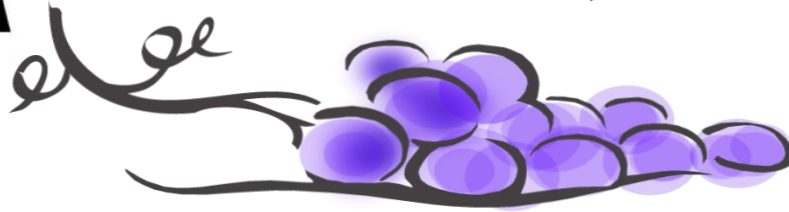




The Grapevine



October 2025

President's Message

Happy fall to all. It has been a very nice fall.

We had a very productive fall business meeting. There were 5 extra members other than board and new ideas were talked about. Programs that we would like to see are: air fryers again, gluten free cooking, a dietitian discussing reading food labels, more cell phone classes, and baking artisan breads. If you know of anyone who can talk on these subjects, please let Joanne Trunkel or myself know. We would like to do some interesting classes. If any one has ideas for HCE day let us know.

Also discussed filling our roster. We need 3 for international, board members filled the cultural arts and scholarship positions. The historian Betty Loos would like to step down, she has done this for 10 years and wants out. Also I am willing to do one more year and I have been on for at least 11 years and will be stepping down after next year. Also Joanne at the same time. I would be willing to work with anyone this next year.

Joanne reported on the state conference meeting. Of the 12 cultural arts items that were sent to state, we received 11 blue and 1 red ribbon. Also Debbie Gries received a medalion for her watercolor eagle painting. The shoe boxes that were collected, at last minute were not to be taken to state conference as the Nicaraguan government won't let the containers that were sent earlier be unloaded.

Nicaraaga Partners from Stevens Point are not sure if they will be shipped back at our expense or eventually unloaded. If sent back their warehouse will be full-- Shoe boxes are in safe keeping until time to use.

I will be waiting to hear if anyone has ideas for classes, HCE day or would like a position on our HCE board. Thank you in advance.

President Lois Becker

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Meeting Minutes.....	Page 2
Club Happenings & Bookworms.....	Page 3
Chocolate Dessert Winners.....	Page 4
Smartphone classes.....	Page 5
Hidden Challenges on the farm.....	Page 6

*If you would like a full copy of the
Chocolate Dessert Recipes-
please contact Val at 715-743-5122*

Growing Stronger, Reaching Wider, Caring To Make A Difference

HCE Offers Opportunities For:

- *Learning in a social setting.*
- *Sharing what we learn.*
- *Caring to make a difference in our homes, communities, and the world.*

Meeting Minutes

Fall Annual Business Meeting

October 7, 2025

Meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm by President Lois Becker at the Greenwood Area Emergency Services Building in Greenwood with the Flag Pledge and Creed. Roll call was taken. Twelve members were present representing 5 clubs. The Secretary's minutes from 2024 were read and placed on file.

Lois Becker gave the Treasurer's Report: Treasurer's Report with budget was presented. Received \$6,200.88 from Dairy Bar. Donna wrote \$1,000.00 check to Loyal FCCLA. Treasurer Deb Gries VOIDED the check that she wrote to FCCLA. Lois informed us that we will be receiving a bill for printing costs (.10¢ a page) going forward. Lois will get clarification regarding what this will entail. Update subscription cost going up \$2.00 per subscription. The budgeted amount should be fine. Motion by Mary Kip to approve treasurer's report and budget with second by Peggy Buchda, motion carried.

Joanne Trunkel – VP for Programs & Community Outreach Report: Presentation on State Conference: 246 attending participants from 41 Counties. Joanne attended the "Ask a Question" educational program – topic: Suicide Prevention. Was a very informative presentation. The speakers were excellent. Cultural Arts had 335 entries from 37 counties. Clark County did very well: 11 blue ribbons, 1 red ribbon and 1 medallion. 141 items were donated for the silent auction which raised \$2,669.00. The 2026 State Conference will be held in Eau Claire. There will be a 1-day registration option.

Peggy Buchda - Bookworm report: Peggy brought a sample set of books for us to review. Ordered 400 8-book sets that will be distributed throughout the county this year. Also received 1,050 bonus books to be distributed as needed. There is an issue with the English to Spanish activity sheet translations. We may or may not get them this year due to budget cuts and short staffing issues.

Peggy asked for approval from the Board to apply for a grant from the Clark County Community Foundation. Motion by Joanne Trunkel to allow Peggy to apply for the grant, second by Mary Kip. Motion carried. Peggy received approval from the Board to apply for this grant.

Dairy Bar: After expenses, the Dairy Bar earned a net profit of \$7,200.88.

HCE Day: Looking for ideas for our next HCE Day event. If you have an idea please let Lois know as soon as possible.

