Macon County

November - December 2026

HCE HIGHLITES

"Enhancing the lives of individuals and families through quality educational programs and experiences, encouraging responsible leadership and service to the community."



Dave and I want to thank everyone for all the "thank you" cards you sent for Dave's service to our country!

He had a great time and was so surprised by the amount of people that greeted them as well as all the mail call he received from you! He was very touched by the words you wrote and couldn't believe that people still care. He is totally exhausted today! I am going to put all of your letters in an album along with his pictures.

Thank you again!
Dave & Gini Smith

Upcoming Events

Sunday, November 1
Deadline for HCE Dues $21, checks made out to MCHCE
Get to Sally Dennis

Reminder: Friendship Project Fund due to Sally Dennis before November 20

Thursday, November 5
Mini District Workshop
11:30 - 3:00 p.m.
First Baptist Church
Taco Bar available for lunch
Donations can be made for the church and lunch.

Monday, November 9
HCE Board Meeting
1:30 p.m.
First Baptist Church

Wednesday, November 11
RSVP for November Lesson

Sunday, November 15
Send upcoming newsletter items to Toni Strait

Wednesday, November 18
First Ladies of the U.S. Lesson
9:30 a.m.
First Baptist Church

November 26-27
Extension Office Closed

Monday, November 30
Sewing Day
9:30 - 3:00 p.m.
The Ropp's Sewing Center

Send CVH hours sheets to Karen Cahill by December 5th.

Monday, December 14
HCE Board Meeting
1:30 p.m.
First Baptist Church

Monday, December 28
Sewing Day
9:30 - 3:00 p.m.
The Ropp's Sewing Center

December 22 - January 4
Extension Office Closed
Happy Holidays!

Laughter is Good for the Soul

1. I tried to run through a campground, but I could only ran past tense. - Decatur Tribune
2. A pessimist sees a dark tunnel. An optimist sees light at the end of a tunnel. A realist sees a train. The engineer sees three idiots standing on the tracks. - Decatur Tribune
3. A recent study has found women who carry a little extra weight live longer than men who mention it. - Decatur Tribune
4. I told my wife she should embrace her mistakes. She hugged me. - Mzurimag

Yummy Recipes!

Fresh Lentil and Vegetable Soup

Ina Garten

Ingredients:

- 1 lb. French green lentils, picked over and rinsed
- Boiling water
- 1/4 cup extra-virgin olive oil, plus more for serving
- 3 large onions, chopped
- 3 garlic cloves, minced
- 2 large leeks, white and tender green parts only, chopped
- 1 tbsp. kosher salt, plus more for seasoning
- 1 1/2 tsp. freshly ground black pepper, plus more for seasoning
- 1 tbsp chopped fresh thyme
- 1 tsp ground cumin
- 8 celery ribs, cut into 1/2 in. dice
- 6 carrots, cut into 1/2 in. dice
- 3 quarts chicken stock or low-sodium broth
- 1/4 cup tomato paste
- 2 tbsp. dry red wine or red wine vinegar
- Freshly grated Parmesan cheese, for serving

Directions:

In a large, heatproof bowl, cover the lentils with boiling water and let stand for 15 minutes. Drain and set aside.
Meanwhile, heat the olive oil in a large pot. Add the onions, garlic, leeks, 1 tbsp. salt, 1 1/2 tsp. pepper, thyme, and cumin; cook over moderate heat, stirring occasionally, until the vegetables are very tender, about 20 minutes.
Add the celery and carrots and cook until they begin to soften, about 10 minutes. Add the chicken stock, tomato paste, and lentils to the pot. Increase the heat to high, cover, and bring to a boil. Uncover, reduce the heat to moderate, and simmer, stirring occasionally, until the lentils are tender, about 1 hour. Stir in the red wine and season with salt and pepper to taste. Serve hot with a drizzle of olive oil and a sprinkling of Parmesan.

