

Rotary



Club of Little Rock

Tuesday, October 15, 2019



Great Hall, William J. Clinton Presidential Library
11:30 a.m. Buffet Opens 12:00 noon Program Begin



Susan Altrui,
Director,
Little Rock
Zoo

Susan Altrui is director of the Little Rock Zoo, an organization committed to creating engaging experiences that inspire people to value and conserve our natural world. As director, Susan is responsible for the health and well-being of more than 500 animals that reside at

the Zoo and for ensuring that the Zoo maintains its accreditation with the prestigious Association of Zoos and Aquariums. She also guides the conservation education programs of the zoo as well as conservation initiatives to ensure the long-term survival of species in the wild. Under Susan's leadership the Little Rock Zoo has grown to support numerous conservation efforts locally and abroad including conservation partnerships for sloth bears in India, penguins in South Africa and the American Red Wolf, which once made its home in Arkansas.

Susan also has a passion for supporting the arts and serves on many non-profit arts boards and was most recently chairman of the board of the Hot Springs Documentary Film Festival, one of only 32 festivals in the country named as an Academy Award qualifying film festival. She also serves on the board of the Arkansas Minority Film and Arts Association and is a past Governor's appointee to the Arkansas Entertainer's Hall of Fame Commission.

Susan holds an M.A. in Speech Communication from Colorado State University and a B.A. in the same from Arkansas State University. She was named 40 Under 40 by Arkansas Business and is a recipient of the Sales and Marketing Executives International Award for Distinguished Sales & Marketing. She is a member of the national Public Relations Committee Board for the Association of Zoos and Aquariums and has received a Professional Fellowship from AZA. She is a sustainer with the Junior League of Little Rock, a member of the Little Rock Rotary Club, a board member of the Little Rock Police Foundation and Keep Little Rock Beautiful. Susan was born and raised in central Arkansas and is a current resident of Little Rock.

Dunbar Volunteers and Mentor Program

We are looking for more volunteers to participate in the mentor program at Dunbar Middle School! Those that are participating currently are having a GREAT experience!

To participate in this part of our Dunbar partnership you will need:

- To complete LRSD ViPs Volunteer Form - attached to this newsletter email
- Attend a LRSD ViPs training session - we have held 3 of these in the Rotary office and based on the interest level I will schedule another
- Complete a Mentor Match Form - attached to this newsletter email

Club Meeting

Little Rock
Meets at Great Hall William J. Clinton Presidential Library
1200 President Clinton Avenue
Little Rock, AR 72201
Time: Tuesday at 11:30 AM

In This Issue

[Tuesday, October 15, 2019](#)

[Dunbar Volunteers and Mentor Program](#)

[Upcoming Programs](#)

[Dunbar Football Schedule](#)

Club Leaders



[Henry C. Kelley Jr.](#)
President



[Jeff L. Hildebrand](#)
President - Elect



[Kristina K. Bolhouse](#)
President - Nominee



[James K. Gibbs](#)
iPast President



[Dennis R. Hunt](#)
Treasurer - Elect



[Elton Cockrill](#)
Secretary



[Christopher Robert Bahn](#)
Public Image Chair

Once the above steps are complete:
Our contact to connect mentors and mentees at Dunbar is:

Jo Elston, Counselor

Dunbar Magnet Middle School

1100 Wright Avenue

Little Rock, AR 72206

Jo.elston@lrsd.org

447-2604, direct line

She will help connect you with a mentee, provide their schedules and suggest meeting times.

Ideally, you would see your mentee 1 time a week, you can also partner with another mentor if you wish and trade off weeks....we think an every other week commitment is also acceptable, but that is the minimum to be effective. All in you time commitment is about 1 hour ♦ travel time included. Class periods are 45 minutes, you can choose to utilize the entire 45 minutes or maybe just 30 minutes. Some of our mentors have opted to utilize the lunch time. You can bring a lunch for you or one to share. The school is very accommodating about finding times and spaces for the meetings.

If the student does not exactly know what they want to do, be prepared with a game or some things to talk about take photos of family or othersthere are clubs at the school like chess club if you want to participate with your student in that activity.

Suggestions from President Hank:

- 1) meet the student and exchange information.
- 2) develop trust and offer support with school work, family life, school life.
- 3) talk about reading, music, sports, hobbies
- 4) write a note or letter to your student to express hope that the mentor can support them.
- 5) build a friendship

Please let me know once you have made a match ♦ I will keep our master list updated. Once you get some sessions under your belts perhaps you can help us recruit other mentors!

Thank you so much! The entire Bobcats T.H.R.I.V.E. project has so far been so successful! It is certainly exciting!!!!

