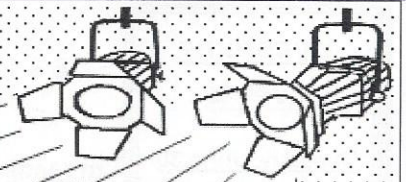


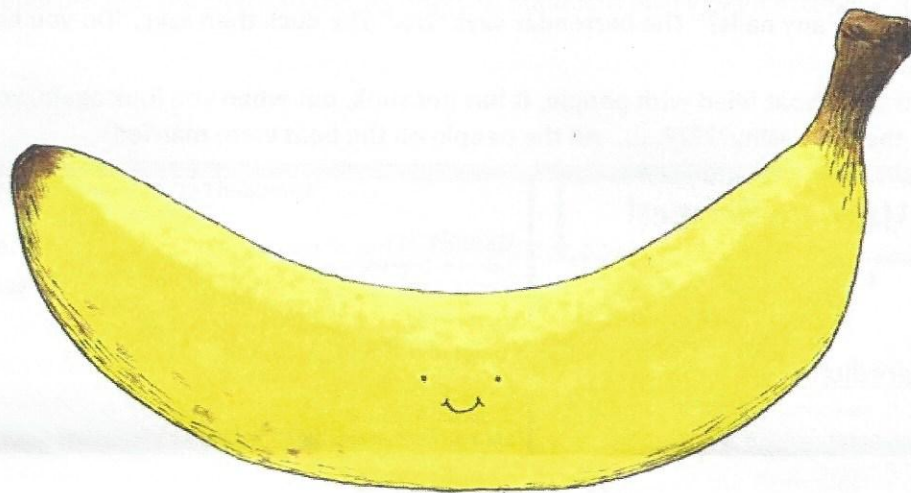
**Macon County**

July—August 2026

**HCE  
HIGHLIGHTS**



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



## Advice from a Banana

- Always be ready when the time is ripe.
- Friends are better by the bunch.
- Just because someone calls you “yella,” it doesn’t mean you’re a coward.
- Ignore all the monkeys. They’re just trying to get to you.
- Sometimes when you’re slightly bruised is when you’re at your very best.
- Life’s little surprises are what make it so appealing.

## Upcoming Events

**Tuesday, June 30**

11:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m.

Mini District Workshop

First Baptist Church

**Monday, July 6**

Scholarships Deadline

**Wednesday, July 8**

RSVP for July Lesson

**Monday, July 13**

10:00 a.m.

HCE Board Meeting

First Baptist Church

**Wednesday, July 15**

10:00 a.m.

Illinois Amish Learning Center Lesson

The Living History Farm and Amish Museum

**Monday, July 27**

9:30 a.m.—3:30 p.m.

Sewing Day

Ropp's Sewing Center

**Saturday, August 1**

NEWSLETTER ITEMS DUE TO TONII!

**Wednesday, August 5**

IAHCE District Workshop

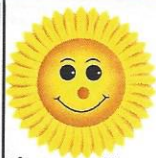
Springfield, IL

**Monday, August 10**

1:30 p.m.

HCE Board Meeting

First Baptist Church



# Laughter is Good for the Soul

I'm reading a book about anti-gravity.....I just can't put it down!

A customer walks into a coffee shop and asks the barista for the Wi-Fi password. "You need to buy coffee first," the barista says. "Okay, I'll have an espresso," the customer says. After paying, the customer asks, "Can I have the password now?" The barista replies, "Of course! It's 'youneedtobuyacoffeefirst'." All lower case, no spaces."

A duck walks into a bar and asks the bartender, "Do you have any duck food here?". The bartender says no and the duck leaves. The next day, the same thing happens. The duck wanders in and asks, "Do you have any duck food?". "No!" yells the bartender. "We don't have any duck food. If you come back and ask me again, I'll nail your feet to the floor!" The duck leaves and comes back the next day and asks, "Do you have any nails?" The bartender says "No." The duck then asks, "Do you have any duck food?"

