



# THE HOT SHEET

Volume 2021-2022

November 2021

Issue 4



**DATE:** Wednesday, Dec. 8  
**TIME:** 11:30 a.m.  
**PLACE:** Tanner's Restaurant  
**RSVP:** Carol Freeland (915-8961)  
or [cfreeland@actsplus.com](mailto:cfreeland@actsplus.com), by Dec. 5

We will order off the extensive menu, so everyone can have their favorites.

## SANTA OPPORTUNITY

We are working with our junior chapter affiliate to help fill the Helping Hawks Food Pantry by collecting non-food items needed by women on the NPC campus.

Please consider being an Elf Helper by bringing any of the following: any type of feminine product, diapers and pull-ups, baby wipes, personal hygiene products (i.e., deodorant, soap, etc.). Our Head Elf will collect everything and take to NPC.

## President's Message

Happy Thanksgiving to everyone! Whether you're traveling or staying home with friends and family, I hope you have a joyous holiday.

Speaking of joyous, I'm sure everyone who attended the Scholarship Luncheon felt something in the air – pleasure in each other's company, pride in the ten young women who celebrated the day with us, and hope for the future. There was sadness, too – Jim Gifford spoke to us about Becky and how much AAUW had always meant to her (and him, too), but we were glad to hear from him and thankful that he could be with us.

Thanks also go to you, our members. We were expecting to lose a bit of money on this year's luncheon – fewer members attended, and we had many guests (ten scholarship recipients, their guests, and five from NPC) to cover. Thanks to your generosity, though, we were able to cover all costs.

Try to come to the December Lunch Bunch so we can celebrate the holidays together, but if I don't see you then, I'll look for you at our great January program.

Thankfully yours,

**Mary Eliades**

# PROGRAM

For our January program, we welcome guest speaker Susan McCarty, a member of the Human Trafficking Task Force of Garland County.

Human trafficking is the fastest growing criminal industry in the United States. It is modern day slavery and involves the use of exploitation through force, fraud, or coercion to leverage the sale of a human for labor, commercial sex, or organ harvesting. One in four slavery victims are children, with 71% being women and young girls.

Alcohol and drugs can only be used one time, but trafficked humans can be sold over and over! One of the main ways children are brought into sex trafficking is through the internet and social media. The average age is about 15.

Victims frequently do not seek help due to language barriers, fear of their traffickers, or fear of law enforcement. Because human trafficking is considered a hidden crime, several key indicators can help people recognize potential endangerment so they can notify law enforcement.

Trafficking IS in our area and we need to learn what to look for, how to identify possible victims, what to do if we suspect this and who to call when we are concerned about possible victims. We need to join together to increase awareness of this horrible situation!

The Human Trafficking Task Force of Garland County was formed as a sub-committee of Project Hope in November, 2011, as a response to the reality of human trafficking in our own county. It is made up of city officials, representatives and directors of local schools, colleges, health department, hospitals, community organizations, law enforcement, churches, and ministries.

Participants in the task force meetings discuss legislation, policies, opportunities and awareness projects. They have built a crisis response for our community to respond to victims of human trafficking. The meetings are held from 1 to 2 p.m. on the second Tuesday of the month at the Garland County Sheriff's Office, and visitors are welcome. (There will not be a December meeting.)

**Our program will be on Jan. 19 at 3 p.m. at UUVG (403 Barcelona Road); we'll have wine and snacks. Stay tuned for more details!**

**MARK  
YOUR CALENDAR!**

Dec. 8 (11:30)—Holiday Lunch Bunch, Tanner's

Jan. 19 (3:00)—Program—Susan McCarty,  
Human Trafficking Task Force of Garland  
County, UUVG

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