

# NEW HORIZONS

NOVEMBER—DECEMBER 2017



## Thanksgiving – The Quintessential American Holiday

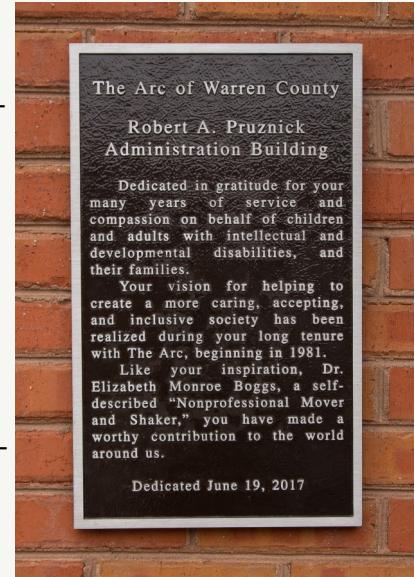
Robert A. Pruznick, CEO

*"I am grateful for what I am and have.  
My thanksgiving is perpetual." Henry David Thoreau*

As I researched the history of this sacred, yet inclusive, national celebration, I was greatly impressed by the impeccable moral instincts that motivated this country's forefathers and I was struck by an overwhelming sense of thankfulness that completely mirrors Thoreau's sentiments quoted above.

From the Pilgrims to those brave men who fought valiantly for our independence, and then wisely crafted our Constitution, to George Washington, our most revered Commander in Chief – Americans have paused to acknowledge our unique fortuity among the peoples of this world and joyfully demonstrated their wholehearted gratitude. The probability that this utopian social experiment would succeed was overwhelmingly poor, given the imperfections of human nature and the forces aligned against our bold "shining city on a hill." After all, the political architects of our country had taken the noble ideals of western philosophy and dramatically brought them to life in the New World. Generations of American citizens ever since 1789 have echoed the founders' appreciation for our precious and fruitful blessings.

In particular, I am reminded how fortunate I am that my grandparents emigrated here as teenagers in the early 1900's, courageously leaving behind their families in the Ukraine and in Hungary, seeking the promised land of opportunity. For me, America has truly been the meritocracy my forbearers from the peasant class sought. Their grandchildren were afforded the educational and social advantages they craved. I have had the great good fortune to receive an undergraduate degree from a world renowned university – and a rigorous and rich intellectual orientation that has unequivocally prepared me for all my subsequent academic and professional challenges. (Continued on page 2)



## Rossi Family Festival of Trees Set for Dec. 7th



Please join us Thurs., Dec. 7 from 5:30-8:30 for this annual holiday event to benefit The Arc and Abilities of Northwest Jersey.

Hosted by Ed and Pattie Sue Rossi and family at Rossi Chevrolet Buick GMC, 360 Rt.31, Washington, the event features elegant hors d'oeuvres and beverages, classic desserts and coffee, holiday music, and—of course—Santa!

Reservations and special sponsor packages are available at: [rossifestivaloftrees.com](http://rossifestivaloftrees.com) or by calling 908-689-0224. Visit us on Facebook at Festival of Trees-Rossi. Or stop by The Arc office for an invitation! All are welcome. Let's begin the holiday together!

## We Bid a Sorrowful Goodbye to Ellen Haussner, Board President



The Arc, Warren Family has lost a passionate advocate for our cause, who graciously and capably took over the leadership of our governing body on June 22, 2016. The President of our Board of Directors, Ellen Haussner, died unexpectedly Oct. 28 while on vacation with her family in Florida. Ellen had worked in the community residential movement for many years after graduating from Rutgers and more recently held the position of Director for the Warren County Advisory Board on Disabilities. She was in the midst of her second term as the volunteer leader of our nonprofit corporation, providing countless hours of organizational service to our Chapter, as well as wise, pragmatic guidance to our team of administrative professionals. We are all in a state of shock and loss that Ms. Haussner was taken so abruptly from us all.

Ellen's final days were spent joyfully with her cherished children and grandchildren at Disneyworld. Please join me in prayers for her blessed repose and eternal memory.—Robert A. Pruznick, Arc CEO

*In photo, Ellen is shown with Arc Supported Employee of the Year winner Diane Manno, and Bob Pruznick.*

**DHS 2019 Budget Listening Session**

**Friday, December 1, 2017**  
**10 AM – 2 PM**  
Department of Human Services  
Trenton, NJ 08625

This is an opportunity for stakeholders and the public to provide constructive suggestions/input regarding the FY 2019 state budget as it relates to their area of interest.

Room Capacity is 99; First come, first heard. Testimony will be limited to 3 minutes per person. Due to time constraints, only 1 representative of an agency or group will be allowed to testify. All written comments will be accepted and considered.

These can be delivered at the session, emailed to [DHSBudgetInput@dhs.state.nj.us](mailto:DHSBudgetInput@dhs.state.nj.us) or sent parcel post to:  
DHS Budget Input  
222 South Warren Street  
PO Box 700  
Trenton, NJ 08625-700

*\*Please Note: The Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services was transferred to the Department of Health on 10/1/17. Its FY 2019 budget will be managed by DOH.*

For more information call: 609-292-3703 or email [Sandra.Graves@dhs.state.nj.us](mailto:Sandra.Graves@dhs.state.nj.us)

If an accommodation is required, notification must be made no later than November 14, 2017.