You see a boat filled with people. It has not sunk, but when you look again, you don't see a single person on the boat. Why?????..... All the people on the boat were married!

## Yummy Recipes!

### KFC Coleslaw (Copycat)

Submitted by: Toni Strait

#### Ingredients:

1/2 C. mayonnaise (Hellman's tastes great here)  
 1/3 C. sugar  
 1/4 C. milk  
 1/4 C. buttermilk  
 2 1/2 Tbsp. lemon juice  
 1 1/2 Tbsp. white vinegar  
 1/2 Tsp. salt  
 1/8 Tsp. black pepper  
 8 C. finely chopped cabbage (approx. 1 head)  
 1/4 C. shredded carrot (1 regular size carrot)  
 2 Tbsp. minced onion

#### Directions:

Chop/shred cabbage and carrots to fine pieces (little bigger than size of rice). Combine the mayonnaise, sugar, milk, buttercream, lemon juice, vinegar, onion, salt and pepper in a large bowl. Mix until smooth. Add cabbage and carrot with sauce and mix well. Cover and refrigerate for at least 2 hours. If you let it sit overnight, it is even better.

**OPTIONAL:** you can add some sauce to the amount of cabbage/carrot you will be using at one time and refrigerate. Save remaining sauce and cabbage/carrot in separate containers in refrigerator until needed.

**OPTIONAL:** May want to make a double batch of the sauce.

### Shredded BBQ Chicken (Crock Pot Recipe)

Princess Pinky Girl

#### Ingredients:

3 chicken breasts  
 1 18 oz. bottle Sweet Baby Ray's Hickory & Brown Sugar Barbeque Sauce  
 1/2 C. light brown sugar  
 2 Tbsp. apple cider vinegar  
 1 Tbsp. olive oil  
 1 Tsp. garlic powder  
 1 Tsp. onion powder  
 1/4 Tsp. smoked paprika  
 1/4 Tsp. chipotle chili powder  
 1/4 Tsp. ground white pepper

#### Directions:

Place chicken breasts in Crock-Pot. Turn heat to low. In a separate bowl, add Barbeque Sauce, brown sugar, apple cider vinegar, olive oil, garlic powder, onion powder, smoked paprika, chipotle pepper, and ground white pepper. Whisk to stir and combine. Pour barbeque sauce mixture into the Crock-Pot with the chicken breasts. With a spoon, coat all of the chicken with sauce mixture. Cover and cook on low for 6-7 hours or high for 3-4 hours. When the chicken is tender and pulls apart easily with a fork, it is ready to be shredded. Using 2 forks, shred chicken in Crock-Pot and mix well with sauce. Serve on buttered and toasted hamburger buns.

### Bread Pudding with Vanilla Cream Sauce

8 servings submitted by Liz King

#### Pudding Ingredients:

6 C. stale bread  
 2 C. whole milk  
 3 Tbsp. unsalted butter  
 1/2 C. granulated sugar  
 1 Tsp. ground cinnamon  
 1/4 Tsp. salt  
 3 large eggs  
 1 Tbsp. vanilla extract

#### Vanilla Cream Ingredients:

1 C. whole milk  
 1 C. heavy cream  
 1/2 C. brown sugar  
 2 Tbsp. unsalted butter  
 1 Tbsp. vanilla extract  
 2 Tbsp. cornstarch  
 1/4 C. cold water

#### Bread Pudding Directions:

Grease and line an 8" square pan. Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Add bread into the pan. In a medium saucepan, combine milk, sugar, butter, and spices over medium heat. Stir until butter is melted. Set aside and allow to cool slightly. Once cooled, whisk in eggs and vanilla. Pour over the bread and press down the bread to ensure liquid is absorbed evenly. Allow to sit at least 10 minutes. Bake 40-45 minutes until golden and a knife inserted in center comes out clean. Allow to cool while preparing sauce.

