

A Communication for Bayfield County HCE Members



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Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays to all HCE members. Another fast year is about to wrap up, and we can still complain how far behind we are.

The weather did not cooperate this year at all, then it fooled us into thinking we had an extended fall. Then it slapped us in the face and said “Oh No!”, were not getting off that easy.

So many dark mornings, it was hard to get motivated. But the bright side is we only have a few days left and then the sun starts adding minutes to daylight.

Bayfield County HCE had a busy year, doing extra projects and activities. In November, our groups put together the “Baby Basket” for the first baby born in November. The little one arrived during HCE Week. We gather items to fill a basket, and deliver the goodies to the family. It’s always a rewarding visit and we share our HCE happiness.

White River had their Annual Hunters Dinner the first Saturday of the season, November 18th. Each year we donate money from the dinner to a list of six charities. The clubs enjoyed Christmas get-togethers; spending time with members and taking time to visit, playing some fun games, renewing friendships.

Christmas is on a weekend this year. It should be a perfect time to celebrate for the whole weekend, plus one more day; maybe more!!! I’m hoping to get into the Christmas mood, and decorate our home. All the projects I wanted to get done will still be around next year, 2018. I pray everyone has a Blessed Christmas, and we all stay healthy.

Glory Bizub, Bayfield County HCE President



In October, Cable HCE member Nova Kane gave an inspiring talk on downsizing for Lesson Day at the Delta Town Hall (See p. 5). Thanks Nova!

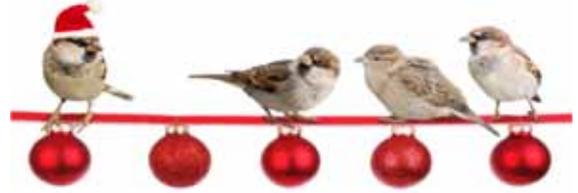
This edition of *Newsbrief* is brought to you by the members of our White River Club. Look for their articles throughout the newsletter. A special thank you to the White River ladies for sharing their time and talents!



Calendar of Events and Activities

December

- 6.....Cable HCE Meeting
- 6.....White River HCE Meeting
- 11.....HCE Holiday Get-Together, Rustic Roost Iron River
- 13.....Bookworms™ Cable
- 25..... Christmas!
- 31..... New Years Eve



January

- 1..... Happy New Year!
- 3..... Cable HCE Meeting
- 10..... Bookworms™ Cable
- 10..... White River HCE Meeting
- 11..... Bookworms™ White River
- 15..... Martin Luther King Day - Celebrate Diversity!
- 22..... HCE Executive Board Meeting - 10:00 am - Rustic Roost, Iron River



February

- 1..... Club Dues to Co HCE Treasurer
- 7..... Cable HCE Meeting
- 2..... Ground Hog Day - Look for your shadow!
- 14..... White River HCE Meeting
- 14..... Bookworms™ Cable
- 14..... Valentine's Day - Remember someone you love!
- 14..... Ash Wednesday
- 22..... Bookworms™ White River
- 26..... HCE Executive Board Meeting - 10:00 am - Rustic Roost, Iron River



Baby Basket Delivery Celebrates National HCE Week



The Bayfield County Association for Home & Community Education once again celebrated National HCE Week, by gifting a collection of baby items to the first baby born in November to a Bayfield County Family. Baby Rylan James Kavajecz was born on November 5 to Marissa Halvorson and Todd Kavajecz of Port Wing.

HCE members Glory Bizub, Faith Hedges, Elaine Adams and Karen Scheibe (left to right) visited Rylan and his family to present the tote of gifts, which included many beautiful handmade items. This annual tradition highlights HCE's commitment to families and children.





Books! Books! Books!

Another school year, another great start to the HCE Bookworms™ program with Iron River 4K students at Smiling Faces Childcare.

We have fifteen students joining us to share eight books and fun activities this year. They are good listeners who are very enthusiastic, energetic, and eager to participate in reading sessions. In addition to our new group of students, we welcome a new volunteer reader, Nancy Craig - a White River Homemaker. Thank you, Nancy!

