



# ACCENT

September / October 2024

Waupaca County Association for Home and Community Education

## Calendar of Events

September 16-18 WAHCE State Conference – Appleton WI

Wednesday, August 21 – Sunday, August 25- **Waupaca County Fair, Weyauwega, WI**

Monday, August 28 10:30 – Noon, **HCE Executive Board Meeting**, Sturm Memorial Library, 130 N. Bridge Street, Manawa (Bring or send along any Cultural Arts entries for State Conference, any items for State Silent Auction or Items for Shoebox donations)

Monday, September 23 10:30 – Noon, **HCE Executive Board Meeting**, Sturm Memorial Library, Manawa

Monday, September 23 **HCE Special Interest Meeting**, 1 – 2:30 PM  
**“Showing Gratitude and Finding Joy”** Sturm Memorial Library, Manawa

October 1 – Articles for November-December HCE **ACCENT** newsletter due to HCE Secretary Marilyn Herman

Tuesday, October 29 Waupaca County **HCE Fall Business Meeting, Potluck Dinner and Live Auction**, – 9:30am-2pm, Bear Creek Town Hall

**Program Cancellations or Corrections:** In the event of inclement weather or hazardous roads, listen to WDUX Radio 8:30 AM and 92.7 FM or WIMQ 92.3 for cancellations and possible rescheduling.

Check the most recent **ACCENT** newsletter for the latest activity updates, change of date, time or place updates from your Program Booklet

## A MESSAGE FROM YOUR HCE PRESIDENT

Hello Friends and Welcome to Fall...(it's almost here) Summer is fading as we get ready for picking vegetables, raking up leaves, and digging out sweaters and winter boots. The summer went by way to quick for me!

You may have heard that I have returned to the work force. I have expanded my music teaching studio to include Interactive Music Therapy. I provide music therapy services to nine area facilities working with Assisted Living and Memory Care residents. I really enjoy working with the residents and I know they are learning and having fun making connections.

As you see by the calendar, Waupaca County continues to be active in our communities. Please join us and participate in all the activities that you are able. We are seeking volunteer members to help plan and implement the next Central District meeting in the spring of 2025. Waupaca County will be hosting this event. And really looking ahead, Central District will be hosting the 2027 WAHCE conference in Oshkosh.

Take care---hope to see you soon!

*Lynn Marcks*

President, Waupaca County

## Seeking HCE Officers

Waupaca County HCE is seeking members to volunteer for officer positions on our Executive Board. We are seeking a chair or two co-chairs to serve in the area of Cultural Arts. And, we are seeking a chair to serve in the position of Coordinator for Family and Community. Please contact Lynn or Marilyn if you can help us out!

## We Welcomed Summer and Now Look to Fall

I'm hope you all got to go on our summer tour "*Music, Monarchs and Milk Chocolate*". An organ recital, lunch and visiting the Butterfly Gardens in Appleton with a final stop at a Wilmar Chocolate Shoppe sounds like a perfect day.

The plastic caps and covers project has accumulated enough plastics to make nine more benches. That's over 2000 pounds of plastic we have cleaned and had remade into park benches since the project began three years ago. Lori at the New London Senior Center plans by the end of summer to send the plastic to Indiana and pick up the newest benches.

September is a busy month. The State WAHCE Convention is the 16- to 18<sup>th</sup> and the Special Interest Program on "*Showing Gratitude and Finding Joy*" will be sponsored by HCE on September 23<sup>rd</sup> from 1 – 2:30 PM at the Manawa Library. The free program is open to you and your guests. This is a hands on program so be prepared to have some fun!



October is our Fall Business Meeting with a potluck dinner and Live Auction. November is our special interest program on "*Today's Library: Meeting our Learning Needs*" on November 25<sup>th</sup> from 1 – 2:30. Our speaker will be Bradley Shipps, the Outagamie and Waupaca County Regional Library Director. We will be learning what our libraries offer to make our lives more interesting. Hopefully, all of our HCE members will be able to take advantage of these programs.

PS. Our next volunteer Plastic Cleaning Date is September 25 – 26 at the New London Senior Center. Please let us know if you can join us for some or part of either day.