Leftover Halloween Candy Cookie Dough

The Bakermama

Ingredients:

1 cup (2 sticks) unsalted butter, softened
1 cup granulated sugar
1 cup brown sugar
2 large eggs
1 tsp. vanilla
2 1/2 cups all-purpose flour
1 tsp. baking soda
1/2 tsp. salt
2 cups leftover Halloween candy (about 30 bite-sized chocolate bars, chopped, and 10 mini bags of candy pieces such as M&M's and candy corn.

Directions:

In the bowl of an electric mixer, beat the butter and sugars until smooth. Beat in the vanilla and eggs until well combined. Add the flour, baking soda, and salt. Mix until just combined. With the mixer on low speed, or with a mixing spoon, stir in the Halloween candy. To freeze the cookie dough for baking later, line a rimmed baking sheet with parchment paper. Scoop 2 tablespoon-sized portions of dough onto the baking sheet. Scoops of dough can be close together at this point. Press a few extra pieces of chopped candy pieces into the tops of each scoop of cookie dough, if desired. Place baking sheet in the freezer for at least 30 minutes. Take the cookie dough out of the freezer and transfer to a freezer-safe plastic container/plastic bag. Return the dough to the freezer and store until ready to bake. Dough can be stored in the freezer for up to 3 months. When craving a cookie, simply remove the number of cookies you want from the freezer and place a few inches apart on baking sheet. Bake at 350 for 12-14 minutes, or until cookies start to brown and crisp around the edges. Let cookies cool on the baking sheet for at least 5 minutes before removing to a wire rack to cool completely.

Note: If you want warm cookies shortly after mixing the cookie dough, refrigerate the dough for at least 30 minutes before placing 2 tablespoon scoops of dough a few inches apart on baking sheets. Press a few extra pieces of chopped candy and candy pieces into the tops of each scoop of cookie dough, if desired. Bake at 350 for 9-11 minutes, or until cookies start to brown and crisp around the edges. Let cookies cool on the baking sheet for at least 5 minutes before removing to a wire rack to cool completely.

Mini Pumpkin Cruffins

Milisa

Ingredients:

- 1/2 cups pumpkin puree
- 6 tbsp. brown sugar (will be divided in recipe)
- 1 1/2 tsp. pumpkin pie spice (will be divided in recipe)
- 1 can refrigerated crescent dough (use the sheets)
- Non-stick cooking spray

Directions:

Preheat oven to 375 degrees. In a small bowl, combine pumpkin puree with 2 tbsp. brown sugar and 1 tsp. pumpkin pie spice. Unroll the crescent dough into a rectangle on a clean surface. If using the perforated dough, press the seams together. Spread the pumpkin filling over the dough sheet all the way to the edges. Roll up the dough from the long side (similar to a yule log dessert). Use a sharp knife to cut down center, lengthwise. Cut each half into 12 chunks.
In a small bowl, combine 4 tbsp. brown sugar with 1/2 tsp. pumpkin pie spice. Spray a mini muffin pan with non-stick cooking spray. Roll each chunk of dough in the brown sugar mixture. Place the cut side into a muffin pan slot. Bake for 15-17 minutes, or until golden brown. Cool in the pan for 5 minutes. Remove to a wire rack to cool before serving.
Serve warm or at room temperature.

Notes:

*If you want to make larger cruffins, cut into 4 pieces instead of 12. Twist the pieces into a roll and place into a standard muffin-sized pan. Bake for 17-20 minutes, or until baked through. To make 12 of the larger sized cruffins, multiply the recipe by 3.
*You can drizzle a cream cheese or powdered sugar icing on after baking.
*Store in an air-tight container in the refrigerator for 2-3 days.

Macon County Home & Community Education Board Meeting

September 14, 2026

Call To Order: President Liz King at 1:43 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance: Liz King

Homemakers' Aim: Liz King

Joke: Liz King

Roll Call: Jody Dawson

Units Represented: Maple Grove; Mt. Zion; Oakley-Pleasant Grove; Rock Springs; Hickory Point
Total in Attendance: 12 (Karen Cahill, Jody Dawson, Sally Dennis, Cathy Gipson, Elaine Hamm, Liz King, Bonnie Lanham, Carol Ropp, Nora Reed, Cheryl Sample, Sandy Severe, Vicki Wooten)

Secretary: Minutes of the August 2026 meeting were distributed for record and accepted as presented.

