

Sharing the Journey

October 2019

LIVING
RESOURCES

A Message from the Chief Executive Officer 2019 Annual Campaign Kicks Off



At Living Resources, we have a fundamental belief that growth and happiness are unique for each individual. Therefore, our single goal is to make sure each person continues to grow to their fullest potential, to pursue happiness in the manner they determine, and live as independently as possible. Let us share how Norman and Donna are living their best life.

Norman and Donna met two years ago and fell in love while attending Living Resources Day Community Opportunities Program. Norman resides at a Living Resources residence and while Donna resides elsewhere, they committed to one another at a beautiful ceremony in September. Norman and Donna continue

to attend our Day Opportunities Program where their love began and continues to grow.

However, this love story is not only about Norman and Donna but also the love they each receive from their support providers. When Norman and Donna expressed their wishes several months ago to commit to one another in a ceremonial fashion, Living Resources support staff made it happen. They arranged for a tent, buffet, cake, and a DJ. On a picture perfect day, Norman and Donna celebrated their love by exchanging rings and vows during a beautiful ceremony witnessed by friends and family.

As a nonprofit organization, we face many challenges each day and your help is crucial to our success. We hope you will consider a gift that will allow us to provide the individuals we serve – like Norman and Donna - with a full life of purpose, comfort, and hope - regardless of disability or impairment. Click [HERE](#) to donate!



LIVING
RESOURCES
Meeting Life's Challenges



EMPOWERING CHOICE
AND CREATING
OPPORTUNITIES

Living Resources has a new webpage!

Check out our fresh look at
www.livingresources.org

NEWS & UPDATES



Congressman Paul Tonko
Visits Living Resources



Sharing the Journey-
September



Living Resources Guest-
stars on Local Autism
Podcast



Congressman Tonko tours Living Resources



Living Resources was honored to host a visit from Congressman Paul Tonko yesterday. After meeting with our CEO and several Board Members, the tour began with a visit to our Acquired Brain Injury (ABI) Program. The Congressman learned about the ABI program and how our many structured courses including art therapy helps individuals on their path to recovery. Congressman Tonko spent time speaking and interacting with some of our amazing artists who are always willing to share their stories and triumphs.

The next stop on the tour took him to 1 Living Resources Way and a visit to our Smart Home, where he experienced the innovative technology we use to help our individuals reach higher levels of independence. The Congressman finished off the day at one of our College Experience Program (CEP) dorms. Here he met with our college experience students and faculty to get a more in depth picture of this program and its benefits. Living Resources would like to thank Congressman Tonko for understanding the needs of the individuals we support and for coming out to see our Superheroes in action.



Barking up the right tree!

Some of the members of our Albany Site Based Program did a walking tour of Albany on a trail called "**Downtown Is Pawsome.**" One of the group members requested to partake in this scavenger hunt of sorts featuring 20 statues of Nipper, the RCA mascot whose likeness has long been a fixture of the city's skyline. They began at the Visitor Center located in Quakenbush Square and talked about the history of certain buildings in the area while visiting murals all over Broadway and Pearl Street. They were "**mutts**" about this adventure where they "**paws**"-itively raised the "**woof.**"





Day Program Awards Ceremony



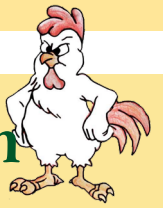
Twice a year we hold a Day Services Awards Ceremony where we celebrate the many varied achievements of our program participants and recognize staff for their compassionate work. This day is long anticipated by all involved as an opportunity to catch up with friends and raucously cheer for all who won an award. A highlight was our Day Community Opportunity Program Chorus sang "True Colors" from the 2016 movie "Trolls."



Green Thumbs



The ladies in our Ulster County DCOP program have been working with The FDR Garden in Poughkeepsie over these past months and have done an amazing job working with the staff there. Priscilla M., Marie M., and Colleen B., along with staff Nicole S. have contributed time, attention, and an outstanding display of team work. They have assisted in the gardens creation in the spring preparing the soil, planting, and maintaining throughout. Now that harvest time is upon us they are diligently working on harvesting and gleaning the crops for local food pantries. I have watched the ladies grow together as a team over the past few months and they have gained an amazing work ethic, as well as a sense of pride and self- satisfaction. Way to go ladies!!!



