



# PROCLAMATION



**WHEREAS**, Altrusa International was founded in Nashville, Tennessee in 1917; and

**WHEREAS**, Altrusa International was the first international service club with diversified membership, comprised of professional and executive women who are leaders in their fields, and is now an organization of more than 10,000 members in 19 countries who share ideas and work together to meet head-on, and solve, community problems; and

**WHEREAS**, Altrusa International of DeKalb/Sycamore, Illinois was formed in May of 1962 and is celebrating its 57<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year; and

**WHEREAS**, DeKalb/Sycamore Altrusa was formed to perform unpaid volunteer work in the community, including but not limited to, service to the Salvation Army, Ellwood House Museum, Hope Haven, Safe Passage, Pay It Forward House, and the DeKalb County Health Department Womens, Infants and Children program; and

**WHEREAS**, additionally, DeKalb/Sycamore Altrusa has provided financial support for literacy in schools and libraries and awarded scholarships for Kishwaukee College and DeKalb and Sycamore High Schools; and

**WHEREAS**, in 1999, DeKalb/Sycamore Altrusa, the Daily Chronicle and the DeKalb County Community Foundation formed a partnership to establish a venue to continue funding literacy projects and a Community Spelling Bee was organized to raise monies; and

**WHEREAS**, said Community Spelling Bee is held each Fall and will celebrate its 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary at the 2019 Spelling Bee on October 15, 2019, having raised an estimated \$100,000 to donate to DeKalb County projects in schools, libraries and organizations devoted to the welfare of children, to establish libraries at Gideon House and the DeKalb County Jail, and to finance three Little Free Libraries.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Jerry Smith, Mayor of the City of DeKalb, do hereby congratulate DeKalb/Sycamore Altrusa on the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Community Spelling Bee, and commend the members for their steadfast volunteer work to assist the citizens of DeKalb County with the needs of the community and look forward to many more years of such volunteerism in the future.

**IN WITNESS THEREOF**, I have set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of DeKalb, to be affixed this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of September 2019.



  
Jerry Smith, Mayor