Treasurer: Sally Dennis presented her report with a current bank balance of $7,590.95.

Correspondence: We received Thank You cards from Webster Cantrell Hall for the donation of pillowcases and from Sawyer Thompson for his scholarship money.

Officers' Reports:

1st Vice President: Nora had nothing to report.

2nd Vice President: Georgette was absent.

Community Outreach and Family Issues: Sandy Severe reported that 342 pillowcases were made this year so far with 50 of them completed last month. We are looking for other organizations that might need pillowcases. Ronald McDonald House is in need of meal preparation discussion about possibly volunteering in the future.

Cultural Enrichment: Cheryl reported that Cultural Enrichment Day is October 13th at 9:30 a.m. with projects arriving at 9:00. The board will provide light appetizers/finger foods/baked goods, coffee and juice as refreshments. Reservations need to be called in to Ella so we have an approximate count.

Historian: Carol reported to keep taking and sending photos. Awarding 2 scholarships this year was appreciated.

International: Cathy Gipson provided a wonderful treat from Puerto Rico: Nutella frozen treat cups. The recipe was sent for the newsletter.

Public Relations: Toni was absent, but newsletter items are due to her as soon as possible for the November/December newsletter.

CVH/District 2 Director: Karen reported that November 5th is the next Mini Meeting. She has been working on conference items. A volunteer hours recording sheet will be included in the newsletter.

Club Updates:

Lunch Bunch: October 2nd is at Arches Pizza and Brew in Findlay. Carpool will meet at Mt. Zion Presbyterian at 10:30. November 6th is Mystery Lunch Date and carpool will meet at 9:45 at the Mt. Zion Pres. Church.

Game Day: October 7th is the next game day. Let Karen know if you can attend.

Crafts/Needle Arts: Bonnie shared that Friday, September 18th at 11:30 is crafting a hanky wreath and she brought one to show. 9:00 is embroidery with Cheryl.

Unfinished Business:

Board Positions for 2027: We have 2 candidates for treasurer. If we cannot find anyone for Cultural Enrichment, we may be able to appoint Cheryl again. Sandy Severe will be nominated to Co-Chair Community Outreach with Linda Hooge.

International Day: Set up is at 1:00 on Tuesday, September 15th and the day begins on Wednesday, September 16th at 9:30.

MCHCE Website: Liz was able to get a quote for a new "friendlier and safer" website. We will take a poll and see if members will actually use it so the investment is worth the money. The quote was for $3,029.00 and would be presented in 3 stages. There is also an annual and monthly fee to keep it up to date.

Lessons for 2027: Lesson choices need to be turned in to Nora by September 16th.

Tablescapes: We finalized our table before the meeting. We have 2 people that will attend. Flowers will need to be purchased for the centerpiece the day before.

HCE Week October 12-16: Discussion about the schedule and reminders for taco bar lunch on Thursday were announced.

Fall Meeting: Wednesday, October 28th from 11:00 - 3:00 with registration beginning at 10:30. Reservations are due to Sally Dennis by October 21st with a $5.00 late fee after that date. Checks made out to MCHCE. Lunch at noon from DaBurg (pulled pork, green beans, potato salad, and dessert) with a $20.00 cost. The speaker will be Schales Nagle as the executive director of Kemmerer Village in Assumption. We will also have election and installation of Macon County Board members. Board members will provide dessert.

New Business:

Donations to First Baptist Church were discussed.

Reminder of the Tri-County Meeting on October 5th at the V-W Library in Clinton at 9:30.

The meeting adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jody Dawson

Macon County Home & Community Education Board Meeting

October 12, 2026

Call To Order: President Liz King at 12:09 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance: Liz King
Homemakers' Aim: Liz King
Joke: Liz King

Roll Call: Jody Dawson
Units Represented: Maple Grove, Pana, Patchwork, Mt. Zion, Oakley-Pleasant Grove, Rock Springs
Total in Attendance: 16 (Carolyn Barnett, Karen Cahill, Jody Dawson, Sally Dennis, Cathy Gipson, Karen Halicki, Susan Jones, Liz King, Bonnie Lanham, Georgette Merrifield, Carol Ropp, Nora Reed, Cheryl Sample, Sandy Severe, Toni Strait, Vicki Wooten)

Secretary: Minutes of the September 2026 meeting were distributed for record and accepted via email.

