

# A New Leaf

Newsletter of the  
Montgomery County  
Women's Center

JUNE 2015



CRISIS HOTLINE  
936-441-7273

CONROE OFFICE  
1401 Airport Road  
Conroe, TX 77301  
936-441-4044

THE WOODLANDS  
1600 Lake Front Circle, #100  
The Woodlands, TX 77380  
936-441-0400

EMERGENCY SHELTER  
SHELTERING OAKS  
Address Confidential  
Call HOTLINE for Services  
936-441-7273

SOMETHING SPECIAL  
RESALE STORE  
19073 I-45 South  
Shenandoah, TX 77385  
281-292-0443  
Monday – Saturday 9am – 6pm

WWW.MCWCTX.ORG



Sarah Raleigh - Pres/CEO, MCWC, Marion Fischer - Chairman of the Board, MCWC & Ally Seder - WineFest Chair/MCWC Board Member & Mike Seder, ReMax The Woodlands/Spring with Jason Allen Band

## WineFest 2015 - Boots, Bottles & Bling



Thank you to our many dedicated sponsors, partners and supporters for making the 14th annual WineFest a success! More than 500 people braved the torrential rain to enjoy fine wines and delectable delights from our local restaurant partners. Over \$103,000 was raised, helping us to continue offering our services to victims of sexual assault and domestic violence at no charge. We are so grateful to all of you who made this possible! A special thank you goes to Ray Hoveida, Vice President and Store Manager of Macy's The Woodlands, who has hosted WineFest every year since the inception; and also to Ally Seder, of Mike Seder RE/MAX for chairing the event for the 3rd year in a row and to her tireless committee of volunteers!

*Please see more photos and a special thank you to our event sponsors and partners on the back cover.*



Mike Seder & Ray Larson - ReMax The Woodlands/Spring with guests



Tom Cox - MCWC Board Vice Chair & Dr. Austin Lane - Lone Star College and MCWC Board Member



Ray Hoveida - Macy's & Sarah Raleigh



Marion Fischer, Bob Balcerak, Dianne & George Lindahl & Sarah Raleigh



Jeff & Christi Cannon - Schaumburg & Polk Engineering



Dr. Ann Snyder - Pres/CEO, Interfaith of The Woodlands & Sarah Raleigh



Leila Higham - WineFest Committee, & Daniel & Brooke Schmitt - Montgomery County Heart Association

## OUR MISSION

To lead the effort in preventing Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault through crisis intervention, assistance, advocacy, empowerment and social change.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### VOLUNTEER TRAINING

July 14 - 15 - 9:00am - 3:45pm  
Contact Beverley Melder - 936-441-4044 ext 41

### SCHOLARSHIP RECEPTION

July 28 - 6:00am - 8:00pm  
Lone Star College - Community Building  
Conference Center

### OPEN YOUR PURSE FOR CHANGE

Date tba - 11:00am - 1:30pm  
The Woodlands Resort & Country Club

## SUPPORT GROUPS

MCWC offers free counseling and support groups for survivors of family and sexual violence and their families. To schedule an appointment please contact the counseling office at (936) 441-4044 ext 23.

Go to [www.mcwctx.org](http://www.mcwctx.org) for more information.

### MONDAYS @ REACHING PINES, CONROE

6:30-8:00pm - EST  
(Experience Strength & Hope) for female survivors of sexual violence

### THURSDAYS @ REACHING PINES, CONROE

4:00-6:00pm - LaVoz  
for Spanish speaking family violence survivors

### TUESDAYS @ THE WOODLANDS OFFICE

6:30-8:00pm  
The Phoenix Group - for female survivors of childhood trauma (sexual and family violence)

6:30-8:00pm  
"Loved Ones" - for supporters of someone who has experienced (sexual or family violence)

6:30-8:00pm  
Renewed Men's Initiative - (contact Curtis 936-441-4044 ext 36)

### THURSDAYS @ THE WOODLANDS OFFICE

6:30-8:00pm  
The Empowering Space - for female survivors of family violence

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Marion Fischer,  
Chairman of the Board  
Tom Cox,  
Vice Chair  
Jim Larson,  
Treasurer  
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Secretary

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Brynn Huntsman  
Peter Huntsman  
Adora Kutchin  
Austin Lane  
JoAnne Lowry  
Linda Manley  
Ally Seder  
Jeffrey Shipley  
Angie Signorelli  
Debbie Stanford  
Cheryl Tyson  
Datren Williams

## Volunteer Honored



Ethel Michalec

The Montgomery County Women's Center was proud to honor longtime volunteer Ethel Michalec as their 2015 Woman of Distinction at the Montgomery County Women's Council of Organizations' 25th Annual Luncheon on May 15th at The Woodlands Waterway Marriott and Convention Center.