#### Vanilla Sauce Instructions:

In a medium saucepan, add milk, cream, butter, and sugar and place on medium heat. Stir until butter and sugar are dissolved and the liquid is steaming. Combine water and cornstarch (or alcohol like rum or bourbon), and stir into liquid. Stir constantly until mixture is creamy and thickened, will only take a few minutes. Remove from heat and stir in vanilla. Pour half over warm bread pudding or more if you want a gooey consistency. Reserve the rest for serving.

*This is a basic bread pudding recipe, however, I make adjustments based on flavor and convenience. I add 1/4 tsp nutmeg and double the cinnamon. Using half & half or cream will make the pudding richer in flavor. If possible, place the soaked bread in the refrigerator overnight to bake the next day. Add fruit like cherries, raisins, blueberries, or cranberries for extra flavor.*

## Macon County Home & Community Education Board Meeting

April 13, 2026

**Call To Order:** President Liz King at 1:30 p.m.

**Pledge of Allegiance:** Liz King

**Homemakers' Aim:** Liz King

**Roll Call:** Carol Ropp

Units Represented: Maple Grove, Oakley-Pleasant Grove, Pana, Patchwork, and Rock Springs

Members Absent: Jody Dawson, Linda Hooge, Judy Bohlman, Toni Strait, and Linda Austin.

**Secretary:** Read and approved by board to be published in the newsletter.

**Treasurer:** Sally Dennis reported that the check to the Secretary of State had finally been accepted and cashed.

### Officers' Reports:

**1st Vice President:** Nora Reed reminded us about upcoming events. We discussed the different club activities.

**2nd Vice President:** Georgette Merrifield wants each unit to get at least one new member this year. She encouraged us to invite guests to our meetings.

**Cultural Enrichment:** Cheryl Sample really wants a lot of the members to have something to submit for the Cultural Enrichment Day.

**International:** Cathy Gipson passed out delicious shortbread cookies—a favorite of the Dominican Republic.

**CVH/District 2 Director:** Karen Cahill announced that the new state CVH board member is Carol Meffert from Highland. Cheri Burcham will be the speaker at our mini district meeting in June. Karen still needs riders to go with her to three counties. She complimented us on all of the County awards we received at conference. Karen is the co-chairman helping Becky Belcher with the 2027 conference. This means she will be the chairman of the 2028 conference. She has to get 36 different share shops organized. She asked us to start thinking about doing that.

### SPRING MEETING:

Holly Mabon from Webster-Cantrell Hall will be our speaker. We will give her pillowcases for the clients. If anyone wants to make more centerpieces for the tables, it is fine.

#### 2027 SLATE OF OFFICERS:

We need a Treasurer, Community Outreach/Family Issues Chair, and a Cultural Enrichment Chair. Anyone interested should contact Liz.

There was a discussion on what we will pay the Extension Office for rent. Georgette Merrifield moved to give a \$250.00 donation and Carol Ropp made a second. Motion passed.

Board members spend their own money for food and supplies for events. We may ask for reimbursements if we want. Liz talked about the Millikin University market for food for students who may need it.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Ropp for Jody Dawson

## Macon County Home & Community Education Board Meeting

May 11, 2026

**Call To Order:** President Liz King at 1:39 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; Pana; Patchwork; Rock Springs; Hickory Point

Total in Attendance: 11 (Karen Cahill, Jody Dawson, Sally Dennis, Cathy Gipson, Pam Jarboe, Liz King, Georgette Merrifield, Carol Ropp, Cheryl Sample, Sandy Severe, Vicky Wooten)

**Secretary:** Minutes of the April 2026 meeting will be emailed to the board for approval

**Treasurer:** Sally Dennis reported a current bank balance of \$8,295.74

**Correspondence:** Notes were read by Liz King from Da Burg, Operation Enduring Support and Mary Ann Platt

### Officers' Reports:

**1st Vice President:** No report, but all upcoming events in our Macon County HCE booklets with Tillamook coming up on May 20th and Herbs with Liz King on June 17th.