In September, Eileen Freiburger read *What Will the Weather Be Like Today?* followed by students creating a picture of their favorite weather. Northern Wisconsin provides ample experience with a variety of weather for four-year-old children.

Pictures were embellished with pipe cleaners, cotton balls, and other fun additions. MUCH glue was employed in the masterpieces.

On October 24th, Nancy Craig read *The Shape of Things*, talking through all of the names of the shapes in the colorful illustrations. These students

know the shapes! Nancy lead a classroom scavenger hunt for shapes — an oval platter, circle clock, triangle dinner bell (thanks, Val Tomkins), among other things. Students checked off their finding on a shapes record sheet. The craft of the day was a collage of pre-cut shapes (thanks, Anna Fridsma). MORE glue stick fun! Afterward, students nibbled a snack of crackers in various shapes, reviewing shape names. Yummy!

Our reading adventures continue on November 30th with *Bear and Duck*, accompanied by a song, retelling/acting out the story with animal movements, and making paper plate puppets.

Students can continue their reading adventures at home. They receive copies of each of the eight books to take home along with activity sheets for their parents.

Bookworms™ is a great reading experience for both students and readers. Happy Reading!

"There are many little ways to enlarge your child's world. Love of books is the best of all."

—Jacqueline Kennedy

Executive Board Meeting September 25th, 2017—Minutes

President Glory opened the meeting.

The Creed was recited.

Roll was taken with 5 in attendance and FLE Liz Lexau.

Secretary Karen read the minutes.

A motion was made to accept as read from Faith, seconded by Nova. Motion passed.

Treasurer Elaine gave her report. She received the bill from Bookworms™ No other additions or corrections.

Nova motioned to accept report, seconded by Faith. Motion passed.

No new correspondence.

OLD BUSINESS:

Glory and Nova reported on the conference. Nova's workshop at conference was on common language with youth and downsizing. Glory passed around photos of the Sand Hill Cranes, the tour she took at conference. She also took the class on growing German garlic.

BOOKWORMS™: The books were delivered and the reading has begun. 3

NEW BUSINESS: District meeting will be at Cushing, WI, October 19th. Polk Co will be hosting.

We discussed combining Lesson Day and Achievement Day May 17th. Cable as hosts. There will be a potluck.

On October Delta will host a Lesson Day on downsizing. Nova will present the subject.

We received the Fall edition of the Newsbrief and new yearly calendar booklets.

The Christmas party will be held at Rustic Roost on December 11th.

Karen will call the Red Cross about the May blood drive.

Items will be collected for the Baby basket at the Lesson Day meeting.

A motion was made to adjourn by Elaine, seconded by Glory. The motion passed.

The Homemaker's prayer was recited.

Sincerely submitted by: Secretary Karen Scheibe



Stuff, Stuff, Stuff

By Bobby Marbles Mobley, Source Poemhunter.com



I got tons of stuff I do declare
 House stuffed with stuff everywhere
 Stuff inside my closet door
 Lots of stuff on the floor
 My stuffy garage is filled with stuff
 Secret stuff pretty stuff crazy stuff
 Stuff expensive stuff so cheap
 Stuff I found on the street
 At yard sales I find stuff
 I can't seem to get enough
 Boxes stuffed from the ceiling to the floor
 Stuff I don't need anymore
 Tons of stuff I must have about
 Stuff that I could never do without
 Rooms filled with stuff I don't know why
 So much stuff that I could cry
 What would I do without my stuff
 Life would get very tough
 Where did all this stuff come from
 I collect this stuff just for fun
 I need all this stuff don't you see
 Does all this stuff belong to me
 Stuff your pockets your shirt is stuffy



Your stuffy pants looking puffy
 Stuff your face stuff your hat
 In your pocket stuff your cat
 Stuff your shoes stuff your socks
 Stuff your pillow with all you got
 How did all this stuff get here
 Stuff it here stuff it there
 Stuff your mouth full of stuff
 Tasty stuff can't get enough
 I can't live without my stuff
 That's tough stuff friend
 Where does all this stuff end
 How much do I pay for this stuff
 I must stuff my pockets full of cash
 I wish that my pocketbook was stuffed
 Stuff follows me down the street
 And sits at my door at my feet
 Stuff sneaks in my house late at night
 And stuffs itself out of sight
 Comes early morning what do I see
 Mountains of stuff surrounding me
 I'm sick of stuff I have had enough
 I think I will take this poem and stuff it



Keeping Little Ones Warm

In early November the Bayfield Family Forum Early Head Start program reached out to HCE to ask for donations of blankets, hats or mittens to help keep little ones (newborns to age 3) of Early Head Start families warm this winter.