Ethel is from Shiner, Texas. She lived in Houston for ten years in her early married

life before her family settled in Conroe in 1972 where she still resides. Ethel joined the Woodlands Corporation in 1973 when The Woodlands was first being developed and retired in 1995 after 22 years there.

A year later, the Montgomery County Women's Center was fortunate enough to welcome a new volunteer to our resale store - that was 19 years ago!

Ethel says that volunteering for the Women's Center has been very rewarding for her because she always feels that in a small way she is helping someone less fortunate than herself. We think she helps make a difference in a BIG way! The MCWC staff and her fellow volunteers, she now calls good friends, applaud Ethel for her tireless efforts. Thank you for the last 19 years, Ethel. Here's to you and to many, many more! Congratulations!

**VOLUNTEERS - We truly couldn't do it without YOU!! "Volunteers are not paid - not because they are worthless, but because they are priceless!!"**

## Outreach Update



Katie Stechsulte @ Montgomery Jr. High



Missy Suarez @ Conroe Methodist Day School

In May the Outreach program reached 4,374 individuals with 79 school presentations and 14 college and community presentations. We have presented to 19,837 individuals so far this year raising awareness and educating the community! With school out for the summer, our Outreach Education Coordinators will be spending their time at summer camps, daycare facilities, churches and other community venues speaking on topics ranging from anti-bullying, cyber-bullying, sexual harassment, dating violence, drug-assisted rape, domestic violence, sexual assault and healthy relationships. Please call Caitlin Johnson, Outreach Manager @ 936-441-4044, ext. 45 to schedule.



Debra Corbett, Counselor, Sarah Raleigh, President/CEO, MCWC, Sean Bennett, Lainie Bodin, Tom Cox, T.D. Cox Homes

### THE STUDENTS AT TOM COX INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL GIVE BACK

The students made blankets to donate to the Shelter. This is just one of many examples of students in our community who give of their time and talents to help others at the Women's Center.



**From the desk of Sarah Raleigh, president/ceo**

If you could only see the transformation we see in the children as they adjust to the safe, secure environment at the Shelter. When we first meet them, their little faces are void of emotion and have such sad, empty eyes. What a joy it is to see them become children again as the life comes back into their eyes and the smiles and laughter return.

Speaking of laughter, we have a new Saturday night tradition at the Shelter - Family Fun Night! Everyone looks forward to Pizza and a Movie or Pizza and Games! It's a wonderful way to spend quality time together as they transition to their new life without the threat of violence and abuse.

## AGENCY NEEDS

AA and AAA Batteries

Alarm Clocks

Toddler Safety Seats

Baby Monitors

Nail clippers

Toddler Boy Underwear (4T-5T)

Gas Cards

OFF Mosquito Repellent Spray

Flip Flops (all sizes)

## PANTRY ITEMS

Zip Loc Bags  
(Quart and Gallon sizes)

Canned Soup

Canned Tuna

Peanut Butter



## HIGHLIGHTS - Friends of MCWC

*We are so grateful for all of our friends who support us. Here are some examples of the awesome contributions we receive. Thanks to ALL!!*



*Dana Garcia, Stephanie Costea & Sarah Raleigh, MCWC with Steve and Sandi Maner, A-Med, Inc.*

BEST Neighbor Award to A-Med, Inc. Medical Equipment and Supplies in Shenandoah next to our resale store. The Something Special truck now has a permanent parking place because of the Maner's generous and giving spirits. It means more than you know! Thank you!!



*Dr. Jamie Marshall, D.C. (2nd from right) Quality of Life Chiropractic in Magnolia, TX*

Dr. Marshall selected MCWC as their Charity of the quarter. Thank you to this dedicated doctor and her staff for this generous donation!



