

# **ALTRUSA TIDINGS**

Issue 19-11

Altrusa International of Richardson, PO Box 833171, Richardson TX 75083

November 2019

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# President's Message

The October tornado has touched all of us, whether you were personally affected or not, and our prayers go out to those who were. Our neighbors in Richland Park were struck heavily, with fourteen homes totally destroyed, twenty-two were severely damaged and many more had varying degrees of damage. Two of our Altrusa family, Susan Fischer and Judy Blome both experienced damage to their homes. This has been a traumatic time and I hope you'll reach out with love and support, not only to Judy and Susan, but others who experienced loss.

Altrusa of Richardson responded to the disaster immediately. I reached out to the City Emergency Management Department to see how we could help. It was suggested that we could purchase food for some of the Emergency Response Teams. The Board requested



\$1,000 from Community Initiative Funds be earmarked for Disaster Relief, to purchase some meals for the Disaster workers; with any balance to go towards Disaster Relief through NETWORK of Community Ministries, which is the responding agency for those in the RISD service area.

Altrusa supplied lunch for two days for Response Center at City Hall and the Service Center at Huffines Park costing just under \$520. The remaining \$480 is going to NETWORK to aid those who lost their homes in the disaster. One whole apartment complex was completely destroyed making one hundred ninety-six families homeless. Perhaps our donation will assist one of these families to put a deposit on a new place to live.

In addition, I have written a request for a \$1,000 grant

from Altrusa International Disaster Relief Fund for NET-WORK. If funded, the funds will be sent directly to NET-WORK. The Kindness Committee donated children's clothing and the Community Outreach Committee donated fifty-two pairs of children's shoes.. The Sophomore sisters donated 1,488 items of children's socks and underwear.

Thank you to all the Altrusans who responded to the need for food, clothing and who volunteered at NET-WORK in the Emergency Food Pantry. When I was there, there was the concern that volunteers had been needed to respond to the disaster, leaving Santa's Toyland a complete shambles, and it was due to open the beginning of November. So if you would like to volunteer, I'd bet they can still use help in Toyland, in addition to other areas; Clothes Closet, Food Pantry, etc. If you are able to make an additional donation, please see the list of needs on page 5.

# **Upcoming Events for NOVEMBER**

See online calendar for event details, location, and sign-up at <a href="http://altrusarichardson.com">http://altrusarichardson.com</a>

Nov. 1 11:30 am Outstanding Women of Today Awards Luncheon

Nov. 2 1:30 pm Shelley's Birthday Party
Ability House

Nov. 4 & 5 3:15—5:30 pm Check In Art Work World Peace Art Contest, Richardson Library

Nov. 5 6:15 pm Appletree Court Auction

Nov. 7 7:00 pm Business Meeting

Nov. 12 5:00 pm Set up Art Peace Contest Reception 6:00 pm Reception opens

Nov. 21 6:00 pm Celebration of OWT

Nov. 21 7:00 pm Dinner/Program Meeting Speaker: Brooke Stephens

Nov. 25 Noon Tidings Deadline

Nov. 25 6:00 pm AWCLS Book Club "Ordinary Grace"

Nov. 28 NO Club Board Meeting

### President's message (continued)

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the success of the 16th Annual Outstanding Women of Today. We can be truly proud of how smoothly we put on this important event. It looks like we have out-done ourselves again. We had several new sponsors who expressed how impressed they were with the scope and positivity of the event, and our contributions to the community. Kudos especially to Laura Trainer-Collins and Gayle Ingle for their outstanding leadership and to all the leadership teams who worked so hard to make it such a successful event. It makes me so proud to be able to represent such a terrific and dedicated women. Meeting all the terrific nominees was such an honor. I hope that every single one left feeling like a winner.