The White River ladies were right on it! Pictured is just a small sample of the many cozy items (many of them handmade) club members donated. Thank you for responding so quickly to this need for area families just in time for snowfall!



Downsizing & Decluttering

By Mary Stenberg

I've become inspired! It's a great feeling and I have Nova Kane to thank for inspiring me. Nova was the presenter at the Homemaker's Lesson Day held at the Delta Town Hall on October 12. Her topic was "Downsizing". Nova provided some very practical and straightforward advice. We all have too much stuff and as we get older we need to get rid of all of our extras and excess.

Nova suggested starting small and tackling one area at a time. Perhaps you will begin with a dresser drawer, a kitchen cupboard, or one area in the basement. She recommended creating four categories:

1. Items you need
2. Things you still want
3. Items to sell, give away or donate,
4. Stuff to throw away

Some tips Nova shared included: Only handle items once. Throw away broken, chipped, stained or worn items. Don't keep multiples of items.

Since attending the Lesson Day, I have been downsizing and decluttering around my house. I have brought several boxes of items to Goodwill and the Bargain Hut. I donated a bunch of books to the Book Nook. I boxed up some of my husband's "still good" shirts and sent them to a friend of ours. I donated a box of items to Ashland Cares. I have thrown lots of stuff away! I still have work to do, but what I have accomplished so far feels great!

Nova distributed several handouts that provided information and suggestions on decluttering, organizing, and downsizing. One handout, which Nova received at the HCE Conference, I found especially helpful:

30 ways to Instantly Declutter Your Home.

DVD's you never watch – Donate or sell	Books you will never re-read – Donate them
Socks without a match - Toss	Expired coupons - Toss
Take-out ketchup or soy sauce packets - Toss	Magazines - Toss
Food storage containers without lids - Toss	Baking supplies that you will never use - Toss
Dried out markers, pens, etc. - Toss	Old wallets, belts, etc. - Donate
Clothing that is too big, too small, or damaged Donate lightly worn clothing or sell at a yard sale	Old receipts for items past or return time - Toss
Chipped plates, mugs or cups - Toss	Old papers and documents – Scan and save.
Old paint - Toss	Expired medication – Dispose at local pharmacy
Power cords – if for devices no longer used - Toss	Worn shoes or those you never wear – Toss/donate
Expired make-up - Toss	Unfinished project - Toss or set a date to finish
Extra coat hangers – Toss, especially the wire ones	Perfumes and colognes- Toss
Jewelry – broken or don't wear, Toss	Expired food - Toss
Memorabilia – Do you need it?	Notebooks – Recycle or toss
Old electronics – Sell or recycle	Junk drawers – Sort and toss excess, unused
Worn-out bras and underwear - Toss	Greeting cards - Toss

My Little Singer

Allie Raven, White River Homemakers

When I was 9, we moved to a "new" house. In a dark, far corner of the garage, I found what looked like a wooden desk with graceful wrought-iron legs connected by a little platform. I noticed the wooden top was hinged. Flipping it open, I was delighted when up popped a SEWING MACHINE, with "Singer" inscribed in gold script.

Actually, it didn't exactly pop up on its own. As I reached in and took hold of it, the glorious machine seemed to spring to life in my hands, gliding out of the hole it had nested in, as I noticed a wooden section that flipped down to hold it upright and secure.

I then discovered a long, narrow flip-down tray at the front of the cabinet. Its compartments held all sorts of interesting items that I would learn are called "notions," and nestled among them, folded tightly to fit in a compartment, was what turned out to be they key to the sewing machine's resurrection: its tattered, battered, but very clearly written and illustrated user instruction manual.

