parlor). 12:30 to 1:30.
Phone: 920-793-2490. **FREE**
Address: 1622 Jefferson St. Two Rivers, WI, United States, Wisconsin 54241
<https://tworivers-history.org/historic-washington-house/>
- 4). Rogers Street Fishing Village **\$5** 1:30 to 3pm
Address: 2010 Rogers St, Two Rivers, WI 54241-2759 Phone: (920) 793-5905
<https://www.rogersstreet.com/index.html>
- 5). Lakeside Country Store 3pm (Open till 5:30pm)
Address: 12124 State Highway 42, Mishicot, WI 54228.
<https://justplainbusiness.com/lakeside-country-store/>

Sheboygan County Fair

Hello Sheboygan County HCE members! The Sheboygan County Fair is just around the corner. As you know we man the booth in the Education Building to promote our HCE programs. This booth needs one person in it at all hours listed. There are 18 “blocks” of time on this sheet. We need two more members to fill in the empty blocks. Please email, call, or text me at 920-676-7871 and help fill in the blanks! The two times still needed are Saturday from 4-7, and Sunday from 4-7.

Also remember, this is a three-hour shift, so if you are at the fair visiting, think about stopping by and giving the booth member a short bathroom break by stepping in for a few minutes, when you are not on the schedule!

Note that the fair provides a free one-day admission pass, (one pass for each time block), but that does not include parking.

If you want to purchase a season pass for yourself, they go on sale around the first of July, and usually at a discount the first couple of weeks of sale.

The fair is sharing 175 Years of Community Fun this year. <https://shebcofair.com/> See you at the fair!

2026 HCE Fair Booth Sign up			
2026 Fair Booth Schedule September 3 - 7			
Thursday 12-3pm	Marie Kalies and Deb Roitt	Sunday 10-1	Alice Walter **
Thursday 3-6pm	Judy Diener	Sunday 1-4	JoAnn Gadicke
Thursday 6-Close	Amanda Smith	Sunday 4-7	
		Sunday 7-Close	Pam Fiedler **
Friday 10-1	Julie Boedecker		
Friday 1-4	Ruth Hering	Monday 10-1	Peggy Watson and Nancy Wagner
Friday 4-7	Joyce Smies	Monday 1-4	Lynn Boenisch
Friday 7-Close	Linda Smith	Monday 4-7	Kathy Bonde and Mary Olsen
Saturday 10-1	Myra Eischen		
Saturday 1-4	Sharon Claerbaut		
Saturday 4-7			
Saturday 7-Close	Pam Fiedler **		
	** No need for Pass		

Sheboygan Co. HCE April 13, 2026 Board Meeting

Meeting was called to order by President Joyce Smies.

Association Creed was led by Marilyn Voskuil.

Roll Call: Julie Boedecker, Kathi Bonde, Myra Eischen, Carolyn Dreier, JoAnn Gadickie, Kay Keyes, Pam Fiedler, Marie Kalies, Ann Meyer, Joyce Smies, Joanne Schroeder, Marilyn Voskuil, Nancy Wagner, Joan Walvoord, Deb Zimmeran, guests; Truong Tran, Mary Bungler

Minutes from March were read. Motion to approve. JoAnn Gadickie 1st, Pam Fiedler 2nd

Treasurer's report read and filed.

Audit was done by Joanne Gadickie and Joanne Schroeder, easy and accurate.

Cultural Arts: We need more entries for the cultural arts fair. Sue Crane has agreed to judge items for \$50.

Stitches of Love: no new report

HCE Bookclub: May 14 next meeting, September date not set yet but the book is "True Colors" by Kristin Hannah. We always welcome new members. It is held at Pizza Ranch Sheboygan 11:30 a.m..