One of the things that makes me the proudest during the luncheon is the presentation of the virtual check representing the value of the volunteer hours contributed to the community by our members. Altrusans turned in 9,947 hours of volunteer service to our community during the 2018-2019 club year (and I'll bet there were lots of hours that were not turned in). The check in the photo the right, in the amount of \$253,638, was presented to Mayor Voelker and members of the City Council. (This is one of the reasons that it is important to turn in all of your volunteer hours!)



Pictured (L-R) Ken Hutchenrider, Mark Solomon, Kyle Kepner, Bobbi Klein, Mayor Paul Voelker and Bob Dubey

Palios Pizza found out about our military project during KAN Weekend and contacted us about partnering with them. They are willing to donate 15% of <u>all</u> their sales on December 12 to Altrusa. Perhaps we could dedicate their donation to this year's KAN projects. Please consider treating yourself to a meal out at Palios. Maybe get some friends together to enjoy each other's company and raise some extra funds for Altrusa, too.

Doin' That Kindness Thing,

President, 2019-2020

972-998-0160

# Outstanding Women of Today Volunteers, Underwriters and Sponsors

# THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU

From Laura Trainor-Collins, Gayle Ingle, 2019 OWT Chairs

We can't say "Thank You" enough for all your hard work in making the 2019 Outstanding Women of Today ... Builders of Tomorrow Event a huge success. Thank you for your support as an underwriter, sponsor or volunteer. We could not succeed with this fundraising effort without YOU.

The OWT team is hosting a **Thank You Reception** before the November 21<sup>st</sup> dinner meeting starting at 6pm. We will have some wine and cheese snacks and have the pictures available to view. The sponsorship and nominee teams will be sorting pictures to mail in the photo cards to all the nominees and sponsors. Please plan on coming a little early to the dinner meeting and Celebrating Our Success. Way to go Richardson Altrusans. What a GREAT TEAM EFFORT!

### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

# Board of Directors Meeting, October 24, 2019

by Bobbi Klein, President

In response to the tornado, the Board recommended that \$1,000 be allocated from the Community Initiative Funds to pay for meals for the Disaster Workers and if anything is left over to be donated to and this was approved by the Finance Committee. The needs of



NETWORK and other avenues of response that Altrusa could do for the storm response were discussed. President Klein has submitted a request for \$1,000 Disaster Relief funds to the Altrusa International Foundation, on behalf of NETWORK. If awarded, funds are sent directly to NETWORK.

**Treasurer's Report:** Mary Beth McLemore — The current bank balance is \$6,744.40.

The next Board of Directors meeting will be **Thursday, December 12, at 6:30 pm** at Friends Place. **ALL** members are always welcome.

### GRANTS COMMITTEE UPDATE

# \$8,300 Grants Awarded For 2019-2020 Club Year

Ark House: \$1,000 award, to support affordable housing to patients during treatment

Camp John Marc: \$500 award, to assist Richardson kids with cancer/leukemia to attend a week of camp

Camp Summit: \$750 award, to assist Richardson individuals with disabilities to attend a week of camp

**Eisemann Center Foundation:** \$1,500 award, to provide educational outreach to families, RISD students and individuals who would not normally have access to the performing arts

**NETWORK of Community Ministries:** \$1,300 award, to provide Holiday Baskets for seniors in need

Richardson Adult Literacy Center: \$1,300 awarded, to provide ESL instruction to RISD parents

**Richardson Fine Arts - Story Telling Festival:** \$450 award, to provide a Dallas area traditional oral storytelling event

**Richardson Reads One Book:** \$1,000 award, to assist with expenses of bringing the featured book author to Richardson

**Sci-Tech Discovery Center:** \$500 award, to provide a computer charging cart for mobile STEM programming for Dallas, Tarrant and Collin county Title 1 schools

### KINDNESS COMMITTEE HOSTED

# New Friends New Life Was October Program

Bianca Jackson, Chief Development Officer of NEW FRIENDS NEW LIFE was our October Speaker. The Mission: New Friends New Life restores and empowers formerly trafficked girls and sexually exploited women and children. By providing access to education, job training, interim financial assistance, mental health and spiritual support the organization helps women and children overcome backgrounds of abuse addiction, poverty and limited opportunities. We learned the horrifying statistics surrounding the trafficking issue in Dallas and North Texas.