Treasurer: Sally Dennis presented her report with a current bank balance of $7,421.95. She is waiting on one outstanding check for membership pins to clear.

Officers' Reports:

1st Vice President: Nora reported upcoming events that included our Fall Meeting, Mini-District meeting, Mystery Lunch, First Ladies Lesson, and a reminder that annual dues of $21 are due to Sally by November 1st.

2nd Vice President: Georgette reported that the state is discontinuing all the pins, so she's ordering some ahead of time so we have some available. Our MCHCE table at Tablescapes created some interest in our organization and, hopefully, will result in some new members.

Community Outreach and Family Issues: Sandy Severe reported that pillowcases are still being made and we are still collecting pop tabs. We will have donation boxes for Operation Enduring Support available at the Fall Meeting and Cultural Enrichment Day. OES will have a packing day on December 1st if anyone is interested in helping. Friendship project fun money should be turned in to Sally by November 20th.

Cultural Enrichment: Cheryl reported that Cultural Enrichment Day is tomorrow, October 13th at 9:30 a.m. with projects arriving at 9:00. The board will provide light appetizers/finger foods/baked goods, coffee and juices as refreshments. It was decided to have supplies available to make Kindness Hearts for Conference as our craft.

Historian: Carol reported to keep taking and sending photos.

Public Relations: Toni reported that she was waiting on one more article and then the newsletter will be ready to print and mail.

International: Cathy Gipson provided yummy Beef Empanadas for lunch today.

CVH/District 2 Director: Karen reminded us that a volunteer hours recording sheet will be included in the next newsletter. Please remember to only count complete hours (round up or down, no half or quarter hours). District 2 board will be going to Effingham on Sunday to make final plans for Conference. She hopes that many will attend next year's conference (March 16-18) since there will be a lot of great share shops available to attend. November 5th is the Mini Meeting, and Paula from Paula's Retired Recyclers will be presenting that day and will have an idea for a bench to honor Sharon. Lunch will be a taco/salad bar and desserts.

Club Updates:

Lunch Bunch: November 6th is Mystery Lunch Date and carpool will meet at 9:45 at the Mt. Zion Pres. Church.
Game Day: November 4th is the next game day. Let Karen know if you can attend.
Craft/Needle Arts: Both groups will not be meeting in November and December. Discussion about possibly having clubs after lessons next year on a rotating basis.

Unfinished Business:
Lessons for 2027: We will meet tomorrow, October 13th, after Cultural Enrichment to discuss lessons for 2027.
First Ladies Lesson: It will be held on November 18th. Discussion about possibly learning about the first ladies of Illinois. There will be cake making day on Tuesday, November 17th as well.
Fall Meeting: A discussion about selling Mystery Bags for $5.00. Included in the bags would be items we have to sell, plus we would donate a free membership, a free ticket for our Spring, Fall, and International Day meetings. A motion was made by Georgette and Toni seconded it to make the Mystery Bags. Our Fall Meeting is Wednesday, October 28th from 11:00 - 3:00 p.m. with registration beginning at 10:30. Reservations are due to Sally Dennis by October 21st with a $5.00 late fee after that date. Checks made out to MCHCE. Lunch will be at noon from DaBurg (pulled pork, green beans, potato salad, and dessert) with a $20.00 cost. The speaker will be Schales Nagle as the executive direcotr of Kemmerer Village in Assumption. We will also have election and installation of Macon County board members. Board members will provide dessert.
Board Positions for 2027: President: Liz King; Treasurer: Susan Jones; Co-Chair Community & Family Issues: Sandy Severe; Co-Chair Cultural Enrichment: Cheryl Sample (enacting dispensation if no other nominees come forward) and Marilyn Rosenthal; CVH: Karen Cahill.
November and December DAV Sales: November is OPG and December will be Rock Springs.

