



SANYS of Western New York To Hold Annual Election

By: Sue Pietrzak, Development Director

Self-Advocacy Association of New York State, Inc. (SANYS) will be holding their annual elections on June 24. SANYS was founded in 1986 by people with developmental disabilities. Their mission is *Speaking Up For Ourselves and Others*. We are proud to announce that Ted Perry, member of The Arc of Steuben's Incredible Angels, has been nominated to the SANYS board for the Southern Region.

Ted said that he is running for the SANYS board because he can bring some good ideas to the board meetings and it's been like a dream to him to help other people with disabilities. Ted has been a self advocate for most of his adult life. He has served as Vice President of the Incredible Angels' self advocate group at The Arc of Steuben. Ted is currently attending classes through the RISE program at Alfred State College. Ted enjoys skiing, walking dogs and playing games on the computer. Ted also has attended job fairs on behalf of The Arc of Steuben informing job applicants what it is like to be a direct support professional and what it means to the people they will be supporting.



Ted Perry

Please join us in wishing Ted well with the elections and for continuing to help others.

If you can dream it, you can do it. ~Walt Disney

The Arc Steuben
*A Chapter of
The Arc New York*

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Sue Pietrzak
Editor

Message from the Executive Director and Board President



Bernie Burns
Executive Director



Stephanie Craig
Board President

We hope this newsletter finds you and your family well and that you are staying safe. This unimaginable challenge due to COVID-19 has been a time of disruption and uncertainty in our community and throughout the country. At The Arc of Steuben, we have witnessed the selfless acts of our amazing staff who provide care and support to over 90 people in our residential homes. We are happy to report that none of the people living in the residences have tested positive for the virus.

Throughout this pandemic we have been working tirelessly to provide the safest environment possible at our sites. This required diligent work on the part of our staff to create safety, quarantine and isolation protocols, and to secure enough personal protec-

tion equipment to meet all of our needs.

Everyone associated with The Arc of Steuben contributed to creating a safe and healthy setting for people. In particular, the direct support staff stepped up to insure that everyone was supported based on their needs. In the early goings when not much was known about the virus, people unselfishly came to work and did their job despite all the rumors, misinformation and the unknowns. Once the homes were ordered to stop visitations and keep people in their homes on March 19, these same staff were then challenged to keep people occupied and busy to counteract the feeling of isolation. The Direct Support Professionals did what they always do, superbly supporting each and every person. They are a fantastic group of staff.

Again, we hope you are healthy and safe. As a team we will get through this challenge.

Postponed until 2021



It was an extremely difficult decision to cancel both 2020 fundraisers. We hope everyone is safe and healthy and we look forward to hosting these events in 2021.

Al Gossie, Foundation Board President

What's Going On Around The Arc

By Sue Pietrzak, Development Director

During the COVID-19 pandemic the Arc houses have been keeping busy. All the residents have been staying at home and staying safe and healthy.

One of the houses in Bath has been staying active with jigsaw puzzles, taking walks, taking long drives, riding bicycles, planting a vegetable garden and, of course, weeding the garden. One thing the people that live there love to do is decorate the driveway. Each person has a designated area of the driveway to do as they wish. Below, artist David, is sending good vibes to everyone.

Scott, the gardener and flower box maker, enjoys his gardens, and loves watching things grow.

Everyone is grateful for the warm, sunny weather and are looking forward to getting back to the summer fun they enjoy.



Friends make life a lot more fun.

The Arc of Steuben Receives \$27,000 from NYSARC Trusts

By: Sue Pietrzak, Development Director

The Arc of Steuben has received \$27,000 from NYSARC Trust Services to provide guardianship services for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities that would not otherwise have a legal guardian or advocate.

NYSARC Trust Services administers supplemental needs trusts (SNT) that can make dramatic improvements to the lives of people with disabilities while enabling individuals to maintain eligibility for public benefits programs, such as Medicaid and SSI.

Supported by Chapter staff and community volunteers, The Arc of Steuben's Guardianship program currently provides guardianship supports and services to five people. The funds will be used to offset some of the operating expenses of running the guardianship program; trips or projects for the people supported through the program; and associate training. Last year, the program purchased Music Therapy, museum memberships, Sirius Radio, Furniture, and holiday gifts.

The Arc of Steuben Receives Grants from Golisano Foundation and Community Foundation

By: Sue Pietrzak, Development Director

The Arc of Steuben has been awarded \$50,000 from the Golisano Foundation COVID-19 Response Grants.

The Golisano Foundation will award just over \$400,000 to organizations serving people with intellectual and developmental disabilities with urgent needs resulting from the pandemic.

The grants will help cover operating expenses for programs and the cost of supplies like personal protective equipment and disinfectant. Funds will also be used for technology needs for telemedicine and education and to help facilities improve social distancing capabilities.

The Arc of Steuben has also been awarded \$17,000 from the Community Foundation of Elmira-Corning and the Finger Lakes.

The monies will be used to offset the hazard pay that was given to Direct Support Professionals during the pandemic.

We wish to thank both Foundations for their generosity in time of need.



Slate of Officers Announced

PROPOSED SLATE—OFFICERS (1 Year Term) 2020—2021

PRESIDENT: Stephanie E. Craig (2nd TERM)
VICE PRESIDENT: William D. Dinehart (2nd TERM)
SECRETARY: Olivia A. Dates (1st TERM)
TREASURER: Joseph M. Monaco (2nd TERM)

Directors—2 Year Term:

Mischelle K. Shattuck 2020-2022

Directors—3 Year Term:

Amie L. Coots	2020-2023
Denece A. Gossie	2020-2023
Paul R. Greenfield	2020-2023
Pauline P. Holbrook	2020-2023

Remaining Board Members:

Helen A. Binkowski	2022
Linda F. Elias Carl	2022
Victoria M. Fuerst	2021
Pennyann M. Patton	2022
Gary O. Roberts	2022
Arthur J. Stilwell	2021

Other candidates for any of the offices may be nominated by a petition designating the office for which election is sought and signed by at least 30 Arc of Steuben members in good standing. Such petition, together with written acceptance of the nominee, must be received by the secretary either personally or delivery to the chapter office at least 30 days prior to August 12 2020.

Ms. Oliva Dates
c/o Arc of Steuben
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What's Going On Around The Arc

Continued

Star Enterprises has been working diligently to fill orders for their customers. No job is too big or too small for them. They have been receiving and shipping product daily for weeks. Hats off to a great team!



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607.622.1853 to **unsubscribe**.



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Residential COVID Train



The Arc of Steuben residential houses were asked to make a poster of what they are experiencing with the pandemic. One thing lead to another and the department came up with a train theme. Visit our facebook page for pictures of each individual car.

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