Historian: HCE started here in 1939.

Marketing/Membership: Received an award for Membership Recruitment. Need to spread the word about HCE.

International/Citizenship: The containers that were loaded and sent to Nicaragua have been turned away at the port of entry to Nicaragua. The government will not allow entry. Working on a solution to this issue. Clark County received notice right before conference regarding this issue and therefore our shoe box donations are not on these containers. Joanne Trunkel is currently storing the shoe box donations until a resolution has been received regarding this situation.

Scholarship: Received thank you notes from all of the scholarship recipients. Committee member positions have been filled for next year.

Unfinished/New Business:

The following Committee positions are or will be open and we will need volunteers to fill them:

International/Citizenship – 2/3 people

Clark County HCE Standing Rules were read by Lois Becker. The updated rules will go into effect January 1, 2026.

HCE Board positions: The following positions will be opening Historian and President. We will need to find members to fill these officer positions on the HCE Board. If you are interested or know someone that may be interested in one of these positions please contact Lois Becker.

Next Board meeting will be November 4, 2025 at the Greenwood Emergency Services Building, starting at 6:00 pm. We will discuss the scholarship application process at this meeting.

Meeting ended with the Prayer.

Meeting adjourned at 7:48pm.

Respectfully submitted, Roberta Hansen, Secretary



Club Happenings

Hilltop

The Hilltop HCE had a busy September meeting. We all brought in chocolate items and put together several delicious baskets for a benefit for a community member. We chose our 2026 officers and began making plans for the upcoming months. Three of our members attended the West District meeting on October 6th and found it fun and interesting. We are looking forward to a fun and active year!

Country Lane



Wisconsin Book Worms



The Bookworms Project is in full swing with books being distributed to the 4K classrooms in all 12 schools in Clark County as well as the Head Start Program in Dorchester. In addition 9 sets of 5 board books were provided to the Head Start program for a classroom serving younger children. Each 4K student will end up with 7 different books to take home for their personal library. An additional set is provided to each classroom. We are very grateful to the 6 HCE members who volunteer to go into the classrooms to read each book and possibly do a related activity. This year they include Betty Loos, Mary Kipp, Margie Olson, Gloria Hamm, Debbie Perkl and Deb Brey. This year we had one book that is for older children so distributed those to 2nd grade classrooms. Pictured is a 2nd grade class in Neillsville who are excited to begin reading the books.





Adult Division
1st Place

Nite & Day Torte

Bunny Dux

INGREDIENTS

Cakes:

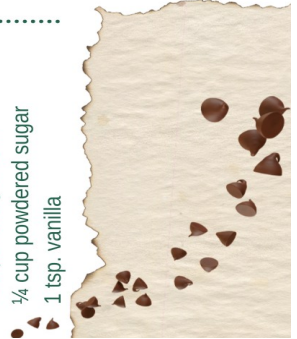
- 6 eggs separated
- $\frac{3}{4}$ cup sugar divided in two
- $\frac{1}{4}$ cup cocoa + 2 Tbsp.
- $\frac{1}{4}$ tsp. salt

Filling:

- $\frac{3}{4}$ tsp. unflavored gelatin
- 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ Tbsp. cold water
- 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ cups heavy cream
- reserve 3 Tbsp.
- $\frac{1}{2}$ cup powdered sugar
- $\frac{3}{4}$ tsp. vanilla

Frosting:

- 8 oz. semi-sweet chocolate
- 2 oz. butter
- 1 Tbsp. instant coffee
- $\frac{1}{4}$ cup hot water
- 2 cups heavy cream
- $\frac{1}{4}$ cup powdered sugar
- 1 tsp. vanilla



DIRECTIONS

Cakes:

- Beat yolks 5 minutes to a light lemon color, add sat and $\frac{1}{2}$ the sugar. Beat to a ribbon and add the cocoa until just combined. Beat the egg whites until barely soft, add the sugar slowly and beat till it holds a definite shape, fold together slowly. Butter, flour and paper line 8 inch round pans, pour into pans. Bake at 350 degrees until it comes away from the sides about 25 minutes. Let cool. The cakes will collapse and that's okay.

Filling:

- Bloom gelatin and water heat until dissolved. Beat cream, sugar and vanilla until it holds a soft shape. Add reserve cream to the gelatin and add to the whipped cream, whip until it holds shape.
- Remove cakes from pans and put the filling between cakes and refrigerate till frosting is ready.

Frosting:

- Melt chocolate and butter. Dissolve coffee in hot water, add to chocolate and mix till smooth, move to room temperature. Beat cream, sugar and vanilla until it forms a soft shape (no more or it will curdle). Fold chocolate and cream together and frost cakes. Garnish with whipped cream, chocolate curls and chocolate stars.