**2nd Vice President:** Georgette reported that membership pins were delivered. Units need to report any death announcements to her and Sally for record purposes. An article was written about our new clubs and sent to several newspapers. The article was printed in the Pana news on April 29, 2026. She is still needing a few emergency contact papers returned ASAP. Any ideas for a membership drive are encouraged. We discussed a possibility of a Mother/Daughter night with an ice cream social.

**Community Outreach and Family Issues:** Sewing day was canceled due to weather in April.

**Cultural Enrichment:** Cheryl reported she has started receiving dates for fairs this summer.

**Historian:** Carol asked for continued news/photos to be sent to her.

**International:** Nothing to report.

**Public Relations:** Nothing to report.

**CVH/District 2 Director:** Karen reminded us to keep track of volunteer hours and new clubs count for hours. She reported having an amazing trip to Canada. Unfortunately, Karen found out that Livingston County is disbanding at the end of the year. She also encouraged everyone to keep thinking of Share Shop ideas for conference.

### Club Updates:

**Lunch Bunch:** June 5th at 11:00 at the Wild Hair in Elkhart, IL. No lunch in July. August 7th at 11:00 at BB's B.F.E. Bar and Grill in Latham, IL.

**Game Day:** June 3rd at the Extension Office at 10:00 a.m.

**Crafts/Needle Arts:** May 15th Needle Arts meets at 9:00 a.m.—Please RSVP to Cheryl AND Crafts at 11:30 for Dream Catchers—Please RSVP to Bonnie. June 18th 10:00—12:00 is Crafts.

### Unfinished Business:

Spring Meeting Follow Up: The meeting went well. DaBurg did an amazing job catering and received many compliments. They reached out to ask how the service and food was for our event as well.

Board Positions for 2027: Several positions are open.

Extension Office Contribution: The MCHCE offered \$250 and it was accepted.

Peoria Trip Update: RSVP and money needs turned in by Wednesday, May 13th. We currently only have 13 paid and signed up which is not enough to reserve the bus. Carpooling is an option.

June 8th Board Meeting: Will be held at the church—not Taylorville—as stated in our book.

### New Business:

June 1st is the Tri-County Meeting at Cisco United Methodist Church at 9:30 a.m..

June 30th is our Mini District Workshop with registration beginning at 11:00 a.m. and lunch at 11:30 a.m. We need donations of salads and desserts.

The meeting adjourned at 3:14 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jody Dawson

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## Officer's Reports

### PRESIDENT

Liz King

We need your help!

For MCHCE to succeed, we ask that our members take leadership roles. We have Macon County Board positions available for election this fall. Karen Cahill has offered to continue as Director of Volunteer Hours—thank you Karen! If you have computer skills, are good with numbers, and organized, please consider the position of Treasurer. Cultural Enrichment is in need of a creative, arts-loving member to encourage the members with homemade projects. We also need someone for Community Outreach to help organize collecting, creating, and volunteering to support various organizations.

It's time to start planning for 2027. Is there a lesson you'd like to share? Do you have a topic you want to learn more about that we could offer? Is there an Illinois destination you would like MCHCE to visit? Give your suggestions to Nora Reed at 217-433-8945 or lenorareed@yahoo.com. We begin planning for 2027 on July 13.

### FIRST VICE PRESIDENT

Nora Reed

Hello everyone,

As May ends, I hope everyone enjoyed the Memorial Day holiday. I am looking forward to enjoying all of the lessons this summer.

The Tillamook lesson on May 20th was a great success! We had a wonderful turnout. We learned a lot about the Tillamook company. For instance, did you know they make a white cheddar cheese that was voted the best in the world in 2014?

On June 17th at 9:30 a.m., we are looking forward to a lesson on herbs at Mari-Männ Herbs with our own Liz King. Don't forget to RSVP by June 10th!

On July 15th, we will take a tour of the Illinois Amish Heritage Museum at 10:00 a.m. This should be a lot of fun.

At 9:30 a.m. on August 19th at the First Baptist Church, we will have a lesson on "What's in my Food".

Please RSVP for all of our summer lessons at your earliest convenience.