This was the first user manual I'd ever read. I was nine, after all; nothing I'd owned up to that point had required me to delve into detailed operating instructions, but here now before me was a mysterious and tantalizing machine, and I realized that the manual offered the information I would need to make it work.

It was all very exciting, because my parents awarded me sole and complete possession of this wondrous machine. I eagerly took up the challenge to restore it to working condition. I studied the diagrams that showed



how to thread the machine, how to change the needle. After many frustrating moments, I finally figured out the reason the treadle kept jumping its track was that its leather belt was too slack, so I gently pried off the metal staple that connected its two ends, cut off a piece, and reconnected it. Victory! The treadle-worked!!

I was then able to thread a bobbin, and soon that little Singer was humming along. We worked together to create all sorts of lovely and not-so-lovely things, and my interest and expertise in sewing grew as a result of the intimate relationship I developed through gaining a thorough understanding of the inner workings of my dear little inanimate but very lively friend.

Since then, I have never been without a working sewing machine. I have retired a good number of them, passing them on to our daughters or friends when getting a new one, but I don't intend ever to part with my little Singer, the machine that kindled my love for sewing.

White River Hunters Dinner

Our Hunters Dinner was November 18th, at the Delta Town Hall. This is an annual event HCE plans for the community to get together for a good home cooked meal.

Even the potatoes are real. One hunter asked if the potatoes were real and I answered, yes, right down to the lumps. We also had all the side dishes of rutabagas, gravy, ham and many salads and relish trays, along with a great variety of deserts.



It was a busy couple of hours with serving and then of course the clean up. It all went very well.

We served 75 people. The profits from this event goes toward the charities we donate to annually.

Thanks to all the ladies who helped prepare the meal, set up and cleanup. This is a wonderful group to work with. Love them all!

—Glory Bizub



UPDATE

Bayfield County, Northwest District Report

From a report submitted to the WAHCE President

Bayfield County HCE groups got together for Achievement Day in May. There were 15 entries for Cultural Arts. The guest speaker was a Master Gardener, and she showed us how to use wide row planting in our gardens.

Twelve entries went to State. Six entries each received a blue, one a red, and one a third.

Cable Area HCE helped with the blood mobile in their community. White River HCE served a delicious soup and salad dinner for their scholarship program. In July White River helped with Delta Day, and we worked with the Unity Church. Strawberry shortcake was served and really enjoyed by visitors to the area.

The Bayfield County Fair was our next busy event. The Cable Area and White River HCE groups put

up three booths for display. We coordinated our groups and had Bookworms™ booth and received a blue ribbon. White River had a display that showed the past, present, and future of the group. It received a blue also. We also put up a display of our Cultural Arts county winners. It shows how HCE is an important volunteer group to get to know and join.

The Cable Area group made a day trip to the Bayfield apple orchards. It is an annual event for them.

Our county also had Lesson Day, hosted by White River. Nova Kane presented "Downsizing", from a workshop she attended at Conference. We have all the steps to follow, now we must to get **BUSY** and downsize.

Two HCE members Glory Bizub and Nova Kane attended the Conference in The Dells. We teamed up with Muriel Anderson, and drove down together. The conference was a great get together. We went on tours, saw many HCE friends, and had wonderful workshops. The area was beautiful and exciting to see.

Bookworms™ started this year with the program reading to 35 children at the Drummond School and Iron River Smiling Faces Child Care Center and pre-school Latch Key. The area Lions Club and Namekagon Club help with the Bookworms™ book costs.

*Glory Bizub
Bayfield County President*



2017, White River HCE ladies having fun at their Christmas Party. Not all the members were able to attend. Some of them turned into snow birds, some had other obligations.

We wish everyone a Blessed Merry Christmas, and a Healthy New Year.



The Cable Ladies at their Christmas Lunch at Flat Creek Inn ~ Hayward, WI.

HCE Newsbrief

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Check us out on the web! <http://bayfield.uwex.edu/>

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