Family and Community Life: Any items listed in the previous Gold Notes or money donations, can be brought to county meetings and Julie will take to Kindred Hearts. She is also willing to meet anyone who would like to volunteer on Tuesdays at 12:00. They had some water damage with the last storm so are looking to raise money by having a rummage sale on April 25th. They are also looking for a larger space to work out of. Julie helped pack Easter baskets for the foster kids and if there were other kids already in the home.

WI Bookworms: Winding down the current school year and already gearing up for next year. Books have been picked and ordered for the fall.

International: State sponsored with WI Nicaragua partners a 3-day training session for baking, cooking, sewing, beauty, to help ladies start their own business. The cost for 4 women was \$350. We can make a big difference with little effort by supporting things like this. Some women traveled 2-4 hours to attend this.

VP Programming: Amanda Smith will teach Iris paper folding in September at **6pm**. We hope to have a great attendance. Truong Tran will talk on clarifying your end of life wishes. (happy thoughts) in November. 2027 program is tentatively set: Jan. 10am Sheboygan Co. Resource Center. Feb 10am. Program at Mead Library. March 10am Dan Hocesvar- Beekeeping, April **1pm** Badger talks- Amish in WI May 6pm Rally Day Sept. 10am Pam Fiedler Paper Embroidery Oct. 6pm Member to Member, Nov. Truong Tran

Marketing and Membership: If you have addresses or phone numbers of places with free advertising for our meetings, please call or text Kathi Bonde.

NVON Conference will be in the WI Dells July 14-16, 2026.

Spring SE district mt. Kenosha April 15th.

Rally Day May 19th with Cultural Arts contest.

WAHCE state conference Sept. 21-23, 2026. Housing is limited at the Lismore to a single queen bed, but they have arranged with Spring Hill Suites 2 miles down the road to give discounts to members going to conference.

Fair Booth- remember to sign up for a spot at the fair. It would be nice if everyone would have to work just one time slot. One free ticket per slot is all that is offered.

Summer Tour June 17, 2026. Museums of Two-Rivers

10am meet at Hamilton Wood Type and Printing Museum-1816 10th St. Two Rivers \$10
12ish Light house Inn Restaurant- 1515 Memorial Drive Two Rivers- cost as ordered
1pm The Washington House Museum -1622 Jefferson St. Two Rivers- cost of Ice cream sundae
2pm Rogers Street Fishing Village Museum- 2102 Jackson St. Two Rivers \$5
3pm drive to Lakeside Country Store- Amish store -12124 WI-42 Mishicot- at your own spending.
There are several other places to visit in Two Rivers if one of the museums doesn't interest you. You can go on your own and catch up with group later. We need 10-20 people for this trip. Sign up with Marie Kalies.

Fall SE District Meeting: October 14, 2026. We voted on location: Crossroads Community Church. A motion to accept fee of \$200 was made by Kathi Bonde and 2nd by Deb Zimmerman. We will plan 8am to 3pm to allow for set-up and clean-up.

The registration is at 10am with coffee, juice, light refreshments. The meeting is 10:30-12:00. Lunch will be at 12:00, Program by: Michelle LeMahieu will be 1-2 and a tour at Livasu will follow for those who want to attend.

The theme will be Live as Usual. Joyce Smies will work on program. Nancy Wagner will take care of name tags. Myra Eischen and Kay Keyes will work on the food menu. We will need greeters, hostesses to guide people to bathrooms and seating area, people to help set-up and clean-up, tables and chairs. We could also use someone to be in charge of centerpieces for tables. Talk to your clubs or friends and we will finalize at July meeting. Joyce Smies will talk to Donna Zarovy about microphone and sound system.

Goldnotes: articles should be in by May 20 (Pam will talk to Emily about final report on rally day waiting till 21st) and proofread on May 27th.

Next board meeting will be Monday July 13, 2026 at 12:30pm.

Round table discussion, no real issues.

Association Prayer lead by Joan Walvoord

Adjournment by Joyce Smies

Myra Eischen, Secretary Sheboygan Co. HCE