Directions attached.

For parking options, please go to [www.tpanj.com](http://www.tpanj.com)

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## Thanksgiving, continued from front...

And most importantly, I have been given an opportunity to fulfill the idealism of my "Aquarian youth" with a profoundly meaningful and nourishing career here at The Arc, Warren County Chapter. This summer marks 36 years since a providential meeting with Phyllis Burd and a fruitful interview with Carolyn Wolf for the Asbury Group Home manager's position set me on such a delightful life course, back to the idyllic community of my birth. What a terrific chance to win a victory for humanity! What a great place for my wife Kathy and me to raise a family!

Then, in June, The Arc's Board of Directors bestowed on me the most gratifying recognition possible – the naming of the agency's Administrative Complex in my honor! It is impossible to convey how blissful it is when one's life work and love is permanently acknowledged. It feels like landing on the moon – Mission Accomplished! Knowing that my time, talent, and energy has brought a measure of justice, hope, and compassion to one small corner of the world. Thanks to all the magnificent people – my army of co-workers, volunteers and benefactors – we have fulfilled the sacred ethic of responsibility – helping to create the kind world that our Creator intended.

Needless to say, I am sincerely appreciative that together, in blessed harmony, we have been able to increase the Good, the True, and the Beautiful through the exquisitely functional vehicle known as The Arc.

## ***Memorial Donations***

Making a donation in honor or in memory of a loved one is a meaningful way to express your condolences or acknowledge a special moment in someone's life. It's also a loving tribute to The Arc on the part of a deceased person's family in their time of sorrow. We would like to thank the following individuals who made memorial donations during the past year:

**In Memory of Mary David:** Mr. and Mrs. Clement Wyker, Irene Miller, Pamela Maertens/American Legion 131 Belvidere, Jane Yurkovich.

**In Memory of Kathleen "Mickey" Cassidy:** Mr. and Mrs. Roger Hines, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Conrad, Yolanda Lowry, Iris Morgan, Mr. and Mrs. Kaleem Hazer Jr., Mr. and Mrs. Louis G. Murphy, Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Tisman, Heather A. Yaworsky, Mr. and Mrs. Robert A. Pruznick, Kevin M. Guyette.

**In Memory of Jeannette Weikel:** Carolyn Wolf, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Cornish, Mr. and Mrs. Robert A. Pruznick, Kevin M. Guyette, Marianne Gasper, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Reedell.

**In Memory of Ernest C. Smith:** Bonnie J. Rudd, Ellen B. Griffin, Warren County Dept. of Assistance & Social Services, Michelle G. Young, Barbara J. Smith, James Travis, Mr. and Robert A. Pruznick, Kevin M. Guyette, Keith Wyker, Betty J. Smith.

**In Memory of Edward J. Wojciki:** Sandra M. Iammatteo, Elizabeth A. Wojciki.

**In Memory of Max Spann:** Patricks Tire and Auto Repair, Treasure Coast Motorcycle/Dann Family, Crop Living Trust/M/M Thomas, E. Jane Oberschmidt, Col. Fred R. Daniel Auctioneers, Inc., Karyn Malinowski, Rosalyn Petrucci, George Conrad, Mary Trubek, Susan and Alan Hammer, William and Carolyn O'Kane, Jr., Dr. and Mrs. Steven Riesenberge, Julian and Marsha Howell, Irenaeus and Patricia Daly, Ann M. Stone, Susan Kramer Dann, Thomas Sawka and family members, John and Faith Cust, Mr. and Mrs. Matt Hogan, Marie and Tim Newell, Carolyn A. Wolf, Equine Center of Rutgers, Ruthanne H. Wright and family members, Herman Grefe & Son, Howard A. Hyde Jr., Dolores E. Fischer, Julie A. Kramer, Lou and Rosaria Baldino, Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Morse, Mr. and Mrs. David B. Wallace, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Tabas, Mr. and Robert A. Pruznick, Kevin M. Guyette, Mr. and Mrs. Michael Goldstein, Mr. and Mrs. Richard Mannon, Mr. and Mrs. Michael Sawka, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Colalillo, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Coates, Barbara M. Gerhardt, Joan Raymond, Elizabeth S. Kneser, Joanne M. Wright.

**In Memory of Ellen Haussner:** William Bickley and Johnson & Johnson matching gift.



**THE ARC OF WARREN COUNTY**

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SINCE 1954,  
PROVIDING QUALITY  
SERVICE AND SUPPORT  
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[www.arcwarren.org](http://www.arcwarren.org)



## THE ARC FOUNDATION

Please keep The Arc of Warren County in your end-of-year charitable giving. Not only will a financial gift give you a tax deduction in April, but it also helps secure the future of Arc programs and services for children and adult with intellectual and developmental disabilities, and their families.

The Arc is a registered 501c-3 charitable organization. Your contribution is tax-deductible to the fullest extent of the law. Please contact your tax advisor for more information. If you have questions regarding Arc services, please contact Kevin M. Guyette in the Foundation Office at 908-689-7525 x212.

From all of us at The Arc and The Arc Foundation, we wish you the happiest of holidays and a peaceful, joyous New Year!