



***Dunn County
Association for Home &
Community Education***



Note from our President:

We held two events that were successful beyond my imagination—the Cultural and Textile Arts Show in May, held in conjunction with the Spring Fling, and the June 10 Pie Sale at the Ludington Guard Band concert.

The Cultural and Textile Arts Competition had experienced some challenges over the past two years, and I was concerned we might not have many entries. To ensure we had a solid showing, I prepared six photography and three writing entries. In the end, I withdrew all six of my photography entries and two of the writing entries. Even after those withdrawals, we still had 17 entries, though only 12 could be forwarded to the state convention. Members with entries advancing to state include Mary Baier, Vicki Jess, Cynthia Samson, Nadine Schlough, Faye Swenson, Janine Thull, Rosalie Werner, and myself. More information on the entries can be found in the Spring Fling and Cultural and Textile Arts Show report from May 22. We also had a very successful Pie Sale at the Ludington Guard Band concert. We had hoped to raise around \$1,000 but ended up taking in over \$1,400. It turned out to be a beautiful day for a concert, which helped boost sales.

Special thanks go to Normetta Hurlburt and Rosalie Werner for organizing the event. We also received valuable guidance from Janine Thull, who shared advice from her experience organizing Pie Sales for Habitat for Humanity. Thank you as well to everyone who donated pies or bars and to those who helped with sales.

Margaret Breisch breischm@gmail.com

July-August-September 2025 Issue	
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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

July 10 HCE Board meeting, 1pm, Rm 60, GSB
July 23-27 HCE Used Book Sale, Dunn County Fairgrounds
Sept. 11 HCE Board meeting, 1pm, Rm 60, GSB
Sept. 22 Medicare Supplement Plans, 1pm, Rm 60, GSB

At the Exec Board meeting in January, we voted on whether we would like to consider a pie sale at one of the Ludington Guard Concerts during the summer to benefit the Bookworms Dunn County Program. I was one of the few attending who voted nay. I missed the March Exec Board meeting. (I went to Michigan to attend my cousin's 90th birthday luncheon, and on the way home watched our EMHS girls play basketball at the state meet held in Green Bay.)

Imagine my surprise at the May meeting to find out that I was co-chairing the Ludington Guard Pie Sale on June 10. My co-chair, Rosalie Werner did almost all of the pre-sale duties. She arranged the sponsor donations, collected the donated merchandise, found places for storage of everything pre-sale, and then worked the entire day of the pie sale from 4:00 to 9:00. I only had to make the signs and contact the clubs to ask for donations of pies, desserts, and volunteers. Desserts spelled backwards is STRESSED. I was very much stressed.

The day of the concert, June 10, proved to be a gorgeous day, not too hot or too cold, and not many bugs. Janine Thull had provided us with a tote full of utensils and

detailed instructions that she had used for her Habitat for Humanity Pie Sales. Thank you, Janine!!

We got set up and the pies started coming – lots and lots of them. Volunteers, too. We encountered a few glitches, but all in all everything ran very smoothly. Husbands helped us immensely. Two cashiers (Vicki Maves & Marsha Biggs) worked the entire time. (Thank you so much). At the end of the evening, we were pleased to discover that we made over \$1400 to benefit our Bookworms Program!

To each of you who helped in any way, I want to personally say "THANK YOU!"

Remember to bring your used books to the Fannetti room at the fairgrounds on July 22. If that doesn't work for you, contact me at 715-879-5105 and we can make arrangements for someone to pick them up. Also, be sure to check with your club to see when you are scheduled to work. The schedule has changed from last year.

Looking forward to the fair in our air-conditioned room! Proud to be a Bookworms Reader, *Normetta*



Wildlife Rehab and Release



Patti Stangel of Wildlife Rehab and Release Inc. has received a donation of \$1000. from an anonymous donor who is a member of the Dunn County HCE. Geri Bates of Popple Creek HCE presented the check to Stangel on June 4. Popple Creek HCE has been supporting Stangel and her efforts to care for and rehabilitate wildlife so the animals can return to the wild for the past 5 years, beginning with a check of \$100.00 many years ago. Stangel has been working with wildlife, such as Red-Tailed hawks, a variety of owls, eagles, fox, fawn, rabbits, raccoons, squirrels, and song birds, such as robins, at her place SE of Colfax for about 15 years.

"It is expensive to get in, and it is expensive to run. This costs \$3000 a month to run. You are regulated according to pens and cages, and that's a cost too." she said. When Ernie and Geri Bates' pole shed went down, they donated the used lumber and steel roofing to Stangel for cages and repairing.

To learn more about Stangel and her operation, Wildlife & Rehab and Release, you can visit www.wildliferehabilitation-release.com.

CLUB NOTES

Baxterville-Apr.-June: We continue to work on our quilt. We held our May meeting at Good Roots in Prairie Farm. The owner, Sue Gerlach, gave a talk on herbs. We bought plants and had lunch. We contributed 11 pies for the Pie Sale at the June 10 Ludington Guard Band concert.