*Movers for Moms Promotion*

Thank you so much, Claudia and Steve Ziara, owners of Two Men and a Truck - Montgomery County, for collecting over 1200 items for our residents at the Shelter! You truly are "Movers Who Care."



Thank you to these generous participants in the Movers for Mom promotion: H-E-B Market Street, Trinity Episcopal Day School, Baby Boot Camp - The Woodlands, Kingwood Branch Library, South Montgomery County YMCA, and Epiphany Spa.



*Dana Garcia, MCWC, Gwen Sullivan, HOGS, Caitlin Johnson, MCWC*

Can't thank the Cut 'n Shoot HOGS (Harley Owners Group) enough for supporting MCWC in a BIG way for almost 20 years!



*Travis Roome, AFJROTC, Sarah Raleigh, Beverley Melder, MCWC, Katherine Ratliff, AFJROTC*

The Kitty Hawk Air Assn. members built and donated carnival games as a community service project. They received donations from over 100 cadets in the AFJROTC program at The Woodlands High School. Thank you so much!



MCWC PROVIDES

- Emergency Shelter
- Counseling
- Legal Assistance
- Advocacy/Accompaniment
- 24-Hour Crisis Hotline
- Community Education
- School-Based Education
- Volunteer Opportunities
- Something Special Resale Shop

ALL SERVICES ARE OFFERED FREE OF CHARGE.

WWW.MCWCTX.ORG

1401 Airport Road  
Conroe TX 77301



**THANK YOU WINEFEST SPONSORS**

**EVENT SPONSOR**



**EVENT WINE SPONSOR**

Cal and Teri Remsburg



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Jason Higham  
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**POSH PEARL**

- |                                |  |                             |
|--------------------------------|--|-----------------------------|
| Anadarko Petroleum Corporation | Precision Printing/Alpha Graphics Conroe | The Struble Family          |
| Becky and Shane Bayless        | Richie's Specialty Pharmacy              | The Woodlands Office Suites |
| Community Impact Newspaper     | Signorelli Company                       |                             |

**TURQUOISE TESSIE**

- |                                   |                                  |                               |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Busy Bees                         | Hauber Foundation                | Stewart Title                 |
| Charter Title                     | E. S. Buddy Johnson              | Strike                        |
| Chicago Title                     | Jan and Jim Larson               | T.D. Cox Homes, LLC           |
| Marchita and John Cook            | LeBon Chiropractic Health Center | Cheryl & Jesse Tyson          |
| Creative Impressions Design Group | Lone Star College                | Linda & Jim Wetzel            |
| Jerry Hantman                     | Nahas Data Source                | Woodforest Financial Services |

**RHINESTONE RUBY**

- |                                   |  |   |                          |
|-----------------------------------|--|---|--------------------------|
| Delvin and Joe Ash                | Enfusia                                      | Adora Kutchin                           | The Strong Firm P.C.     |
| Kim Bates                         | Marion and John Fischer                      | Memorial Hermann The Woodlands Hospital | TIGA Logistics LLC       |
| Best Friends Veterinary Hospital  | Giorgi & Associates, LLC                     | North American Title Company            | Ruth S. Turner           |
| Patti and Rick Chamberlain        | Jason Higham – Cherry Creek Mortgage Company | Dr. Ann Snyder                          | Linda and Chad Uselman   |
| Corporate Medical Systems         | Jean and Andy Hruby                          | Southwestern Energy                     | Maya & Datre Williams    |
| John Cowart, State Farm Insurance |  | Debbie and Bill Stanford                | Woodforest National Bank |



Kathy Walton - Pres/CEO, Pyramid Tubular Products, with guests



Robert & Deana Germany - MCWC



Sarah Raleigh & Alicia Bauman - MCWC volunteer



Guest Stefan Pichon & Cheryl Tyson - MCWC Board Member & Sponsor



Lacey Diehl - Chicago Title, Kim Turner - Mike Seder, ReMax, Tonya Van Tiem - First American Home Warranty, Kelsey McKey & Natalie Uribe - Chicago Title, and Blakely Cook - Keystone Signature Properties

**WINEFEST RESTAURANT PARTNERS**