Bianca Jackson

### DISTRICT NINE ACCENT—2020 CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

# <u>District Nine Governor Beth Blair to Visit November</u> <u>Business Meeting</u>



District Nine Governor Beth Blair

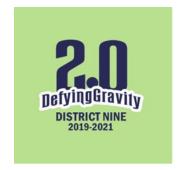
Now that the Outstanding Women of Today Awards Luncheon has been successfully concluded, it's

time for us to turn our attention to preparing for serving as the host club for the 2020 District Nine Conference.

To "kick-off" this adventure, Governor Beth Blair will speak to us about plans for Conference and what our responsibilities will be as host club when she visits our November Business meeting.

# DON'T MISS THIS IMPORTANT MEETING!





# ALTRUSA ACCENT

# **Celebrating Altrusans**



# **NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS**

Shirley Wilson Sigler November 3

Janice Flesch November 13

Barbara Cornelius November 21

# MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE — RECRUITMENT

# **New Member Initiation at November Business Meeting**

Please join us for the initiation of new member Pia Lara on November 7.

Pia Lara is a Global Stock Compensation Consultant at Kimberly-Clark Corporation. Pia was born and raised in Mexico, attended Highland Park HS, and graduated from SMU with degrees in Business and French, and an MBA in Finance. She is looking forward to becoming an Altrusan.

Be sure to welcome her to Altrusa.



Pia Lara

# MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE - RECRUITMENT

# Meet New Member Kathy Shockley



Kathy Shockley

Please introduce yourself to Kathy Schockley, who became an Altrusan at the September Business meeting.

Kathy is the Associate Director of Programs and Services for the Alzheimer's Association, Dallas and Northeast Texas Chapter. She is directly responsible for overseeing the programs and services for 19 of the 34 counties of the chapter service area and the health systems outreach for the entire chapter.

She feels that serving her community is an important part of who she is as a person. She also wanted to set an example for her daughters on the importance of community involvement and that philanthropy is a key component to a balanced life.

# Brook Stephens to Speak at the November Dinner Meeting



Come to hear Brooke Stephens, Director of Marketing and Sales of Stephens & Associates, speak to us about a Richardson based company that provides safety and efficacy testing, and research services to pharmaceutical, device, cosmetic and personal care product manufacturers all over the world. Developed by Thomas J. Stephens PhD., their methods were in response to the demands from the community and industry for ethical clinical study methods.

We will enjoy a Turkey Thanksgiving buffet.

Don't forget to come at 6:00 pm as we celebrate ourselves for a successful Outstanding Women of Today Luncheon fundraiser. Wear "orange" in observance of the "International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women" on November 25. We'll be taking pictures!

Remember to make your reservation on line at our events page by Noon on Tuesday, November 19. If you choose not to eat, please let us know you are coming so we can be sure you have a seat. You may change or cancel your reservation by the deadline, if necessary, but you will be responsible to pay for the meal if you don't cancel. Contact Barbara Cornelius at 214-335-8223.



741 S. Sherman Street, Richardson, TX 75080

Please note: Household items should be new or gently used and cleaned and packaged together.

### Needs List

# Household Items

Dishes Flatware

Cookware

Glassware

Small electric appliances (toasters, coffee makers, mixers)

Sheets

**Towels** 

Comforters

# Clothing

New packaged mens, women and children's underwear Coats (all sizes)

Men's winter clothes

Closed toed shoes, boots for men, women and children

Items can be dropped off at Network during normal business hours (9 am to 6 pm Mon-Thurs or Fri 9 am to Noon). You may also drop off items at Richardson Chrysler Jeep Dodge (1321 North Central Expressway, Richardson, 75080) on Saturdays from 8:30 am to 9:00 pm through the showroom.

