



Austin's Place News

November 2016

AUSTIN'S PLACE • 134 SHENOT ROAD • WEXFORD, PA

SNAPSHOTS

Mission Statement: *To provide specialized, intensive transitionally-focused training for young adults graduating from traditional school systems who are diagnosed with autism spectrum, developmental and intellectual disabilities and who are moderately to significantly impaired.*

VIP Spotlight

Patrick Zahorchak



This month we turn the VIP Spotlight toward Patrick Zahorchak, affectionately referred to 'PZ' or 'Z' by the staff and his peers here at Austin's Place. Patrick has been a part of Austin's Place since January of 2016, initially as a part timer, but eventually worked his way up to being a full time participant and he hasn't looked back.

PZ is 22 now and spends a lot of his day making sure he knows exactly what's going on, both with everyone at Austin's Place and in the world in general. He is always up for a chat and can hold his own on just about any topic that comes up. He loves music from every genre and can tear it up at karaoke as he knows the lyrics to just about every song ever made.

Since his early days here, we have watched Patrick mature and learn many new tasks. He is a pretty independent guy who works hard all day long. He loves making cards and gifts for the staff and his peers when they are not feeling well and is an avid fan of the pool or just hanging out by the garden.

PZ is currently working on learning how to answer phones and take messages as he is eager to start helping out the staff here at Austin's Place. So the next time you give us a ring, it just might be the man himself who answers. Don't worry; he'll be sure to point you in the right direction. Oh.....and don't sneeze.....PZ might just spend the rest of his day laughing if you do!



Swimming!



Patrick or Leonardo?

COVER PHOTO

Austin's Place Halloween 2016!

What's Happening? - A Month of History!

All About Music

We begin the month of November appreciating all things music. We will learn about various genres of music such as disco, jazz, and rock.

Art Appreciation

We will appreciate all things Art for the week of November 7. We will learn about artists and their style of paintings by creating our own masterpieces.

World History

For the week of November 14, we will travel back in time to learn about the history of places such as Rome, Greece, as well as our own homeland... the U.S.A.

Giving Thanks

The week of November 21 begins our Thanksgiving festivities. We will celebrate all the things we are thankful for.

Goodbye Fall & Welcome Winter

For the last week of November, we will welcome in the winter holidays by saying goodbye to the fall festivities.



HIGHMARK.
WALK FOR A HEALTHY COMMUNITY

SAVE THE DATE!

SATURDAY, MAY 13

STAGE AE

PITTSBURGH'S NORTH SHORE

Participating Nonprofits Keep All Funds Raised

WWW.WALKFORAHEALTHYCOMMUNITY.ORG

Austin's Place is taking steps to improve our health and raise funds by forming a team for the Highmark Walk for a Healthy Community!



From the Director...

Hi there. Welcome to fall and the official start of the holiday season here at Austin's Place. We've had a fun-filled October and November is shaping up to be an adventure as well.

October saw us having a crazy fun time with a photo contest which took us all over snapping pictures! You can check out some of our adventures on our Facebook page. You'll laugh....you'll cry....ok, mostly you'll laugh. We spent a lot of time in enjoying the campus decorations and activities for fall and Halloween. We hung out with the ghosts and ghouls in the haunted graveyard, made caramel apples, and trekked through the spooky trails.

We celebrate a grand Halloween costume party on the 31st full of cartoon characters, superheroes and other super-cool costumes. In case you didn't get to check them out this month, we decorated some pretty cool pumpkins for our pumpkin patch out front. We managed to create everything from Jack Skellington to Steelers and everything in between.

We'd like to send a big thank you out to our friends at the Boy Scouts Venture program who were gracious enough to provide us with 30 tickets to the Penguins pre-season game on October 8th which was a blast for all those that were able to attend. We didn't get to see our favorite player, Sidney Crosby, but we'll never complain about an opportunity to root for the Stanley Cup Champions. GO PENS!!!

Happy Halloween from the folks at Austin's Place! We look forward to seeing you in the coming months for more holiday cheer!



Michael Anderson,
Program Director