~ Doris Budwit, Program Chair and Project Coordinator



## Special Recognition and Awards

### Membership Awards:

Waupaca HCE recognized several members for their years of service at our Spring Business Meeting including: 50 year members Ruth Buss and Elaine Kaminske and 25 year Member, Bev Kirk. Other recognition goes to 45 year members Barbara Dain and Bev Berg; 40 year members Ruth Deegan and Catherine Schauder; 35 year member Lola Schroeder; and 30 year member Helen Heise. Thank you for your long-standing involvement with Waupaca County HCE.

*~Helen Heise, Membership Chair*

### Scholarship Awards:

We had 7 entries in this year's High School scholarship application process. Top winners include Jack Kettinger from New London going on in Public Health and Kayla

Keil, Waupaca going into Nursing. First alternate was Natalie from Clintonville and second alternate is Alissa Knedsel, New London. We were invited to present these \$1000 scholarship awards at the respective high school ceremonies.

*~ Kathy Manske, Scholarship Chair*



## Wisconsin Bookworm Early Reading Program

The Wisconsin Bookworm Early Reading Program begins in October for Waupaca County. Again, volunteer HCE readers will be sharing stories at three Head Start sites. Children ages 2-5 enjoy hearing stories from our volunteer readers. The bonus part is that each child receives a book of their own to take home and share with their family. That book becomes part of the child's reading collection.

We are seeking volunteer readers to share stories with the Head Start children. You may choose to read a couple of months in the 2024-2025 school year. Or you may choose to be a substitute reader. Contact Lynn @ 715.701.1620 or Diana @ 715.258.3349 to share your interest in serving as a volunteer reader.

Lynn Marcks and Diana Bonikowske  
Co-Chairs Wisconsin Bookworm

## Our Spring Business Meeting Was Buzzing with Activity

Extra Wisconsin Bookworm titles were available for sale to members at the Spring Meeting. They make great baby shower gifts. In addition, Co-Chair Diana Bonikowske provided more than 100 books for our Reading Pillows sewing and literacy project with Pieceful Hands Quilt Guild and CAP Head Start Centers. Book pocket pillows were awarded at the Head Start Centers in Clintonville, New London and Waupaca the end of May.



*Clintonville Early Head Start 2023/2024*

A note from the Clintonville Early Head Start and Head Start Program Staff

*To: Waupaca County HCE and Pieceful Hands Quilt Guild  
Thank you so much for the books and pillows for our children!  
We truly appreciate all the good things and support your programs give to our children!*



*Clintonville Head Start  
2023/2024*

## **Cultural Arts Contest 2024 Grateful for Members Stepping Up to Help**

HCE sends a sincere thank you to Bonnie Bartel who accepted the responsibility of conducting our most recent Cultural Arts Contest for Waupaca County HCE, along with her able and steady team from County Line Club – Sue Krenke, Lola Schroeder, Vickie Much and Kathy Manske. While these members helped Mary Fenske and Sharon Wepner in past years, they took on the challenge of leading the Cultural Arts Contest following the passing of Mary this year. They didn't miss a beat and we are pleased that the following items from members were selected to go to State competition.



***Diamond Dots Music entered by Marilyn Herman (and  
People's Choice Award)***



***Helen Heise received Blue Ribbons and State entry for her Quilted Jacket made from recycled fabrics sewn onto a sweatshirt as well as a Christmas Table Runner.***



***Mary Kautz had to get busy and knit baby blankets and bonnets for her newest grand niece and nephew twins who will loan them back to Mary for the State Contest.***



***Blue Ribbons were awarded to “Dresses for Africa” completed by County Line members, Sue Krenke and Bonnie Bartel.***

***No pictures were available for two Photography Blue Ribbon entries going to state by Kathy Manske of Sunflowers in the Field and Farming Grandson and Dad on the Tractor. A grapevine wreath created from natural materials by Lynn Marcks also was selected to go to State.***

**Plants that Create Positive Energy in Our Home was subject of Spring Meeting Program Feature**



Mary Herman and Doris Budwit presented our Spring Meeting Program “12 Plants that Create Positive Energy in Our Home”. Plants featured included Jasmine, Rosemary, Lilies, Sage, Ivy, Aloe, Basil, Orchids, Oregano, Lavender, Rose, and

Money Plant. Members received a complimentary herb to plant at home with a garden stake “Let Yourself Bloom”, our theme for the day. Flowers can increase feelings of Gratitude, Kindness and Compassion towards others.