### SECOND VICE PRESIDENT

Georgette Merrifield

Haven't we been having great weather?! I could take this all summer. I've been working on membership and brainstorming to think of a way to get new members. The clubs have gotten us 4 new members, and I hope they get more. I was wondering about holding a mother/daughter/sister/single ice cream social. I would hold one in Macon, Taylorville, and Pana. Give your feedback to the president of your Unit to bring to me at a board meeting, or you can email me at merrifield9@consolidated.net and my phone number is 217-562-5548. I also need the feedback—good or bad. Suggestions for something else would also be appreciated.

I want every Unit to add at least one new member this year. Ask everyone you know, and if a group in your town breaks up, ask those members. Some may be looking for another group to join. We had a Home & Garden Club disband, and I have asked 2 of them who say they are interested. Just keep beating the bushes; you never know what will come out of it. Happy member hunting!

### CULTURAL ENRICHMENT

Cheryl Sample

As we look forward to hot, humid summer days, remember, it will soon be County Fair season! I truly enjoyed county fairs each summer. It is always interesting to see the projects made by our young people. I am blown away by the creativity and workmanship. Last year, I heard judges drilling a young man on the roll-top desk he had made, asking about techniques used and tools required to complete the overall project (I really think they doubted he had made it by himself). He was rewarded a Grand Champion ribbon.

I have listed local and nearby county fairs to put on your calendars. The ideas you see may spark an idea for something you could make and enter in Cultural Events this fall. And I always find the 4-H food tent. They are sure to have homemade ice cream.

**Macon County Fair | Decatur | May 31—June 7**

**Piatt County Fair | Cerro Gordo | June 18—21**

**Dewitt, Macon, and Piatt Fair | Clinton | July 10—13**

**DeWitt/Farmer City Fair | Farmer City | July 20—25**

**Illinois State Fair | Springfield | August 13—24**

## Unit News

### MT. ZION

Susan Jones

The Mt. Zion unit met for lunch in May at Diamonds Restaurant. They served good food and generous portions—most of us took a “to go” box home. Lunch was followed up with a visit to the Glass House, which was just a few doors down. They have many beautiful pieces on display and for sale. The owner also gave us a brief history of their company.

### PANA

Carolyn Barnett

We had to delay our Christmas party until January due to cold & snowy weather in December. We enjoyed a catered meal. We then played bingo for gift items. We also use the gift-giving season to make personal donations to local charities. This year, I'm proud to announce we gave over \$600.

In February, we learned about what's in a fingerprint from unit members who attended that lesson.

Our March meeting was about the history of HCE, given by Georgette Merrifield. We also made up 20 hygiene bags to give to our local food pantry. We also discussed plans for hosting the April board meeting here in Pana.

### HICKORY POINT

Janet Feller

Our Hickory Point meeting for April was a guided tour of the Ag museum (Harris Agricultural Museum) in Atwood, IL. It has two levels of many interesting displays of life on a farm, machinery, and life in bygone years. We all enjoyed it and greatly recommend it as a worthy destination. Afterwards, we traveled to Arthur for a delicious lunch at Yoder's Kitchen. In our meeting, we discussed upcoming classes, trips, and RSVPs. We discussed serving the DAV with desserts on April 24th. Meeting was adjourned after an enjoyable day.

In May, we met at the Senior Center on West Main and had lunch and played Bingo. Afterwards, a report was given on the expansion plans of the center. The Director of Services talked to us briefly about the perks of the new building. It will be seven times the size of the current one giving seniors much more space for activities to be added. We discussed how we could use our money from working at the DAV. Some ideas were Webster Cantrell Advocacy, NLPC, as well as donating to the new tables for sewing day. Pam Jarboe passed out minutes of the HCE County Board Meeting that she attended. Debi James went on the tour of the new St. Mary's Surgical Center and gave us a report on that. We discussed some upcoming events and our meeting was adjourned.