New Business:
Fundraiser Event 2027: Discussion about MCHCE hosting a version of Tablescapes. We would ask to have it at the church, charge a $10.00 admission fee and a $10.00 entry fee (entrants would receive 2 free tickets for admission). Ideas for a theme included Christmas in July, holiday themed centerpieces, There's No Place Like Home. We would also have a bake sale, membership drive, and a boutique to sell items. Jody made a motion and Georgette seconded to pursue the event and ask the church for a Saturday in July.
Tri-County Meeting Changes for 2027: It was decided to only have one Tri-County Meeting next year. It will be on May 3rd at 9:30 at the church. Macon County will host.

The meeting adjourned at 1:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Jody Dawson

Officer's Reports

PRESIDENT
Liz King

Hello HCE members and friends,

The weather is cooling down (the stink bugs are invading my house trying to hibernate for the winter) and the leaves are starting to change colors. I love to watch the change of seasons; however, it is a bit sad to see summer dying off and the preview of winter to come.

This is the final newsletter of 2026 and by the time you are reading this note, we will probably have just finished the Annual Fall Meeting after an eventful HCE week. New board members will have been installed, and announcements will have been shared with members.

Tablescapes was a fun event, and we saw several HCE members who came to support us and see what the event was all about. Hopefully, some of the people we spoke with will want to join HCE.

Your board members will still be busy putting together your HCE books for 2027 and distributing them soon. Don't forget the final lesson of the year is November 18th on U.S. First Ladies where we will preview Mary Todd Lincoln's Almond Cake before preparing the cake for the Governor Oglesby Christmas Tea on December 6th. We still need an HCE unit to volunteer for the December bake sale.

Wishing every one of you a Happy Halloween, a Bountiful Thanksgiving, and many Blessings for Christmas! What a wonderful year 2026 has been. Thank you all for everything you do in your communities.

FIRST VICE PRESIDENT
Nora Reed

Hi MCHCE Members and friends!
I want to thank everyone for the great participation this year. We enjoyed bringing you some great lessons and speakers. I hope everyone enjoys the holiday season with family and friends. I want to wish you all a very happy and prosperous New Year.

Upcoming Events:
- Reservations for November events due by October 28th, please call the Extension Office.
- Thursday, November 5th: Mini District Workshop; 11:30 - 3:00 at the First Baptist Church.
- Wednesday, November 18th: 1st Ladies of the United States; 9:30 at the First Baptist Church. We will learn more about 6 more of our country's presidents' wives.

CULTURAL ENRICHMENT
Cheryl Sample

Fall has finally arrived. I don't know about you, but I am very happy with cooler days and evenings. This is the time of year when my country road is an implement show. As one field is harvested, the farmers move to the next. When I am driving, I remind myself I am in the farmer's "office". I definitely give them the right of way.

This newsletter is arriving after our Cultural Enrichment Day. If you exhibited, thank you very much! If not, I hope you were inspired and took away some ideas for a project you might enjoy making. Personally, I am still interested in making some creative books from paper bags. There is safety in continuing to create an area where we are comfortable. Step out and try something different. Each of us have nearly a year to fine tune our work. Enjoy the process.

Cultural Enrichment was a success! Our participants enjoyed a day of friendship and sharing. The winners with items going to state are Liz King with Best of Show, Bonnie Lanham, Karen Cahill in two categories, Pam Jarboe in two categories, and Cheryl Sample in two categories. A big thank you to all participants and our judges from the Salt Creek Quilt Guild.

MT. ZION
Susan Jones

The Mt. Zion unit took a couple of short trips this summer. In July, we went to the La Tea Da Tea Room in Clinton for a delicious lunch. This was followed up with going to antique stores. In August, we ventured to Sullivan. We had lunch at Jets Restaurant, which is housed in the former Red Apple Restaurant building. Then, we headed over to the Okaw Valley Orchard and shopped in their country store. It has a variety of food items to choose from, including apples (of course!), peaches, ciders, jams, honey, apple butter, baked goods, and more.

