



50 YEARS *THE ALTRUIST* 50 YEARS

September, 2026

ALTRUSA INTERNATIONAL OF GREATER BIDDEFORD-SACO, MAINE, USA

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE. OCTOBER 3, 2026

Fall is officially here, cooler temperatures(except for today where it is 80 out) leaves changing colors, back to the routine for some of us.

As we head into a busy fall, remember service doesn't have to be complicated. Sometimes it's a bag of groceries, a book, a helping hand—or simply showing up. Together, those small acts become much bigger.

I would like to thank the anniversary planning party committee of Sandy, Agnes, Ruth, Elaine, Ann, Denise, Laura and Suzen. We had a great birthday party with guests from Portland, Seacoast and Sanford Springvale. Denise and Judy celebrated 50 years of community service. They helped found the club 50 years ago. They presented us the history of the last 50 years. Amazing what got was accomplished and how many people were helped. Congratulations to all of you for being members of Altrusa of Greater Biddeford- Saco and making this club as sensational as it is. All of us should be proud of everything we do, I know I am.

We are hosting the fall workshop on November 14th. The attendees will be helping us fill "Mom Bags" and Hygiene bags for Maine Way. The district is contributing \$200.00 for items to fill the bags, and the club is contributing \$200.00 (out of our approved budget for Mainway). Attendees have been asked to bring board books as a contribution to our service projects. Workshop is a great way to meet other Altrusans from the entire district. It is both informational and fun. Registration forms are in the DSB. If you need one, please let me know and I will have some at the next meeting. I hope to be able to attend that meeting, if not I will give the forms to Sandy. The funds we collect at our summer meeting are for the Davenport-Crepeau Fund. This pays for registration fee for first timers. If you have not attended a workshop before the club will reimburse your registration fee. Therefore, you will be able to attend and experience the event and it does not cost you anything. It is in Kennebunk so close to home, the fee also covers your lunch.

Hope everybody can make it on November 14th .

I would like to thank all Altrusans for their support, prayers, encouragements etc. during this difficult time with health challenges.

Yours in Service

Rita

Altrusa volunteer hours for September 2026

<i>Altrusa Work</i>	<i>Altrusa Literacy</i>	<i>Non-Altrusa</i>
153.5	18	97

TOTAL: 268.5

UPCOMING DATES

Just a reminder of upcoming service, meetings, and events for the month of October

Thursday, October 1 - Altrusa's day at Bon Appetit

Tuesday, October 6 - (11 am - 2 pm) Adoptive & Foster Families of Maine is holding a Holiday Program Open House at their offices at [333 Lincoln Street, Suite 101, Saco, ME](#). This year we will again be participating in their annual holiday gift giving program (details still to be worked out). The purpose of this open house is to show their sponsors how their support brings holiday joy to children in care throughout Maine. Last year they provided gifts to over 1500 children and they anticipate that amount if not more this year.

Monday, October 12 - Business Meeting at Atlantic Heights - Biddeford Mayor Liam LaFountain will be coming by briefly. When we were at City Hall for the reading of the Proclamation, he expressed an interest in learning all that we do for the community.

Wednesday, October 21 - (2 pm) - Ribbon Cutting of newest Little Free Library at Saco Recreation on Franklin Street, Saco. Books and cookies will be handed out to the children who regularly use the facility.

Saturday, October 24 - (10:30 am - 4 pm) - PumpkinFest to be held in the parking lot of Burns School / Dyer Library. Sign-up sheet will be circulated at the October 12 meeting.

Monday, October 26 - Program Meeting at Atlantic Heights - Program handled by Membership Committee

Saturday, October 31 - (2:45 pm - 5 pm) Halloween book giveaway at Shevenelle Park. Main St., Biddeford.

Thank you Agnes.

ALTRUSA INTERNATIONAL NEWS:

UN International Days

October 16 World Food Day

October 24 UN Day

November 25 International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women

December 10 Human Rights Day

ALTRUSA DISTRICT NEWS:

District One Needs You To Join the Team
Communications, District Service Bulletin, Technician

- Grow real leadership skills
- Run meetings, set agendas, guide a team.
- Expand your network

- Work side by side with other club members and community partners.
- Make visible impact
- Turn ideas into programs which improve communities.
- Build your resume Leadership experience worth talking about.

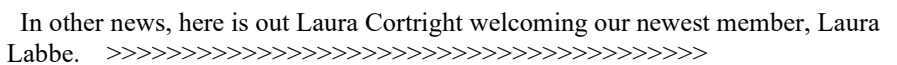


Thank you Suzen for sharing your amazing talents and presenting Denise and Judy with these beautiful hand painted rocks.



IT WAS OUR 50TH ANNIVERSARY, AND WE WERE SO PLEASED TO CELEBRATE WITH ALL THE ALTRUSANS WHO COULD JOIN US. LOTS OF PHOTOS OF THE CELEBRATION AS WELL AS OF ACTIVITIES THAT WE PARTICIPATED IN DURING THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER.



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[2] 10/6/2026