Cedarlings-Apr.-Margaret shared an Easter egg/basket project. We did a role play about constitutional conventions to learn what they are, what they can accomplish, and what are many questions about how the process works. We learned that Wisconsin's legislature has already approved Wisconsin's participation in an upcoming convention. We shared information about the Menomonie News Network, as several members had attended a workshop on the subject. We got an update on the Read to me project, which continues to be funded and volunteers are signing up and participating.

Cedarlings-May: We had a presentation on the amount of foreign debt the United States carries, and which countries have loaned money to the U.S.. We discussed upcoming events, such as the pie sale at the Ludington Guard concert, the book sale at the fair, and Spring Fling. We aired options for a meeting place for next year, as the senior center will have some new uses and a change of activities.

Cedarlings-June: We had a potluck picnic hosted by Mary Baier; the companionship was delightful and the food was delicious. Thank you, Mary.

Elk Meadow-Apr.-June.: In April, Elk Meadow HCE collected items for Bridge to Hope. Several members attended International Night in April as well as Spring Fling in May. Our club made a monetary donation to the Elk Mound High School power lifting team as they traveled to Boston for international competition in May. Our club yearly fundraiser in the form of a white elephant sale was part of our May meeting. In June, we donated food items and worked concessions at the Ludington Guard band concert to help raise funds for Bookworms. In July we will meet for a summer pot-luck picnic at the Lion's Park to include spouses and guests with a plan to collect school supplies to be available for the beginning of the school year.

Popple Creek-Apr.: Roll call was taken by members sharing their most memorable bad weather experience. Among the six of us, we experienced most of the different kinds of bad weather. We enjoy this part of the meeting as we get to know one another better, and hear of the different experiences we have had. More than likely, it leads to a lengthy informative conversation.

As a memorial for Nancy Johnson, we agreed to give a donation to our Bookworms Project.

Our monthly donations were taken to Colfax Sr. Living Ctr. and Patti's Wildlife Rehab and Release.

Lana shared the history of how a local birthday club turned into

Popple Creek Extension Homemakers and then HCE. It was decided to have the focus of a future meeting be looking through the historical scrapbooks of our club.

Lana also shared how the Menomonie News on-line weekly newsletter was organized and started in November 2024. Becky Kneer works with a retired journalist in getting this off the ground.

Nancy shared information comparing Palliative Care and Hospice Care. Geri shared Hospice Care myths.

Popple Creek-May: We went to Holcombe Mennonite and Amish Greenhouses for our yearly trip. Our monthly donations were taken to Colfax Sr. Living and Wildlife Rehab and Release.

Popple Creek-June: We held a Silent Auction to raise funds for the Bookworm Project which would take the place of the pie social held by the Dunn Co. HCE at the June 10 concert in Wilson Park. A total of \$205. was collected for Bookworms with two members designating their donation in memory of Nancy Johnson.

Ideal-Apr.: The book, "In the Woods" was purchased by the library in honor of Judy Hinrichs. The book looks engaging with beautiful pictures. Members agreed that Judy would have loved it. The memorial for Judy Hinrichs will be on Saturday, May 17 at Kyotes Den from 2 to 6.

Rosalie and Janine volunteered to bring dishes representing

Singapore for International Night. April birthdays are Elaine Villeneuve and Sharalyn Schweger and Sandie Marlett.

Times for work at the fair for the book sale were assigned. We made plans for our July field trip and August picnic.

Ideal-May: Several spring activities were reviewed and feedback was given. Everyone was encouraged to attend

Judy Hinrich's Celebration of Life on May 17. Many volunteered to bake and help with the Pie Sale on June 10 and also to help with the Used Book Sale in late July.

Several members brought items for Show & Tell and enjoyed hearing about them.

Ideal-June: We discussed a field trip July 11 for our outing to the Pondview Lavender Farm. We can have lunch at the Wheaton Family Restaurant in the 29 Pines complex first and then head to the Lavender Farm. In August we will have a club pot-luck picnic at Sandy and Randy Marlett's house. Our Show & Tell was highlighted by Nadine S. explanation and samples of crochet "pooling" where variegated yarns can produce plaids and patterns.

INTERNATIONAL NIGHT

April 23

Vicki and Larry Jess gave a presentation on Singapore. They had visited Singapore during the Rotary International Convention in 2024. Twelve members attended the event. We began with a delicious potluck dinner, with members bringing in Singaporean entrées to sample.

Singapore is a highly developed, wealthy island city-state in Southeast Asia, known for its clean environment, strong economy, and efficient infrastructure. It is a major global financial hub and has a diverse population, with significant Chinese, Malay, and Indian communities.

