



Building a caring community for residents who want to remain in their homes safely and affordably while maintaining a meaningful lifestyle.

NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2018

PRESIDENT'S POST

April 15-21 is National Volunteer Week and on April 18th we will honor volunteers at a luncheon at member, Virginia Mansour's home. The spirit of altruism in the small band of AIP-TW's founding directors has ignited the passion of volunteerism among our growing cadre of volunteers. Our volunteers provide members with services such as transportation to medical appointments and shopping, small home repair jobs, computer help, and safety check-in calls. What really impresses me more than these tangible services is the compassion of our volunteers. They respect and value each member for their uniqueness and spirit to gracefully and courageously "age in place." I sincerely appreciate our volunteers and thank them for supporting our mission. ---PEGGY REINHOLD

"The unselfish effort to bring cheer to others will be the beginning of a happier life for ourselves." – Helen Keller

MONTHLY SOCIALS EVERY THIRD WEDNESDAY

The Social Activities Team is organizing a daytime social event every month on the third Wednesday. The **April 18 social** will be a luncheon held at the home of **Virginia Mansour**, 43 North Manorcliff Place in The Woodlands. **Please R.S.V.P. to Peggy at 713-828-3945 by April 12.**

On May 18 we will enjoy coffee and conversation from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. at La Madeleine French Bakery & Café Woodlands. Look for an invitation in your inbox in early May. Upcoming socials will include lunch at restaurants and in private homes, and in October, "Potluck in the Park."

BOARD MEMBER PROFILE: Erika Bondy Pratt

Board Member and Volunteer Extraordinaire

With warm charisma and boundless energy, **Erika Bondy Pratt** is one of AIP-TW's most active volunteers. She hosted our first social event in her art-



filled home, is a former board secretary and current board member, a driver for the rideshare program, and member of the social affairs and outreach teams.

In addition to the time and energy she devotes to AIP-TW, Erika is the current President of International Friends. At various times since moving to The Woodlands she has helped build houses for Habitat for Humanity, volunteered at Interfaith Community Clinic, been active in Indian Springs Village Association, The Woodlands Art League, and other organizations.

Erika was born in Tegucigalpa, Honduras. Her life of service to others began as a teenager when she volunteered at an orphanage near her home. She first came to the United States at the age of 17 as an American Field Service Exchange student. Subsequently, she worked for the American Embassy in Tegucigalpa as a bilingual secretary, married and had two daughters, Dawn Elizabeth and Julie Christine.

Later, she lived and worked in countries around the world with second husband Dean Pratt, comptroller for USAID (United States Agency for International Development). After learning computer programming, she became the word processing expert for Wang computers used in American embassies around the world. She also studied languages and art and sold her paintings at art shows in various countries.

Erika loves people, cultures, languages, travel, tennis, art, photography, music, dance, and above all: peace throughout the world.

[WE RECOMMEND - Learn Something New at Academy of Lifelong Learning](#)

Active adults often choose to retire near a university so they can enjoy continued intellectual and personal growth. Residents of The Woodlands are fortunate to live near the Montgomery campus of Lone Star College. It offers a full range of courses and activities for older adults through the **Academy of Lifelong Learning (ALL)**.

For a small fee of \$35 a year, you can participate in non-credit courses on a variety of topics. Some are academic, such as history and art appreciation. Others are informational, including classes on Medicare, Social Security, and senior issues. Additional classes offer opportunities for fun and socializing. These include day trips, bridge, mahjong, movie days, and much more. For \$55, you can purchase a global membership and participate in ALL at any Lone Star College campus.

ALL members receive discounts on Amazon Prime, a free online subscription to the New York Times, discounted prices on Microsoft software, free use of library facilities, plus numerous other discounts.

Course schedules are published several weeks prior to the beginning of the Spring and Fall semesters. You can register for classes online, or there is an opportunity to register at an open house held on campus before the semester begins. The date for the August open house has not been set, but we will keep you informed. For additional information, call 936-273-7446.

ALL provides a variety of volunteer opportunities. You can share your expertise as an instructor or get involved in program coordination and administration. You can learn more about volunteer opportunities at <https://montgomeryall.wordpress.com>.

[NATIONAL PRESCRIPTION DRUG TAKE-BACK DAY](#)

Saturday, Apr 28, 2018 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM The Woodlands Township Neighborhood Watch will host a National Prescription Drug Take-Back Day drop-off location at The Woodlands Township Town Hall front parking lot, 2810 Technology Forest Blvd. Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) and The Montgomery County Sheriff's Office, The Woodlands Patrol will collect unwanted medications at the site for safe disposal by the DEA. The DEA cannot accept liquids, needles or sharps at this event, only pills or patches. This is a free and anonymous service; medications will only be accepted during the event hours and may not be dropped off before or after the event. In case of inclement weather, drop off will be at the front lobby.