### ROCK SPRINGS

Cathy Burgess

The Rock Springs unit meeting for April was at The Hall at Five Twenty. Cathy Burgess was our hostess, and Cathy Gipson won the hostess gift. President Bonnie Lanham shared tidbits from “The Taste of America.” There was interesting information about Brunswick stew, potted meat, mush, turtle soup, pigeon pie, and election cake.

Our unit has two new members, Marilyn Rosenthal and Barb Buchanan. They came to us by way of the new HCE clubs. Welcome ladies! We believe the more the merrier.

Our unit board members reported on what is happening with the county organization and gave us more information about the clubs. After discussing what to do with the \$50 we received for doing the last DAV Bake Sale, we decided to donate it to Webster Cantrell Youth Advocacy. Lyn Stevens collected our items donated to God's Shelter of Love and will take them to the shelter. After the meeting, we ordered lunch and enjoyed each other's company.

May found us at Crawford's in Mt. Zion. Lyn Stevens was the hostess, and Rosemary Knapp won the hostess gift. In President Bonnie Lanham's absence, 1st VP Lois Miller called the meeting to order. Lois showed us the beautiful wind chime that the unit gave her after her husband, Dennis, passed away. Lyn had us update our emergency contact cards since it had been a few years since we did it last. Reports were made on some of the upcoming club events. Liz King told us the latest information concerning the county HCE. Donna Washburn reminded us that it is the time of year for the fan drive for the senior center. It was decided that Donna would purchase fans and take them to the senior center for our unit. Lyn shared some interesting information about Webster Cantrell Youth Advocacy. Most of us didn't realize there were no longer children who stay at the building. They certainly do a lot of good for children in our community.

As usual, we all ordered lunch after the meeting ended. Several of us ordered the half calzone. The waitress and us had to look the calzones over closely so we each got the right one. Ha, Ha, Ha!

### INTERNATIONAL

Judi Bohlmann

Puerto Rico is a self-governing, unincorporated territory of the United States and is designated as a commonwealth. It lies at the eastern edge of the Caribbean Sea between the Dominican Republic (Greater Antilles) and the U.S. Virgin Islands (Lesser Antilles). The population is approximately 3.5 million people!

**CVH**  
Karen Cahill

Instead of me giving you the same old speech again and again, I've decided to give you a quiz to see what you know about your volunteer hours.

Answer "Yes" or "No" for each question.

1. Are your volunteer hours important to MCHCE?
2. Should you keep track of all of your volunteer hours?
3. Do hours attending HCE meetings count?
4. Can you count the hours spent baking for the DAV dessert night?
5. Can you count hours babysitting your grandchildren?
6. Should you wait until December to start compiling your hours?
7. Should you count hours by quarter hours or half hours?
8. Should you submit your hours to Karen Cahill on a scrap of paper?

I hope you got them all right!

Remember, if you have any questions about volunteer hours, please contact me at 217-520-2683 or karencahill@outlook.com

Answers:

#1—#4: YES

#5—#8: NO

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**COMMUNITY OUTREACH/FAMILY ISSUES**

Linda Hooge

On May 18, there was a great turn out at "Granny's Sweat Shop" (Carol Ropp's) to sew pillowcases for charity. 77 pillowcases were sewn with 50 being donated to the Ronald McDonald House and 27 being donated to Dove, Inc. in Decatur.

Please let Linda Hooge know of any other places that may benefit from donated pillowcases.

Please let Carol Ropp know if you can help on sewing days. The next sewing date is June 29 from 9:30—3:30. Even helping for part of the time is appreciated!

Fabric needed for sewing group!!! Cotton patterns for adults and children.

Please continue to collect pop tops for the Ronald McDonald House.

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**PATCHWORK**

Karen Halicki

Several of us attended the lesson in Sullivan on April 16. We enjoyed learning about and touring the Little Theater. What an adventure we had. We decided to venture over to The Salty Farmer in Moweaqua to have lunch. We had a nice meal and an adventure too.

The April meeting was lunch at Krekel's in Forsyth. We shared a nice visit and found out our day to make the desserts for the DAV will be on September 25th.