# Food

Non-perishable food items

### WAYS AND MEANS COMMITEE

# Another Successful Outstanding Women of Today...Builders of Tomorrow Luncheon



STOP THE PRESSES! The six amazing honorees, pictured above are: (L-R) Lily Morgan, Outstanding Woman of Tomorrow; Nancy Phillips, Small Business; Amanda Rockow, Education; Kaylan VanPelt, Non-Profit; Wendy Sheriff, Government/Municipal; Amy Brunson, Corporate/High Tech; and Captain Kandy Fleming, Health Care.

Editor's Note: More from the luncheon in the December issue when we'll have more space and pictures.

### RICHARDSON POLICE DEPARTMENT

# November "What's New at the Richardson Police Department

Excerpt from the November Richardson Citizen's Police Academy Alumni Newsletter

I never really thought of October as tornado weather, but it just goes to show you never know when disaster can strike. However, you can always count on Richardson to respond in a unified, energetic and productive manner. I am certain many of you have seen the extensive damage caused by last week's tornadoes. What you may not have seen is the amazing response by the city and citizens. The police department, fire department, Office of Emergency Management, public works, street department and other city officials and workers responded immediately to the crises. The Emergency Operations Center was activated, and a concentrated effort began to locate any injured persons, clear roads, fix downed power lines, remove debris, and find shelter for those who lost their homes.

There was also an amazing response from volunteers in the community. Our Field Operations Volunteers assistance was much appreciated. The RCPAAA Canteen was activated and helped bring nourishment to officers in the field who were working twelve-hour shifts helping secure the affected neighborhoods. I should also mention a special thank you to Texas DPS Officers who provided up to ten officers and a Sergeant around the clock for a full week. RPD Volunteer Coordinator Meredith Watkins helped man a volunteer center that helped direct and coordinate a total of 165 citizen volunteers over a period of six days. While much of the heavy work has been done, recovery will be a long process. Network of Community Ministries is now coordinating many of those efforts. If you are interested in helping, please contact Meredith or Network of Community Ministries.

# SOPHOMORE SISTERS PROJECT UPDATE

# Successful "Seats & Feets" Project

By Linda Caron

On October 26, 2019, "Make a Difference Day", the Sophomore Sisters completed their project for the year titled "Seats and Feets". It was a collection of new underwear and socks for needy young school children for NETWORK of Community Ministries, which is always a critical need.

With donations from club members and our budget, we were able to provide 1,488 pair of underwear and socks (488 pair over our goal of 1000)! On "Make a Difference Day", the Sisters and many other Altrusan sisters met at Friends Place to package the underwear and socks into sets of three pair, with size tags attached by ribbon. This was a time-consuming process, but with the great turnout, we were able to complete it in only an hour and a half.

Thanks to Friends Place for the use of their wonderful facility, and to all the Altrusans, family, and friends that helped.



(L-R) Mayor Paul Voelker, Thanh Tran, and another volunteer accepting donations

Thanh Tran delivered the underwear and socks immediately to NETWORK after the packaging was completed. (With the recent event of the tornado, the timing for this event could not have better.) Attending that day were: Linda Caron, Robbin Murray, Bobbi Klein, Thanh Tran, Sue McElveen, Sarah Saunders, Mary Bedosky, Jo Leeper, Mouna Rouami, Lynda Calkin, Jenn Rohm, Nancy Rohm, Jacob Mowery, Emma Mowery, Sara Deats, Jane Merz, Mimi Tanner, Lynn Solomon, Mary Beth McLemore, Jackie Scrivener, Christine Hart, Mary Boyter, Lucy Dean, Kim-

berly Kierce, and Robert Taylor.



