

The Grapevine



Presidents Message

Happy St Patrick's day and happy 1st day of spring. Hopefully we don't get many snow storms now, and if we do it will melt quickly.

There were 15 in the sourdough class. We learned many things and sampled delicious treats.

HCE Day Spring Fling will be April 18 with registration at 9:30 and entries for the cultural show. The program will begin at 10.00 There will be a musical selection by the Neillsville Show choir around 11. Please help with the community project of collecting items for Birthday Kits for local food pantries. Items are cake mix, canned frosting, birthday candles, small paper plates or cash donations for supplies to complete the kits. Good luck to those entering the cultural arts contest.

Reminder to get news out about our scholarships. We give 4 \$750.00 ones to students who have completed one year of higher education, have 24 credits by June 1st and a 3.0GPA or better.

President Lois Becker

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Included Separately: Cultural Arts Registration

March 2026

*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

HCE Executive Board Meeting Minutes March 3, 2026

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm at the Greenwood Fire Hall by President Lois Becker with the Flag Pledge and the Homemakers Creed. Members present were: Lois Becker-President, Joanne Trunkel-VP for Program & Community Outreach, Mary Kip Marketing/Membership/Historian, Roberta Hansen-Secretary, Peggy Buchda-Bookworm and Deb Gries-Treasurer by phone.

The Secretary minutes from February 3, 2026 meeting were read and placed on file. The Treasurer's report was read and placed on file.

Director Reports:

Vice President for Family and Community Outreach: Registration is full for the Sourdough Bread Project Lesson. 80 books were donated to the Colby Community Library Make-A-Difference Day. This project brings a free book vending machine to Children's Hospital Pediatric Urgent Care and Emergency Waiting Area at Sandford-Marshfield Clinic.

Dairy Bar: None.

Bookworm: Celebrating 1 millionth book milestone. They are introducing a new female character to bookworm. A contest is underway to name this new character. You can submit an idea for the name by April 1st.

HCE Day Event: HCE Spring Fling at Posey Patch, April 18, 2026 with 9:30am registration and program starting at 10:00am. Will be serving sandwiches, soup, fruit cups. Peggy Buchda has lined up the Neillsville Show Choir to provide some entertainment. We will donate \$100.00 to the Choir for the performance. Boxes will be set up for the Birthday Cake Kits: the following items are needed for the kits: cake mixes, frosting, birthday candles, and party plates or a monetary donation can be made for supplies to be purchased to complete the kits. Posters were handed out for distribution around the County. 5 - \$10.00 Posey Patch gift certificates will be given away at the Spring Fling.

Committee Reports:

Historian: Will bring book to HCE Spring Fling for everyone to review.

Marketing: Will put article regarding the HCE book donation in the paper.

Cultural Arts: Have selected the judges for Cultural Arts judging. A \$25.00 donation will be given to each judge.

International/Citizenship: Will be collecting items at HCE Spring Fling.

Scholarship: Advertising will be put in the papers and posters will be distributed throughout the County letting everyone know about the scholarships.

Continued Business/New Business:

West District Meeting will be April 13, 2026 in Strum.

Next HCE Board Meeting will be May 5, 2026, 6:00pm at the Greenwood Fire Hall.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:00pm with the Homemakers Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Roberta Hansen, Secretary



Club Happenings



Hilltop homemakers did a "guess who" night. Members brought in young photos of themselves and we guessed whose who. Then when we got the right member we would tell a little about their childhood like where they were born, where they grew up and what they have for siblings. We laughed and had a good time and learned a little too!



CLARK COUNTY HCE DONATES BOOKS TO COLBY COMMUNITY LIBRARY FOR THE MARSHFIELD CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL PEDIATRIC URGENT CARE WAITING AREA

Clark County Home and Community Education recently donated 80 books

to the Colby Library. The Library and the Altrusa International of Marshfield club members are joining forces to bring a free book vending machine to the Marshfield Children's Hospital Pediatric Urgent Care and Emergency Waiting Area. Children who are patients or youth who are waiting with another family member will receive a token to use in the machine to select a free book of their choice. The Colby Community Library is hoping to stock the first set of books for the machine-250 new children's books for ages 18 months through 2 years-when the machine is obtained.



HCE Wisconsin Bookworms invites HCE members and Head Start programs to help name our new Bookworm as we celebrate having read one million books to Wisconsin children since 1998. Our Bookworm Wiggly is being joined by a new friend. Please help name the girl Bookworm.

----- Cut here and send bottom half in for entry -----

My suggested name for the girl Bookworm is:

My name:

My address:

The winning name will be announced at the September HCE Conference.