At the Spring Meeting on April 29, we had 6 attending with lunch from Da Burg. Loved the fried chicken and desserts the board made for us. Enjoyed visiting with Erma Ragle from Hickory Point who is 100 years old.

On May 18, five of us were at pillowcase sewing. So good to get together and sew.

Our May 19th lunch meeting was at Panera where we were able to talk and enjoy a nice meal. Several of us were looking forward to the next day's lesson from Tillamook Creamery. Hoping to taste their ice cream and cheese. What a bonus to taste new things!

Hoping to get to Richland next month for lunch.

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**FABRIC NEEDED!!!**

The sewing ladies at "Granny's Sweat Shop" are in need of fabric for our pillowcases. We are happy to have any cotton fabric—not just kid prints because our cases also go to adults.

We will appreciate any donations.

## COMMUNITY OUTREACH/FAMILY ISSUES

Linda Hooge

### **WANTED & NEEDED**

**Holly Newbon**, Director of Marketing and Giving for Webster Cantrell Youth Advocacy, spoke at our Spring Meeting and shared how we can help their organization. In addition to monetary donations, Webster Cantrell Youth Advocacy accepts donations of new and gently used items for children, youth, adults, and families in need.

Some items currently in need include, but are not limited to:

- Diapers & Pull-Ups
- Baby Wipes
- Baby Formula
- Headphones
- School Supplies
- Cleaning Supplies & Laundry Detergent (preferably unscented)
- Masks & Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

You can provide birthday gifts for children in their program or put together birthday kits.

### **These items can be delivered to:**

Webster Cantrell Youth Advocacy

1942 E. Cantrell Street

Decatur, IL 62521

Monday—Friday

9:00 AM—5:00 PM

**Phone Number:** (217) - 423 - 6961

Contact Holly Newbon at (217)-423-6961 ext. 2138, or by email at [HNewbon@wcya.org](mailto:HNewbon@wcya.org) with questions.

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### MAPLE GROVE

Toni Strait

On May 28th, eleven members met at the Sharon Methodist Church. Toni Strait provided a caramel apple dump cake for a refreshment. Many topics were discussed. Members were encouraged to consider being on the MCHCE scholarship committee. Several shared their delight coming from the Tillamook presentation. Club experiences were described. CVH SERVICE AWARDS were given to Pat Bales, Kris Batchelder, Karen Cahill, and Mary Jo Riley.

Karen Cahill discussed her trip to Canada for ACWW. She gave an overview of things that she learned there. Carol Ropp will be investigating the possibility of our group visiting the Leading Men Fiber Arts, a hand-dyed yarn store in Clinton, IL, for our June meeting.

## CENTER UNIT REPORT

Mary Lou Poor

Center HCEA members met at the Christian Co. Extension Office on May 4th with 10 members attending. Delicious pizza and pineapple bars were served. Certificate for years being a member of HCEA was given to Delores Hunt for 35 years, Sharon Turner for 35 years, Janet Engeling for 65 years, and Gina Thompson for becoming a new member of Center HCEA. Plans for the Apple Pie Baking Contest to be held on June 1st was discussed and prizes would be given. The 1st place winner would receive \$100 and an Engraved Pie Pan, 2nd place would be \$75, and 3rd place would receive \$50. Members were given information to be distributed throughout the community. Those planning to attend the Macon Co. HCEA lessons were reminded that they must RSVP to make their reservations. Personally hygiene was collected and given to the Taylorville Food Pantry.

Center HCE met on June 1st with an exciting event. Two months in the planning, Center HCEA decided to have an Apple Pie Contest. Brochures were passed out throughout the community telling of the event. It was decided that a cash prize would be given to the first three winners. There were seven pies that entered the contest, and each pie was different. There were four judges, and each judge was given a slice to choose from to determine which was rated the best out of the three. Our member, Ann Bandy, was rated #1 receiving the pan and the \$100 prize. She used five varieties of apples in her pie and it was delicious! Judges had to make hard decisions as they were all very delicious.

We will not meet in July and August, but we will be having a fun day in July!