Front: (L-R) Mouna Rouani, Jo Leeper, Lynda Calkin



Front left: Linda Caron; Seated: Nancy Rohm (back to camera), Mimi Tanner, Sara Deats (standing), Jane Merz (behind Nancy)



Front: (L-R) Mary Bedosky, Sue McElveen, Sarah Saunders



Front: (L-R) Mary Boyter, Mary Beth McLemore, Jackie Scrivener

### CCOMMUNITY OUTREACH COMMITTEE UPDATE

# "Sole To Soul" Shoe Donation to NETWORK





In the photo left, Jackie Scrivener, Janet McColloch and Christine Hart are pictured at NETWORK delivering fifty-two pairs of children's shoes of various sizes. The NETWORK Project Committee decided that there was a greater need for shoes than for our usual October donation of toys for Santa's Toyland. It turned out to be perfect timing. The need is so much greater in the wake of the tornado.

### COMMUNITY OUTREACH SENIORS PROJECT

# Richardson Public Library Book Rotation



Altrusans pictured from the center to the right are: Robert Taylor (friend of Kimberly), Gloria Sandoval, Kimberly Kierce, Carol Ruszkowski, and Toni Garrett. The Exchange Club volunteers are shown on the left and in the back row.

On October 5, 2019, four Altrusans with one Altrouser friend and five members of the Richardson Exchange Club, volunteered to help with the Richardson Public Library Rotation project. This project involves taking large print books on a rotation basis to several participating assisted and non-assisted living facilities in Richardson. Altrusans participating in this event were: Kimberly Kierce and friend Robert Taylor, Carol Ruszkowski, Gloria Sandoval, and Toni Garrett.

# It Was a Happy, Haunted Halloween Party at Ability House



The spooks (L-R) Robert, Sara Deats, Jackie Scrivener, Rosemary Gouger, Mimi Tanner, Jane Merz, Vera, alma Beniot, Christine Hart, Kathleen, Bobbi Klein, Shelly, Barbara Cornelius, nancy Rohm and Janie Jaquier.

The spooks and grinning ghouls invaded Ability House on October 12th. The house was truly haunted by a talking ghoul, several witches and other assorted crazy "creatures". The green witch's brew bubbled and smoked in the cauldron next to scary but tasty cookie creatures just begging to be eaten. There were even "Tricky Treaters" who brought yummy treats and crazy socks to stuff the client's treat buckets. What sweet fun!



Vera's not sure she likes the looks of the steaming witches brew



Is that Kathleen behind those "monstrous" Foster Grants?



Careful with that sword Bucchaneer Bob



Christine Hart and Jackie Scrivener are bringing tricky treats



"Off with their heads!" cries Queen of Hearts, a.k.a Barbara Cornelius



OOOOOhhhh! The cookies look like they are ready to run away

### KINDNESS COMMITTEE UPDATE

# Altrusa Donates One Hundred Forty Books





Altrusans Rose Daughety (far left) Bobbi Klein (center left and far right) and Susan Long (center right) picked up childrens and adult books and delivered them to NETWORK in October. This donation is made possible by the Friends of the Library Book Sale. The day after the annual sale Altrusans are allowed to collect books that remain unsold, which we are then able to distribute to organizations we serve.

### MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE -RETENTION

# Holiday Tea at the Arboretum December 8, at 2:00 pm

**DeGolyer Restaurant** 

www.dallasarboretum.org

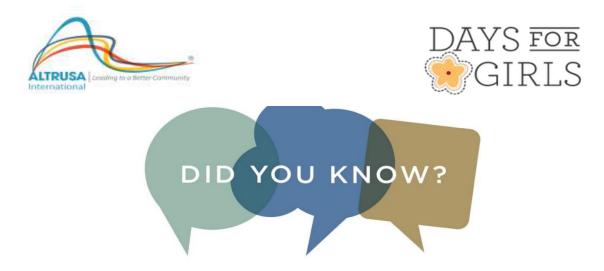
Join some of your Altrusa family for a lovely Holiday Tea at the Arboretum. The prices are; \$49 for Adult Tea or \$59 for Champagne Tea and Admission to the Garden and parking is included.