PANA
Carolyn Barnett

In September, we learned about "What's In Our Food", a somewhat scary subject.
Then, at our October meeting, we welcomed a new member; Irene Muneses. We turned in our dues for 2027. Georgette told us about the International Meeting on the Dominican Republic. We continued our ongoing project of collecting personal hygiene items to donate to our local food pantry. Several of our members are planning to attend the Fall Meeting on October 28th. We discussed plans for our Christmas party.

HICKORY POINT
Janet Feller

Our September meeting was held at Coney McKane's. Our speaker, Linda Little, was from CHELP with the senior program on dementia. The goal is to reduce isolation and get people out in the community. There is training offered so that people can learn how to interact with the person who has dementia. Training is offered to banks, churches, voting places, businesses, and others. Events being planned for those affected include the Lincoln Theater, Scovill Zoo, Paw Prints, and ice cream socials. After our meeting, and delicious desserts, we were adjourned.

Unit News

CENTER
Mary Lou Poor

Center HCE met on September 14th at the Christian County Extension Office. Seven members were present. Janet Engeling and her daughter served a delicious Mexican taco with a non-alcoholic margarita. Ann Bandy made a cornbread dip and key lime pie topped with delicious whipped cream. Tables were beautifully decorated with Mexican decor. Delores Hunt gave the lesson on "What's In Your Food?". Social time was catching up on what the members had done during their summer. Due to the heat, most commented that they stay inside. Hygiene products were collected to give to the Taylorville Food Pantry.

Center HCE met on October 5th at the Christian County Extension Office with nine members in attendance. Judy Vanhooser and Joelynda Conrad were the hostesses. As the ladies entered into the room, there sat Mr. Scrooge in the corner staring at them. The room broke out with laughter as they watched the expressions of others entering through the door.

Each table was decorated with pumpkin treats. There was a delicious meal with servings of delicious homemade pumpkin pie, apple cake, and apple cider surrounded by beautiful fall decorations.

Delores Hunt, Dorris Schroyer, and Mary Lou Poor were installed as new officers. A game of "Funny" Thinks fast was played with many different answers from the members. Delores talked about pumpkin pie spice that could be made form your kitchen cabinet spices. Samples of cookies that she had made were given to each member to take home. Personal hygiene items were donated to the Taylorville Food Pantry. Members enjoyed the delicious meal, and everyone took home a prize gift.

CVH
Karen Cahill

It's that time of year!

Volunteer hours are needed! There will be a sheet in this newsletter for you to fill out and return to me by December 5th, 2026. If you have any questions, please contact me.

YES, your volunteer hours matter - those for HCE AND those whereby you donate time to other groups - schools, hospitals, church, scouts, veterans, Red Cross, Rock Springs, looming, etc. I hope to hear from everyone this year!

DISTRICT 2 / STATE NEWS
Karen Cahill

DISTRICT 2 FALL MINI - MEETING

You are all invited to join us on Thursday, November 5th at the First Baptist Church, Decatur, for a fun, informational meeting. You will enjoy the company of other District 2 members, learn more about the 2027 March conference, eat good food, laugh, and be glad you are part of our wonderful HCE organization.

Registration starts at 11:00 a.m.. Lunch will be served at 11:30 a.m.. We will collect donations for the use of the church and the meal.

Please contact Ella at the office, or me by the end of October to let me know that you'll be there.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH/FAMILY ISSUES
Linda Hooge

Sewing days have been busy. We completed 35 pillowcases on Monday, September 28th and have 50 previously sewn to be distributed. We had 13 ladies sewing, cutting, ironing, and matching fabric. We ordered lunch and had great conversations and a lot of laughs!

We are looking for new places that might be interested or in need for the pillowcases. If you have any ideas or know of any facility that has a need for the pillowcases, please let Linda Hooge or Sandy Severe know.

There will be a box set up at Cultural Enrichment Day, October 13th, and the Fall Meeting, October 28th, for donations to Operation Enduring Support. We also are still collecting pop tabs and will be accepted at any time.

As always, thank you for all your past support.

MAPLE GROVE
Carol Ropp

Maple Grove met at Sharon United Methodist Church on Tuesday, September 24th. We had our business meeting and Gini Smith and Jody Dawson provided our refreshments. We don't meet in October and November. Our next get together is Wednesday, December 9th. We'll have our traditional get together with appetizers and spending time together.