## Spring Business Meeting Highlights

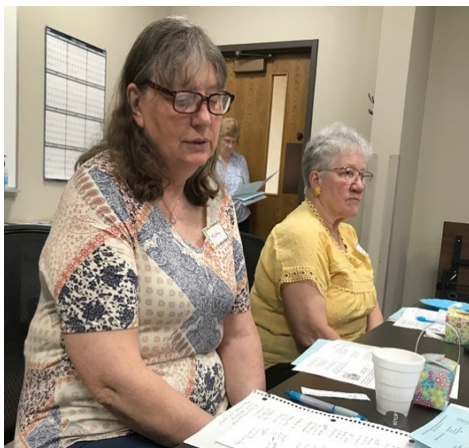
A general discussion about dues for 2024-2025



Upcoming State Conference generated much interest.



Annual Reports from Committee Chairs drew everyone's attention. We were pleased to have Shirley Steinhorst, South West District Director join us for the day's events.



Scholarship Chair, Kathy Manske announced the two 2024 High School Scholarship Award Winners of \$1000.00 each. She thanked the members that evaluated the entries. One winner is from Waupaca High School, the other from New London. Wisconsin Bookworms Co-Chair Diana Bonikowske shared state plans for our Literacy Program for the next school year at Head Start.



Helen Heise asked members to contribute local produce and handmade products for our Silent Auction Basket to support WAHCE International projects at State Conference.

We received a lovely thank you note from the UW-Extension staff who were able to join us for lunch at the Spring HCE Meeting. *“Thank you for all you do in the community and for your support of our programming! We enjoyed eating lunch with you! You All Rock!”*

A very special thank you to our members that provided tasty lunch items for our Spring Business Meeting, Awards Ceremony and Cultural Arts Show.

*Hot Beef Sandwiches (Helen Heise)*

*Salad (Kathy Manske)*

*Jello Salad (Doris Budwit)*

*Pickles (Helen Heise)*

*Fruit, Salad, Cheese, Angel Food Cake (Marilyn Herman)*

*Potato Buns (Lynn Marcks)*

*Broccoli Salad (Diana Bonikowske)*

*Poppy Seed Dessert (Karen Stuhr)*

*Blueberry Cake (Donna Pruett)*

## Medicine is Not Always Found in Bottles

Exercise is Medicine

Eating Healthy is Medicine

Nature is Medicine

Laughter is Medicine

Vegetables are Medicine

Sleep is Medicine

Sunshine is Medicine

Gratitude and Love are Medicine

Friends are Medicine

Meditation is Medicine



## Celebrating a Past Member's Hearty Laughter





Vardian A. James, age 88 of Clintonville, passed away Tuesday afternoon, February 20, 2024 at ThedaCare Medical Center, Shawano.

Vardian Avis James was born on October 17, 1935 in Waukegan, IL she graduated from Libertyville High School. Vardian then worked at Illinois Bell Telephone Company as a telephone operator, then worked for


the Frank G. Hough front end loader Co. in the advertising department. In 1955, Vardian moved with her family and worked in Montello, WI. In 1957, Vardian moved back to Libertyville, IL. In 1958 she was united in marriage to Frederick Richard “Dick” James at the First Presbyterian Church, Libertyville. The couple moved to Mundelein, IL Because of job opportunities, the couple later moved to Paw Paw, MI, Boise, ID, and Libertyville where they raised their family. In 1981, the couple moved to Westfield, WI where they lived for many years. Following her husband Dick’s death Vardian moved to Clintonville in 1994. A skilled gardener planting both vegetables and flowers at every home large or small where she lived. She shared this joy by helping her family and friends with their own gardens. She was active with her mother’s group, taking part in weekly coffee gatherings, as well as the Homemakers Club, Modern M and M’s. Vardian cherished the time she was able to watch her grandchildren and great grandchildren participate in sports and musical performances, it was the delight of her life.


