



## Executive Director's Message



I love the changing seasons. As the leaves fall, I see the natural world in a new light. Ferns and tree trunks suddenly stand out. Spaces open up with a whole new look.

And our community is like that too. As I continue to seek conversations with newcomers and long-time residents alike, I hear everyone's wish to belong and to live in a connected community.

We can shape the community we want to live in. By stepping forward and moving out of our comfort zone, we bring the change we wish to see. Change offers great opportunities to reorient ourselves.

This Thanksgiving, I am grateful to be living right here, right now, as part of a can-do community.

I give thanks for all of you who care every single day to create a space at the table for every resident. It is my fervent wish that Acton-Boxborough United Way will continue to nurture your beautiful initiatives and strengthen the connective tissue.

Everyone deserves to belong.

I wish you an uplifting Thanksgiving!

Griet Dehandschutter



### Buy your tickets today as the event is almost sold out!

Enjoy a night of fun casino games, great food, drinks, raffles, amazing prizes and a silent auction filled with priceless items at [Casino Royale!](#) This event supports our most important initiatives including grants to local nonprofits and emergency assistance funds for families in need.

A delicious selection of hors d'oeuvres, drinks, and desserts from Bisousweet Confections will be served.



*Enter our raffle to win  
A Belgian Waffle  
Breakfast for 10.  
Executive Director  
Griet Dehandschutter  
will be the chef du jour  
at your home.*

*Attendance is not required to enter or win the raffle.*

Silent auction items to include:

- A "Journey Through France" cooking demo & dinner for 12 including wine pairings from Kitchen Outfitters and the Stone Family
- An Indian Dinner for 4 cooked in front of you to enjoy
- Patriots, Celtics and Bruins Tickets
- Tennis party for 24 people including food and drinks
- Exceptional Wines
- His and hers fine watches
- Themed gift baskets

### [Thank you to our sponsors!](#)

#### High Roller

- The Steinberg-Lalli Charitable Foundation

#### Ace of Spades

- Hit the Net Sports
- Papalia Home Services
- Worker's Credit Union

#### King of Diamonds

- Barrett | Sotheby's International Realty
- Bisousweet Confections
- Bullock's Nursing Service
- Kitchen Outfitters

#### Queen of Hearts

- Acton Dental Associates
- Enterprise Bank
- Gallant Insurance Agency
- LaCross Financial Advisors
- Middlesex Savings Bank
- National Grid
- West Acton Villageworks

#### Full House

- Acton Ford
- Acton Funeral Home
- Acton Pharmacy
- Bursaw Gas & Oil
- Coughlin Sheff &

- And more!



- Associates, PC
- jacqui burak  
transformational energy  
healing
- Hansen Auto Body
- Marcus Lewis Tennis  
Center
- Moodz Salon and Spa
- Open Door Tutoring
- Roche Bros  
Supermarkets
- Scheier, Katin and  
Epstein

## Tweens, Teens and Addiction by Dr. Ruth Potee

Watch this powerful community conversation by Dr. Ruth Potee about the impact of substance abuse and addictive behaviors on the brains of teens and tweens.

Share the video, made by Acton TV, with friends and loved ones.

If you want a copy of her slide deck, contact our office, or [view it here.](#)



## Day of Caring 2019 - Thank You Volunteers



On October 3, 2019, more than 90 volunteers from local businesses and organizations helped out at 12 local nonprofits. It was a joyful celebration of the power of a can-do community.

Thank you to our awesome event coordinators, Dan Klein and David Naparstek!



*Check your mailbox soon for our annual appeal*



Have a little time? A lot of time? There are many

**UPCOMING  
EVENTS**

- [Suicide Prevention Training](#), 11/19

*letter!*

United, we can lift up our communities and our neighbors in need. Over the last 10 years, more neighbors have a hard time making ends meet, even when working two shifts!

ways to ***volunteer!***

If you wish to give back, join us at our next volunteer orientation on January 14.

For questions or to RSVP, contact [abuw@abuw.org](mailto:abuw@abuw.org)

- [Casino Royale](#), 11/23
- Giving Tuesday, 12/3
- Volunteer Orientation, 1/14
- "College and Mental Health" Panel, with NAMI, 3/16

[See Calendar of Events](#)

**JOIN THE FIGHT**

United Way fights for the health, education and financial stability of every person in every community. We have one life. To live better, we must LIVE UNITED®.