

# ABOUT PEOPLE

## Around n About Homemakers hold meeting

The Around n About Homemakers met on Thursday, February 12, 2026 at the home of Courtney Biggerstaff, with Donna Murray assisting as a hostess.

The meeting was called to order after a wonderful meal prepared by our hostesses at 6:30 p.m.

Kim said the Vice Presidents report would be presented at the April meeting.

Roll Call was given by Charolette. Members answered with "Who is your favorite Valentine?"

Members present were: Courtney Biggerstaff, Gerene Garmon, Donna Murray, Maria Denton, Glenna Geralds, Todd Stephenson, Charolette Arnett secretary, Betty Bartley President, Donna Allen treasurer, Rita Gentry, Penny Hurt, Shirley Moody, Kala Holland, Connie Hays and Kim Hollinsworth, VP. Donna Allen made a motion to approve the minutes and Connie seconded. Motion carried.

Donna gave the treasurer's report. Betty was paid \$28.20 for club craft supplies and Kim reimbursed \$48.18 for Tri County employee snacks during the recent ice storm. We have a balance of \$735.60 with \$94 of that being marked for a 4-H Camp scholarship.

Betty gave updates on upcoming activities and events.

The cultural arts creative writing contest, passport booklet and 2026 book list were dis-

cussed.

International Night will be held on March 5. Pam Maynard, County Cultural Arts Chairman, will be hosting "Hallo Germany" at 6 p.m. Members who wish to attend will need to pay \$10 meal fee at the Extension Office by February 20.

Our club will host a white elephant auction at our April meeting (Todd Stephenson's house).

Proceeds will benefit the 4-H Camp scholarship.

Smoke Shops and Gas Station Substances will be presented on Feb. 24th at the extension office. RSVP by Feb. 23rd. MCA Homemaker Leader Lesson Ballots are due in March 1. Our county homemaker bake sale will be held on April 2, 2026. Our club will be in charge of the Exceptional Egg Hunt this year. Charolette will check on the date for this and get with us.

Club community service projects include: blessing box donations, recycled cards for Wee Care Day Care, Coins for Change, 4-H Camp scholarship fundraisers and bottle caps.

Charolette told the group of an upcoming fundraiser for Helping Monroe on Sat. March 7, 2026 at the National Guard Armory. Copper Canyon and No Deposit Band will play, concessions and a cake walk from 5-9 p.m. Proceeds will benefit Helping Monroe with building expenses.

The next meeting will be held on March 12, 2026 at the home of Todd Ste-



Members attending the Around n About meeting included (from left, front) Courtney Biggerstaff, Gerene Garmon; (middle) Maria Denton, Glenna Geralds, Todd Stephenson, Charolette Arnett, Betty Bartley; Donna Murray, Jessie Mason, Donna Allen, Rita Gentry, Penny Hurt, Shirley Moody, Kala Holland, Connie Hays and Kim Hollinsworth.

### Monroe County CARES Youth Prevention Ambassadors

#### 2025 Retail Survey Project



Focus  
Substances:  
Nicotine/Tobacco  
& THC

#### Project Details:



Youth Prevention Ambassadors and adult advisors visited all locations in Monroe County that sold tobacco products. While in the stores, youth noted locations of nicotine products in relation to candy and other items marketed toward kids. They also noted the stores' signage- how many signs were present on the front of the building, advertisements at children's eye level, and advertisements for menthol products. The Ambassadors also looked for We Card signage at the door and checkout counter.

##### Project Goals:

- 1) Reduce retail access of tobacco/nicotine and THC products to persons under 21.
- 2) Increase awareness of the harms of youth tobacco/nicotine and THC use.
- 3) Effectively communicate retail survey findings to key decision-makers and community members to support policy changes and prevention efforts

#### 4/16 stores

Had outdoor advertisements that exceeded 14 sq ft

#### 7/16 stores

Sold vaping devices that are not FDA approved

#### 8/16 stores

Had noticeable We ID/ We Card signage by the registers

#### 4/16 stores

Sold Delta 8/THC products



MONROE COUNTY  
HEALTH DEPARTMENT

#### 5/16 stores

had paraphernalia (rolling papers, etc.) accessible without a clerk's assistance

#### 16/16 stores

Were given a Tobacco 21 Tool Kit with updated signage



16  
Locations  
Checked

9 gas stations/ convenience stores
2 grocery stores
5 vape/tobacco shops or liquor stores



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**Thursday February 12th,**

**10:00am CST**

**Bidding Ends:**

**Thursday February 26th,**

**2:00pm CST**



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