MEAT/EGGS HANDMADE GOODS PREPARED FOOD & BEVERAGES	WEEKLY FOOD TRUCKS & MUSIC	FLOWERS FRESH PRODUCE BAKED & CANNED GOODS
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## CLINTONVILLE FARMERS MARKET

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**LOCATION**  
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Clintonville, WI

WE  
ACCEPT  
WIC &  
SENIOR  
FMNP

**THURSDAYS**  
**3-6:30**  
June-October

## Waupaca FARMERS MARKET

**Every Saturday**  
**9am - 1pm**  
Mid-May - October

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Waupaca



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# FOOD JUSTICE

We all make decisions about what we eat.....

AUG. 3-SEPT. 14 2024 WAUPACA AREA PUBLIC LIBRARY LOWER LEVEL EXHIBIT ROOM

.....but we don't make those decisions by ourselves.

Please take some time between now and September 14th to visit the newest exhibit at the Waupaca Area Public Library: Food Justice.

This exhibit brings attention to the importance of the four pillars of food security:

opportunities for economic security, robust federal food and nutrition programs, strong emergency food network, and vibrant, accessible, and affordable food system. This exhibit brings to life the hardships that residents of Waupaca County are facing.

Nearly 11% of Waupaca County residents are food insecure. Did you know that 19.5% of children in Wisconsin face food insecurity?

Food Justice will provide information and resources on this important topic, and help visitors learn how YOU can be part of the solution.

## New Faces at Extension– Waupaca County

My name is Allie Bellin, I am the new program assistant for the Extension-Waupaca County. Summer is my favorite season as I enjoy boating & kayaking, playing sand volleyball and being outside in the sunshine. To pass the time during the cold winter months I like to read, build puzzles and watch reruns of Golden Girls and Friends. I also love to travel and spend time with family and friends, but most of all I LOVE being an aunt to my nephews and niece.



Alicia Utke-Becher has joined the Extension Waupaca County team as the Human Development and Relationships Educator. She has a strong foundation in family life education and extensive experience in community engagement. She holds a Bachelor of Science in Family Life education and a minor in psychology from UW-Stevens Point . Alicia has served as the Human Development and Relationship Educator at the

University of Madison Extension in Sheboygan County for the past year. Prior to her Extension roles, she spent several years as the Lead Preschool Teacher at the University Child Learning and Care Center, affiliated with UW Stevens Point. She is particularly drawn to Waupaca County Extension because of its commitment to rural families. Alicia is eager to bring her experience in supporting older people, caring for caregivers, teaching families, and community collaboration to your team and explore how we can Teach, Learn, Lead, and Serve together.



**Extension**

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON  
WAUPACA COUNTY

## **EXTENSION WAUPACA COUNTY STAFF**

811 Harding Street, Waupaca, WI 54981 (715) 258-6230

<https://waupaca.extension.wisc.edu/>

**Alicia Utke**, Human Development and Relationships Educator

[alicia.utkebecher@wisc.edu](mailto:alicia.utkebecher@wisc.edu)

**Allie Bellin**, Program Assistant

[abellin@wisc.edu](mailto:abellin@wisc.edu)

**District 10 Director**—Chris Viau [chris.viau@wisc.edu](mailto:chris.viau@wisc.edu)

### **Community Development**

Amy Ebert

Community Development Educator

[amy.ebert@wisc.edu](mailto:amy.ebert@wisc.edu)

### **4-H/Positive Youth Development**

Penny Tank, 4-H Program Educator

4-H Program Educator

[penny.tank@wisc.edu](mailto:penny.tank@wisc.edu)

### **FoodWise**

Christi Gabriliska, FoodWise Nutrition Coordinator

[christi.gabriliska@wisc.edu](mailto:christi.gabriliska@wisc.edu)

Hailee Paul, FoodWise Nutrition Educator

[hailee.struck@wisc.edu](mailto:hailee.struck@wisc.edu)



**Support Staff**— Haley Nelson, Program Support

**4-H Summer Assistant**— Macey Popple

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