Here are a few highlights of our involvement so far - special thanks to Ellon Cockrill compiling:

Dunbar Middle School Bobcats T.H.R.I.V.E.

Little Rock Club 99 ♦s community outreach efforts this year includes a number of activities and outings presenting multiple ways to improve our community. In July, Club 99 adopted a Signature Project with Dunbar Middle School ♦ Bobcats T.H.R.I.V.E. (Teachers, Helpers, Rotarians, Interact for Victory of Every Student). Since July, Club 99 members have participated in the following Bobcats THRIVE Signature Project events:

- Established a One-on-One mentoring program with Dunbar students matched with trained Rotarians.
- Trained over 60 Club 99 members through VIPs (Volunteers in Public Schools) to assist with programs and projects.
- Hosted a Dunbar Middle School teacher and administration reception.
- Engaged the Reach Interact Club at Catholic High School to be mentors to the Dunbar students.
- Established an Interact Club at Dunbar Middle School and assisted in electing and supporting officers.
- Engaged Club 99 members to participate in the Dunbar Locker Painting Project where all the lockers on the main floor were cleaned, sanded, and taped in preparation for painting in the school colors by partner Heath Boyd from CertaPro. The volunteers spent from 9:00 a.m. - 12:00p.m. on a Saturday morning to complete the work which CertaPro estimated would have taken 4 painters 4 weeks to complete.
- Recruited staff from First Tee of Central Arkansas to mentor and teach the students about their award winning goal setting and golf skills program.
- Involved Rotary members in teaching financial literacy classes in the Stockbrokers Game
- Developing a cooking and nutrition classes.
- Attended Dunbar Middle School football games supporting the Bobcats and fellow students.
- Planned an October tailgate party for students, parents, faculty and staff before the game with Cloverdale on October 22nd.
- Donated a set of drums to Dunbar Middle School Band.
- Donated tickets to Dunbar Middle School for the Aldersgate Fish Fry.
- Counseled with teachers and administrators to help connect Dunbar Middle School and the Little Rock business community,
- Supported the Dunbar Community Garden Project.
- Hosted 50 students at the Argenta Community Theatre for a production of Einstein!



[Natalie Ghidotti](#)
Club Director



[Rocky W Goodman](#)
Club Director



[Walter D. Lomax III](#)
Club Director



[Anne T. Mourning](#)
Club Director



[Nathaniel Noble](#)
Club Director



[Cynthia Van Vekhoven](#)
Treasurer



[Ashvin P. Vibhakar](#)
Club Director



[Jason Chacko](#)
Interact Club Sponsor



[Elizabeth G. Clogston](#)
Service Projects Chair



[Robin Connell](#)
Membership Chair



[Mary Catherine Tuggle](#)
Membership Chair



[Jordan L. Beard](#)
Club Programs Chair



[Joyce E Taylor](#)
Sergeant-at-Arms



[Ardyth Neill](#)
Club 99 Foundation Chair
Club 99 Foundation Trustee

- Worked with PTA to provide meals to band prior to football game.
- Sponsored the Dunbar Chess Team to attend a regional competition in St. Louis

Upcoming Programs

Meetings are held in the Great Hall of the William J. Clinton Presidential Library unless otherwise noted
11:30 a.m. Buffet Opens 12:00 noon Program Begins

October 2019

15 Susan Altrui, Director, Little Rock Zoo
22 Skip Rutherford, Dean, Clinton School of Public Service
29 Bryan Day, Little Rock Port 60 Year Anniversary

November 2019

5 UA Little Rock Athletics, Coach Joe Foely and Darrell Walker
12 Craig O'Neal, News Anchor, THV
19 Keith Humphrey, Chief, Little Rock Police Department



Dunbar Football Schedule



Oct. 22nd 5:30 Cloverdale @ Dunbar Quigley - Club 99 Hosted Tailgate!

Oct. 29th 5:30 Dunbar @ Catholic Catholic High School

Nov. 5th 5:30 Forrest Heights @ Dunbar Fair



Rachel O'Neal
Club Director



Suzanne Peyton
Club Director



Thomas Pownall
Club Director



Cynthia VanWinkle
Club 99 Foundation Trustee



Greg Flesher
Club 99 Foundation Treasurer



Matt Olson
Club 99 Foundation Trustee



Alfred Lewis Williams
Club 99 Foundation Trustee



Sonya Schmidt Murphy
Assistant Governor

Birthdays

Sonya Schmidt Murphy
October 14th

Jason R. Parker
October 15th

Mitchell D. Bettis
October 16th

Robert Selwyn Bloom
October 17th

Erin Moore
October 19th

Lenka Horakova
October 19th

Cynthia A Lu
October 19th

Frank H. Parke III
October 21st