Ann Bandy—1st Place

Jean Metcalf—2nd Place

Courtney Gutierrez—3rd Place

## OAKLEY-PLEASANT GROVE

Mary Ann Platt

We are celebrating Alice Bray's 99th birthday as we speak! She has been a member since 1964.



# 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 had a good time so far learning and playing a variety of games. I am concerned with our dwindling numbers though. We meet on the first Wednesday of the month at 10:00 a.m.

**IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN JOINING THE GAMERS GROUP AND A DIFFERENT DAY/TIME WOULD WORK BETTER FOR YOU, PLEASE LET ME KNOW!!**

I think we may need to revisit this. Also, I am interested in a program where we are sent new games to try out to give our opinion about before they are on the market. We will need more than three people though. Give it some thought and let me know.

Upcoming:

July 1

August 12—CHANGE OF DATE due to District Workshop on the 5th.

## **LUNCH CLUB MEETING — RSVP To Sally**

Chair: Sally Dennis

217-433-0605

July—No Lunch Bunch gathering this month. Taking a break for family, friends, and fireworks.

August 7—BB's B.F.E Bar & Grill at 11:00 AM. 2371 N. Route 121, Latham, IL.

## **CRAFT CLUB MEETING — RSVP To Bonnie**

Chair: Bonnie Lanham

217-454-8746

Thursday, June 18th—Card making from 10-12 at the Illinois Extension Office if available. \*\*Note time change for this meeting\*\*. Is there a type of card (Birthday, Christmas, etc.) that you want to make? Tell Bonnie when you RSVP. Bring any cards you have made to share techniques you also know.

Upcoming:

July 17 | Making Explosion Books | 11:30—1:30 | Illinois Extension Office

August 21 | Making Gift Boxes | 11:30—1:30 | Illinois Extension Office

## **NEEDLE ARTS CLUB MEETING — RSVP To Cheryl**

Chair: Cheryl Sample

765-426-1420

July 17 | 9:00—11:00 | Illinois Extension Office

August 21 | 9:00—11:00 | Illinois Extension Office

# CLUB NEWS

(cont.)

## DAY TRIP CLUB MEETING— RSVP To Gini

Chair: Gini Smith

217-454-1940

Hello travelling buddies! Thursday, July 9th, Botanical Gardens in Springfield with some history of the Carillon bells that happen to be in the same park as the gardens. Washington Park is a 150-acre park featuring the Botanical Gardens, a conservatory, and a carillon bell tower along with many sports events. We will leave Decatur at 10:15 a.m., from the Decatur Conference Center, and have lunch (TBD). We will park on the north side of the park where we can visit both areas without moving vehicles. The conservatory opens at noon. The gardens have exotic plants and a large rose garden. Bring your walkers if needed, all paths are handicapped accessible. There is no cost except for lunch. Stroll gardens at your own pace.

RSVP to Gini with questions and sign up!

Monday, August 17—Common Grounds Food Co-Op Urbana, IL

September (TBD)

October (TBD) - Decatur Public Library to cruise different libraries with books that library provides. Get it stamped and collect your trinket from each library. More info in next newsletter!

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## *A Moment to Reflect*

“Remember, today is the tomorrow you worried about yesterday.”

- Dale Carnegie

“People who think they know everything are a great annoyance to those of us who do.”

- Isaac Asimov

“My psychiatrist told me I was crazy and I said I want a second opinion. He said, ‘Okay, you’re ugly too.’”

- Rodney Dangerfield

“Wheresoever you go, go with all your heart.”

- Confucius

“You can’t wait until life isn’t hard anymore, before you decide to be happy.”

- Jane (Nightbirde) Marczewski

“The secret of staying young is to live honestly, eat slowly, and lie about your age.”

- Lucille Ball

“You can, you should, and if you’re brave enough to start, you will.”

- Steven King

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Check out our Websites!

Macon County HCE at

[www.mchce.org](http://www.mchce.org)

IAHCE at

[www.iahce.org](http://www.iahce.org)