Adult Division
2nd Place

Easy Chocolate Dessert

Betty Durham

INGREDIENTS

Crust:

- 2 cups chocolate graham cracker crumbs
- 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ sticks of butter
- $\frac{1}{2}$ cup walnuts finely chopped

Cream Cheese Filling:

- 1 - 8 oz pkg. cream cheese, softened
- 1 cup powdered sugar
- 1 cup whipping cream

Chocolate Filling:

- 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ cups milk
- 2 - 3.9 oz pkgs instant chocolate pudding

Topping:

- 1 cup whipping cream
- 1 tsp. vanilla
- $\frac{1}{4}$ cup powdered sugar
- 1 cup semi-sweet chocolate chips or
- 1 - 4 oz. semi-sweet baking bar, chopped
- $\frac{3}{4}$ cup coarsely chopped walnuts
- Chocolate syrup



DIRECTIONS

Crust:

- Melt butter and mix with chocolate crumbs and nuts, press into ungreased 9x13 pan and chill.

Cream Cheese Filling:

- In medium bowl, beat cream cheese and sugar until smooth, set aside. Whip the whipping cream until stiff peaks form, then gently fold into the cream cheese mixture. Spread over the chilled crust.

Chocolate Filling:

- Using a wire whisk, beat milk and pudding mix until thick. Spread over the cream cheese layer.

Topping:

- For the topping, whip the whipping cream, vanilla and sugar until stiff peaks form.
- Spread over the chocolate pudding layer. Sprinkle with nuts and chocolate chips.
- Chill about 1 hour before serving to let it firm up. Just before serving drizzle over the top with chocolate syrup.



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CLARK COUNTY

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CLASSES



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2:00-3:30 PM
THORP LIBRARY

BASICS

NOVEMBER 4, 2025
1:00-2:30 PM
DORCHESTER LIBRARY

**SOCIAL
MEDIA**

NOVEMBER 11, 2025
1:00-2:30 PM
DORCHESTER LIBRARY

**SOCIAL
MEDIA**

DECEMBER 4, 2025
10:00-11:30 PM
NEILLSVILLE COURTHOUSE
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CRYSTAL.WALTERS@WISC.EDU

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HIDDEN CHALLENGES ON THE FARM

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CRYSTAL.WALTERS@WISC.EDU

STEPHANIE PLASTER
STEPHANIE.PLASTER@WISC.EDU

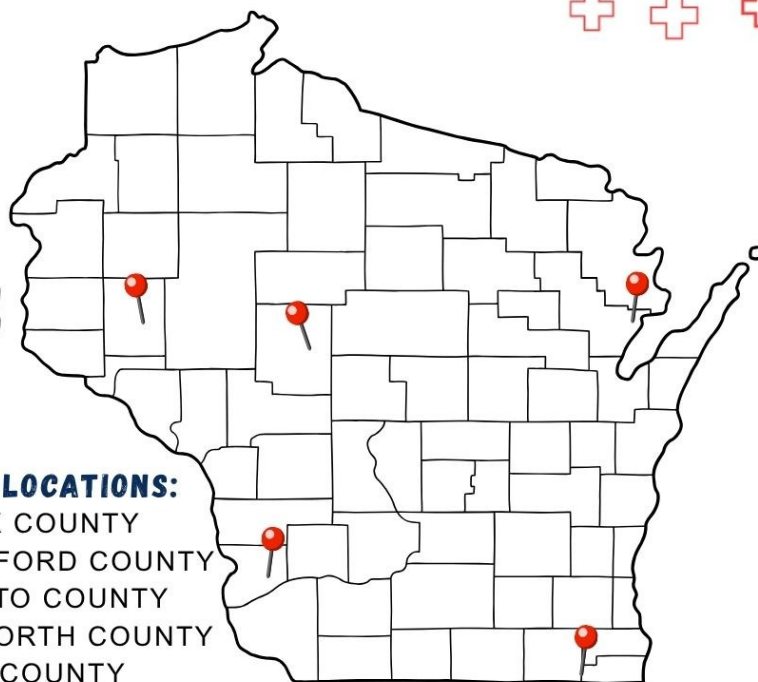
**Two sessions are being offered
(about 90 minutes each)**

HEALTHCARE WHILE FARMING

Explore Health Care options while learning to budget your health care needs into your Farm Budget during this 90 minute interactive workshop

CHILD CARE WHILE FARMING

Where does child Care land on your farm? Join this interactive 90 minute workshop to discover new options and solutions to childcare needs for farming



CLASS LOCATIONS:

- CLARK COUNTY
- CRAWFORD COUNTY
- OCONTO COUNTY
- WALWORTH COUNTY
- DUNN COUNTY

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2025

HEALTHCARE: 9:30– 11:00 AM

CHILDCARE: 11:30–1:00 PM

Register

NOW

**REGISTER NO LATER THAN NOVEMBER 3RD BY
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