



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

*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.*

# Austin's Place News

October 2016

## SNAPSHOTS

## VIP Spotlight

Chandler Cheran



This month's VIP Spotlight gleams upon Miss Chandler Cheran. Although Chandler has been around since the earliest days, she officially joined the crew here at Austin's Place back in December (just in time for our holiday celebrations) and has been charming her way into our hearts ever since.

Chandler is a sweet girl with a gorgeous smile and is quite the social butterfly. She is 23 years old now and has definitely found her niche here at Austin's Place. She and Austin went to school together and seemed to have picked up their old friendship right where they left off.

Chandler loves art projects and reading with her staff. She is heavy into movies and anything Barney related. You never know where you'll find this busy bee – catching a nap on the chair or motoring around the floor during her daily walk. Chandler may not speak to us but her eyes tell a story and she will always let us know what's on her mind with her body language.

It's truly been a delight to watch her grow while at the program and even engage in a little friendly competition with peers. Whether it be through a game, a craft or showing off her independence at meal time....she's always up to showing us what she can do. So if you're ever in the area, come on by and visit our well-dressed and classy princess.



Baking Cookies!



Splashing in the pool!

## COVER PHOTO

Pat and Chris enjoying the sunshine!

# What's Happening? - All Things Fall!

## Kick off to Fall

We will be starting our kick off to Fall on October 3<sup>rd</sup> by making various crafts such as fall wreaths, scarecrows, and pinecone birdfeeders to help decorate Austin's Place for the season. At the end of the week, clients will have the opportunity to participate in "Flannel Friday" and picnic!

## All things Apple

The week of October 10th is "All things Apple." Our clients will learn about various ways apples can be used for cooking and crafting. We will start the week by making caramel apples and by the Friday, the clients will get to relax, and enjoy an apple cider and movie day... Halloween Town!

## Pumpkin Patch

The theme of the third week of October is "Pumpkin Patch." Clients will have the opportunity to go to the garden "pumpkin patch", make Jack O lanterns, and go "pumpkin bowling". We will end the week by watching It's the Great Pumpkin Charlie Brown!

## This is Halloween

We will finish out the month of October by doing all thing Halloween! We will learn about different Halloween traditions, make crafts, and have a Halloween party that includes dressing up and Trick or Treating!

## Photo Fun!



Building Bugs!



Visit from the ZOOMobile!



Fun with friends!



Karaoke Fun!

## From the Director...

Hello everyone and welcome back to Austin's Place News! We've been quite busy since you heard from us last.

First off, we would like to share the exciting news with all of you that after a summer hiatus the Boy Scouts of America have returned with their Venture Program. Here at Austin's Place we always look forward to the fun activities they have planned for us each week. We might have to brush up on the Boy Scout oath, but with a little practice (and our cheat sheets) we will be right back on track.

Secondly, we want to extend a special thank you to the Red Cross and the Humane Society of Pittsburgh for including us in some of their outreach programs. We were able to help make special toys for the pets at the Humane Society and informational packets for the Red Cross to be distributed to those facing hard time. We look forward to an ongoing relationship with the members of the community. Everyone here strives to work hard and help make our community a better one.

Lastly, we have started up a new volunteer commitment with the Woodlands Foundation. Starting this month, we will begin to help their staff and crew with some cleaning, housekeeping, and light maintenance activities. This campus is our home too and we want to do our part to keep it clean and beautiful.

That's all for now! Please, continue to check back every month to stay in the loop. And don't forget about our Face book page which is always full of great photos and tidbits!



Michael Anderson,  
Program Director

## Austin's Place News

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If you have any comments or questions regarding Austin's Place News, please contact the Public Relations Director at [AKurtz@austinsplace.org](mailto:AKurtz@austinsplace.org).