Seating is limited, first come first serve so act quickly. Please reserve your tables on the arboretum website. There are approximately thirty seats left on this day. Some days are already sold out. Go to the arboretum website, click on events and activities, see full calendar, click to December, click on December 8th and scroll down through the events until you come to the 2 pm-4 pm Tea and register your table. Annabell is our contact, 214 -515-6511. Please put Altrusa in the note area of your reservation.



Cancellations – Cancellations, subject to a \$10 per person processing fee, may be made up to three (3) business days prior to your date of tea service. Refunds cannot be issued for missed reservations or cancellations within three business days of your tea service. Cancellations should be handled by calling 214-515-6511 Monday through Friday 9 am—5 pm.

# **News From the International President**



- As of July 2019, Days for Girls has provided 1,531,987 women and girls with DfG Kits and health education in 141 countries!
- Each kit gives a girl back at least 180 days.
- The distributed kits have given 234,000,000 days of school/work because girls have these kits to use during their periods.
- As of October 2019, Altrusans have contributed \$35,204.83 to support the work of Days for Girls. That is awesome!!
- Over 33,000 dedicated volunteers around the world made DfG Kits.
- Donations made it possible to offer regional conferences, expand and support local enterprise leaders, improve the volunteer training program, promote and educate others about menstrual health and reach over one million women and girls throughout the world.

**Every Girl. Everywhere. Period.** 

### UNITED NATIONS OBSERVANCES

# November 2019 U.N. Days and Other Observances

Excerpted from www.un.org



# World Science Day for Peace and Development, November 10, 2019:

The objectives of World Science Day for Peace and Development are to:

- Strengthen public awareness on the role of science for peaceful and sustainable societies;
- Promote national and international solidarity for shared science between countries;
- Renew national and international commitment for the use of science for the benefit of societies;
- Draw attention to the challenges faced by science and raising support for the scientific endeavor.

# International Day for Tolerance, November 16, 2019:

The United Nations is committed to strengthening tolerance by fostering mutual understanding among cultures and peoples. This imperative lies at the core of the <u>United Nations Charter</u>, as well as the <u>Universal Declaration of Human Rights</u>, and is more important than ever in this era of rising and violent extremism and widening conflicts that are characterized by a fundamental disregard for human life.

In 1996, the UN General Assembly (by resolution <u>51/95</u>) invited UN Member States to observe the <u>International Day for Tolerance</u> on 16 November. This action followed up on the United Nations Year for Tolerance, 1995, proclaimed by the UN General Assembly in 1993 at the initiative of <u>UNESCO</u>, as outlined in the <u>Declaration of Principles on Tolerance and Follow-up Plan of Action for the Year</u>.

# International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women, November 25, 2019:

Violence against women and girls (VAWG) is one of the most widespread, persistent and devastating human rights violations in our world today remains largely unreported due to the impunity, silence, stigma and shame surrounding it.

In general terms, it manifests itself in physical, sexual and psychological forms, encompassing:

- intimate partner violence (battering, psychological abuse, marital rape, femicide);
- sexual violence and harassment (rape, forced sexual acts, unwanted sexual advances, child sexual abuse, forced marriage, street harassment, stalking, cyber- harassment);
- human trafficking (slavery, sexual exploitation);
- female genital mutilation; and
- child marriage.

To further clarify, the <u>Declaration on the Elimination of Violence Against Women</u> issued by the UN General Assembly in 1993, defines violence against women as "any act of gender-based violence that results in, or is likely to result in, physical, sexual or psychological harm or suffering to women, including threats of such acts, coercion or arbitrary deprivation of liberty, whether occurring in public or in private life."

# "CHOOSE BEING KIND OVER BEING RIGHT AND YOU WILL BE RIGHT EVERY TIME."

---- RICHARD CARLSON