OAKLEY-PLEASANT GROVE
Patty Lovecamp

In August, we met at Jets Restaurant in Sullivan with Barb Stinson as hostess. We were few in number, but had a good meeting and fellowship. We discussed upcoming monthly events and the Day Trip to Common Grounds. Sally Dennis told us about her trip to the NVON Conference in Wisconsin.

In September, we met at Whit's Inn with Sandy Severe as hostess. Sally Dennis and Sandy Severe reported on the District Workshop they had attended in August. We discussed International Day to be held on September 16th. Sandy passed out lesson ideas for next year for us to select the ones of interest.

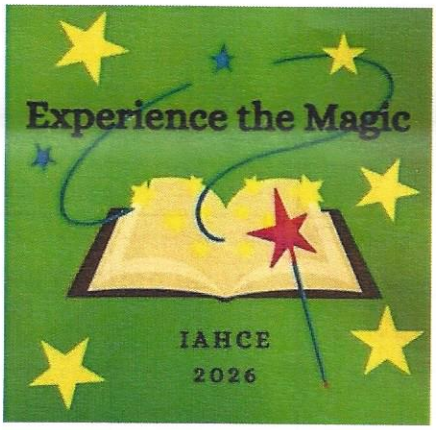
We won't be meeting in October due to HCE Week and the Fall District Meeting.

MEMBERS MEMO

Karen Halicki commented "I had this for Maroa Book Club. Learned what others are fighting to get; I Am Malala by Malala Yousafzai".

She is a Pakistani from Mingora, Swat Valley, Pakistan. At 11, she started speaking out for girls and their rights to learn. At 15, she was shot in the head by the Taliban while on her school bus for her activism. She was sent to Birmingham, U.K. to recover. At age 17, she became the youngest ever Nobel Peace Prize winner.

Her recovery was slow, but she started the Malala Fund. It began working with a global network of leaders and activists fighting for girls' rights to education in quality and safe schools in their own communities.



WHO, WHAT, WHEN, WHERE, WHY, and HOW????

Breaking a Thanksgiving turkey wishbone and making a wish tradition may have roots that started thousands of years ago.

In 900 BC, the Etruscans in ancient Italy believed that chickens were oracles who could tell the future. They would remove a chicken's wishbone and set it in the sun to dry. People would touch the wishbone and make wishes.

Romans eventually adapted this tradition. They began breaking the chicken's wishbone to give more chances for getting wishes. The person with the larger half got their wish.

Britain adopted this custom from Italy to use during autumn harvest feasts. They often used a goose's wishbone.

Sometime after the Pilgrims landed in America, American settlers began to use the wishbones from very abundant wild turkeys during their harvest celebrations.

INDIVIDUAL VOLUNTEER HOURS RECORD SHEET

IAHCE Individual Volunteer Hour Summary

Unit Name: _____ Member Name:_____ Year:_____

Monthly Hours	HCE Hours +	Other Hours =	Total Hours	List Locations Volunteered - PLEASE PRINT
JANUARY				
FEBRUARY				
MARCH				
APRIL				
MAY				
JUNE				
JULY				
AUGUST				
SEPTEMBER				
OCTOBER				
NOVEMBER				
DECEMBER				
TOTALS				**The time equation is simple:** (activity time) + (travel & preparation time) = # of hours

Total Hours:_____ Signature of Unit CVH Chair:_____

Address:_____

Phone:_____ Email:_____

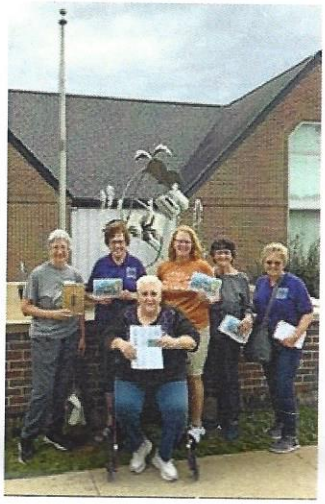
HCE Library Crawl



Decatur Public Library
October 1st
First day of the Library Crawl. We received our books and picked out a candy bar!