SPRING FLING and CULTURAL/TEXTILE ARTS SHOW – May 22

We had 21 members attend the Spring Fling. In addition, our 2025 scholarship winner, Theo Hovde, and his parents attended as our guests. Theo was introduced by our scholarship chair, Janine Thull, and thanked us sincerely for the \$500 award. He also sang a short song for us from the musical Brigadoon, in which he had performed. Our featured speaker was Mary Baier, who presented the program "The Joy of Community." The key to overcoming social isolation and loneliness is community. It is important for us to be involved in our communities, including offering help when possible. We can give rides to those who can no longer drive or visit nursing homes. We can join service groups such as HCE and be active in our churches. Studies have shown that social isolation and loneliness have negative health impacts. Community involvement is essential.

Membership recognition for years of service was presented by membership co-chairs Christie Pittman and Janine Thull. Christie Pittman (Cedarlings) has served the longest with 66 years, followed by:

☐ Nadine Schlough-Ideal-65 yrs
☐ Barbara Schumacher-EM-63 yrs
☐ Geri Bates-Popple Creek-61 yrs
Special Bookworms recognitions were given to Lynn Dummer (EM) and Barbara Schumacher (EM) for 25 yrs of reading for Bookworms.

We had 17 exhibits for the Cultural and Textile Arts Show. All the exhibits were excellent, but we were only allowed to forward 12 to the state WAHCE convention. Our judge, Elaine Villeneuve, had a difficult time selecting which 12 to move on to the state level. Those advancing to state are:

☐ Mary Baier-Cedarlings-sm Quilt
☐ Mary Baier-Cedarlings-Quilted Wall Hanging
☐ Margaret Breisch-Cedarlings-Short Story (Fiction)
☐ Vicki Jess-Cedarlings-Sh Story nf
☐ Cynthia Samson-EM-Poem
☐ Cynthia Samson-EM-Afghan
☐ Nadine Schlough-Ideal-Lapghan
☐ Faye Swenson-Ideal-Watercolor
☐ Faye Swenson-Ideal-Acrylic Paint
☐ Janine Thull-Ideal-Sun Catcher
☐ Janine Thull-Ideal-Rug
☐ Rosalie Werner-Ideal-Photog

At the end of the event, nine geraniums donated by Seasons Harvest were drawn as prizes from the table centerpieces.





Clockwise - Our crowd at the Spring Fling. Door prize winners. Mary Baier presentation. Honored Bookworm readers.

Member and Board Information

Our next meeting will be held on Thursday, July 10, in Room 60 of the Government Services Building. All members are welcome to attend. The main topic will be the used book sale at the Dunn County Fair. We will also review the June 10 Pie Sale at the Ludington Guard Band concert, including whether we want to repeat it next year and how we might ease the workload.

We are pleased to announce a new board member: Mary Baier – Cedarlings – has accepted the South Center Chair position, which had been vacant since last year. Board members who are unable to attend are encouraged to ask another member to attend in their place.

HCE Board Members:

President – Margaret Breisch 715-235-7124
 Vice President – Janine Thull
 Secretary – Elaine Villeneuve
 Treasurer – Vicki Maves
 Marketing/Membership Co-Chairs –
 Christie Pittman and Janine Thull
 Historian – Elaine Villeneuve
 Bookworms – Normetta Hurlburt
 Rosalie Werner –Past President and Communications
 Scholarship Chair – Janine Thull

North Center
 Chair: Geri Bates
gcrafts@yahoo.com
 Baxterville
 Popple Creek
 Ideal
 South Center
 Chair: Mary Baier
Baierm3@gmail.com
 Elk Meadow
 Cedarlings



2025 DONATIONS April-June

Bookworms

Elaine Villeneuve \$25 in memory of Judy Hinrichs
 Janine Thull \$20 in memory of Judy Hinrichs
 Popple Creek HCE \$25 in memory of Nancy Johnson

Lana Anderson \$25 in memory of Nancy Johnson
 Connie Curtis \$25 in memory of Nancy Johnson

These 2 donations were part of \$205 from Popple Creek HCE who held a silent auction for bookworms instead of the pie sale.



Right, Scholarship winner, Theo Hovde entertaining us with a song at the Spring Fling. Left, Rosalie W. went to see Theo (and his brother) perform in Broadway show of “Newsies” at the Pablo Center in Eau Claire.

USED BOOKSALE SCHEDULE

Tuesday Setup	7/22	10:00 am	Elk Meadow & Exec Com
Wednesday Setup	7/23	1:00 pm	Ideal & Exec Comm
Thursday Sales	7/24	12:00-3:30 pm 3:30-7:00 pm	Popple Creek Ideal
Friday Sales	7/25	12:00-3:30 pm 3:30-7:00 pm	Elk Meadow Popple Creek
Saturday Sales	7/26	12:00-3:30 pm 3:30-7:00 pm	Baxterville Cedarlings
Sunday Sales	7/27	12:00-3:30 pm	Popple Creek
Sunday Packing Up		3:30-7:00 pm	Cedarlings & whoever can help

Special Interest Meeting September 22:

**“Medicare Supplement Plans, Advantage Plans,
Drug Coverage – what to look for”**

Presented by ADRC Elder Benefits Specialist, Bethany Schneider

**1pm Rm 60. Government Services Building
Registration is not required. Bring a friend.**