Please send entries by April 1, 2026

Send to:

Jean Brew, Chair, Wisconsin Bookworms
S120 County Road A
Wisconsin Dells, WI 53965

HCE Spring West District Meeting

Trempealeau County

Monday, April 13, 2026

Immanuel Lutheran Church, 109 Elm St. Strum, WI 54770

(handicap accessible)

Schedule:

9:00 a.m. Registration

9:30 a.m. Welcome ... *Carolyn Boehne, Trempealeau County President*

9:35 a.m. Business Meeting

10:35 a.m. *Networking with our local school (Kris Husby, Member of Eleva-Strum School Board)*

11:30 a.m. Lunch (*lasagna, salad, garlic bread, dessert, milk, water, coffee*)

12:15 p.m. How important are volunteers to your community (Dawn Hering, Director of Strum Public Library)

1:00 p.m. Committee Reports

1:30 p.m. Invitation to the Fall 2026 West District Meeting

1:35 p.m. Wrap-up

Registration Information

Register by April 1st, 2026

If you plan to attend

Call or email:

Lois Becker

Beckjl46@gmail.com

(715)255-8307 or (715)255-2658

HCE Pays Registration



HCE DAY SPRING FLING

April
18

**Check-in
9:30 AM
Starts
10:00 AM**

**Posy Patch
Greenhouse**
*N1839 WI HWY 73
Owen, WI*

\$5.00/ Person

Limited Space Available-
Register with
Joanne Trunkel by April 7
715-267-7264

SERVING BRUNCH,
COFFEE & JUICE

Join us in our
community project
collection; items being
collected:

- CAKE MIX
- FROSTING IN A CAN
- BIRTHDAY CANDLES
- SMALL PLATES
- CASH DONATIONS



**WELCOME
TO ALL**

We will have Door prizes!

Upcoming Events

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON
CLARK COUNTY

MASTER YOUR SMARTPHONE

UPCOMING
CLASSES



HE

BASICS

MARCH 18TH, 2026
10:00-11:30 AM
GREENWOOD LIBRARY

**SOCIAL
MEDIA**

MARCH 25TH, 2026
10:00-11:30 AM
GREENWOOD LIBRARY

BASICS

APRIL 10TH, 2026
10:00-11:30 AM
NEILLSVILLE COURTHOUSE

CONTACT CRYSTAL WALTERS, HDR EDUCATOR
UW-EXTENSION CLARK COUNTY
715-743-5121
CRYSTAL.WALTERS@WISC.EDU

REGISTER BY CALLING CLARK COUNTY EXTENSION OFFICE
715-743-5121

Join us and begin

Planning AHEAD

for the end of this life

PlanningAHEAD is a 7-session course (one hour each) that guides participants through the topics on the right. This course features a workbook to help people with the tasks and decisions associated with end-of-life.

Who is the program for?

This program is for people who:

- Are interested in planning for the end of life to make things easier for family members
- Have lost a loved one
- Are in the process of losing a loved one and are dealing

When is the program?

Wednesdays & Thursdays
April 15, 16, 22, 23, 29, 30 and May 6
11- 12 PM

Location and Registration:

Aspirus Stanley Hospital
1120 Pine St.
Stanley, WI 54768

To Register

Contact: Amber Gilles, Administrative Assi
Chippewa County Extension
(715)726-7952
amber.gilles@wisc.edu

Planning AHEAD program topics

- Getting Started
- Handling Financial Changes
- Advance Medical and Legal Directives
- Estate Planning
- Choices in End-of-Life Care
- Final Wishes
- Understanding Gri

OPEN OFFICE

hours

WITH CRYSTAL WALTERS

HUMAN DEVELOPMENT AND RELATIONSHIPS EDUCATOR FOR UW-MADISON
DIVISION OF EXTENSION

Do you have questions about your....

- Smartphone
- End of life planning
- Budget planning
- Pressure Canner Testing
- Food Preservation Equipment Rentals
- Rental Agreement
- Strong Bodies classes

UPCOMING FEBRUARY DATES:

Granton Library- March 17th & 31st (2:00-4:00 PM)

Loyal Library- March 18th & 25th (2:30-4:30 PM)

Greenwood Library- March 19th & 26th (2:30-4:30 PM)

CONTACT US



ClarkCoExtension



715-743-5121



crystal.walters@wisc.edu



Extension
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY
Extension and Outreach

**HAVE A FOOD PRESERVATION
OR HOME SAFETY QUESTION?**

ASK AN EXPERT!

 **1-866-540-4636**
M-F, 9-Noon & 1-4pm

 **go.wisc.edu/AnswerLine**

Trusted Answers are Just a Call Away

Medicare & You

Turning 65 in 2026 and Want to Learn More About Medicare?

Register to attend *Medicare & You* for Free & Unbiased information presented by the Elder Benefit Specialist, Terri Esselman.

Available Dates:
 January 28 - 8:30 am
 May 27 - 8:30 am
 July 29 - 8:30 am
 September 30 - 8:30 am
 November 25 - 8:30 am



CONTACT US
715-743-5166

 **Clark County Courthouse Auditorium**
517 Court Street, Neillville

Planning AHEAD

Advance directives, Handling financial changes, Estate planning, and Arriving at Decisions for the end of this life

Join us for a 7-session virtual program to help participants understand how to prepare for the end of life for themselves or a loved one.

Thursdays, April 2-May 14
Virtual sessions: 11 a.m.-noon
Registration: \$30 (includes materials)
Register here: <https://go.wisc.edu/072hpy>



For questions, email planningahead@extension.wisc.edu