Onto (Warrensburg) Barclay Public Library. We received our stamps along with several goodies in a bag and a very nice coffee mug!



Our next stop was the Forsyth Public Library.
We are having a GREAT time!



Stop #4 was the Maroa Public Library. We got our books stamped and received cute notebooks and pens.



At this time, we headed up to Argenta. We got another bag of goodies.



We drove just a little way south to the Oreana Public Library. By this time, we were really getting hungry and thinking about lunch! We did some shopping in the bookstore and got some real bargains!





Last, but not least, was Hope Welty Public Library in Cerro Gordo! The woman in the individual picture is Hope. We got a good start on our library crawl that goes through October 31st. Keep going, girls! There are a lot more to go! We then barely had enough strength to go around the corner to Judy's Restaurant for a delicious lunch.

CLUB NEWS

Please remember to RSVP to the designated Chairperson if you will be attending these clubs.

Unit Presidents will have information regarding clubs as some club meetings will fall in between receiving your newsletters.

GAME CLUB MEETING —RSVP To Karen

Chair: Karen Cahill

217-520-2683

We have Wednesday, November 4th and Wednesday, December 2nd set as the last Game Days of the year at the Extension Office. We will also talk about how to proceed for 2027. If you have thoughts or ideas, please let me know. Hope to see you soon!

10:00 a.m. - First Wednesday of the month at the Illinois Extension Office
Wednesday, November 4th
Wednesday, December 2nd

Come join us and bring a friend!
If you have any questions or comments, please contact me.

LUNCH CLUB MEETING —RSVP To Sally

Chair: Sally Dennis
217-433-0605

November 6 - Mystery Lunch - Meet at Mt. Zion Presbyterian Church at 9:30 a.m.. We will be following Sally to the mystery location! RSVP needed!!

December 4 - Kickapoo Tea Room 11 a.m. in Downs, IL

We need to be at restaurants by 11 a.m. to beat their crowds. If you are carpooling, you should likely start at 10 a.m.

CRAFT CLUB MEETING —RSVP To Bonnie

Chair: Bonnie Lanham
217-454-8746

Friday, September 18—Hanky wreaths | 11:30—1:30 p.m. | Illinois Extension Office

Friday, October 16—TBD | 11:30—1:30 p.m. | Illinois Extension Office

Craft Club will not be meeting in November or December, but keep being crafty, artful, and designing!

NEEDLE ARTS CLUB MEETING —RSVP To Cheryl

Chair: Cheryl Sample

765-426-1420

We will not be meeting in November or December, but can be practicing our stitches into 2027!

DAY TRIP CLUB MEETING—RSVP To Gini

Chair: Gini Smith

217-454-1940

Friday, November 13 - Ace Sign Co. - Sign Museum Tour - Springfield, IL

A collection of many memorable and iconic signs to see. After the tour, we will find a place to eat lunch.
Meet at 9 a.m. at the Decatur Conference Center to carpool.

DEADLINE FOR DUES



Sunday, November 1st

Dues of $21 made out to MCHCE

Mail to Sally Dennis

7562 Bonnie Rd.

Dalton City, IL 61925

A Moment to Reflect

"I don't have a fabric stash. I have a textile investment portfolio."

- Anonymous

"Behind every great man is a woman rolling her eyes."

- Jim Carey

"I just make it my business to get along with people so I can have fun. It's that simple."

- Betty White

"Expecting the world to treat you fairly because you are a good person is a little like expecting the bull not to attack you because you are a vegetarian."

- Dennis Wholey

"No act of kindness, no matter how small, is ever wasted."

- Aesop

"Go out into the world and do good until there is too much good in the world."

- Larry H. Miller

"Change means movement. Movement means friction."

- Saul Alinsky

"As you get older, three things happen. The first is your memory goes, and I can't remember the other two."

- Norman Wisdom

"Facebook just sounds like a drag. In my day, seeing pictures of peoples vacations was considered a punishment."

- Betty White

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Check out our Websites!

Macon County HCE at

www.mchce.org IAHCE at

www.iahce.org