Collaborative Mural at the Hungry Chicken

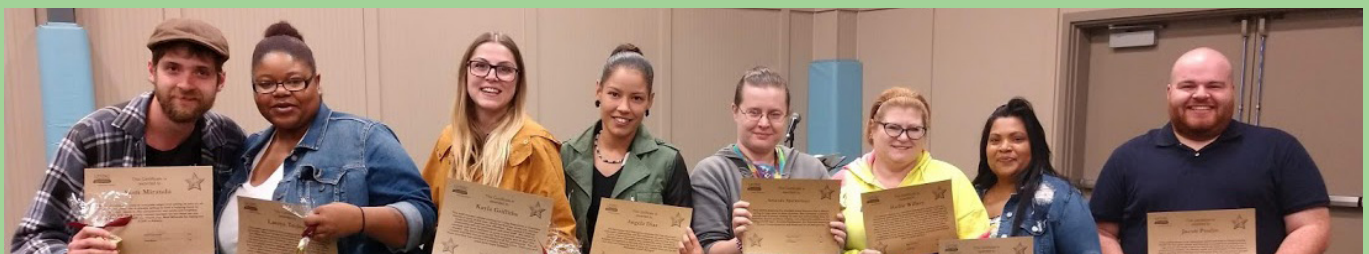
We were excited to be present at the unveiling of the latest Art Program collaborative mural this past Saturday! It was installed at the The Hungry Chicken Country Store on Rt 5S in Rotterdam Junction. Special thanks to owner Louise Dickinson and family for commissioning the project which now graces the side of the store. We encourage you to see it for yourself. Stop in and say hello while you're there. You'll be glad you did!

Our team of artists were **Melissa, Emily, Kristen, Nadine, Maddy, Matthew, Vinique, Joe, Ashley, and Kelsey** and teachers were **Rebecca, Sarah, Marissa, and Bianca**.



Fall 2019 Starlight Awards

Congratulations to the staff who won our Fall 2019 Starlight Awards – Matt Miranda, Latoya Tooley, Kayla Griffiths, Angela Diaz, Amanda Spickerman, Hollie Willsey, Seema Ghirdharie, and Jacob Poulin.





We had a s-BOO-k-tacular Halloween!

Many of our programs got into Cosplay mode and enjoyed food, treats, and the company of their friends. Our main office also offered a building wide Trick - or - Treat experience that was open to all programs and the families of our staff.





Faculty Spotlight: John Newkirk

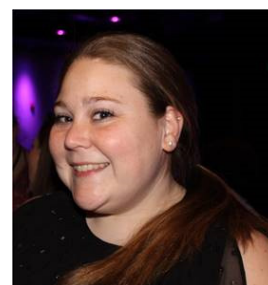


This month's Day Services Award Ceremony marked one year since Amanda Rivenburg, Assistant Director of the DCOP program, was tragically killed in the Schoharie limousine crash. To keep her memory alive, we created the **Amanda Rivenburg Phoenix Award** which is presented to a staff who demonstrates the dedication and commitment that Amanda showed to Living Resources, both to their co-workers and the individuals they serve.

We are honored to announce that **John Newkirk** was our Fall 2019 recipient of this award. John began working at Living Resources in 2004 as a Maintenance Assistant, and was quickly promoted to a maintenance technician, followed by regional manager. Last year he was promoted yet again to assistant director of Maintenance. He has a history of doing above and beyond what his job duties dictate. Every time he has been asked to do anything, his response is, "No problem. Just tell me what you need." He even agreed to leave his vacation in the Adirondacks to attend the award ceremony, without knowing why his presence was needed. He's just that kind of guy. John's perspective is, "The guys we support are my bosses and I try to be nice. Life gets pretty easy when you follow those rules."

Thank you John for being a Living Resources Super Hero every day!

Please help honor Amanda's legacy with a donation to the **Amanda Rivenburg Phoenix Award for Rising Stars fund** by clicking the link <http://bit.ly/2CjhdPP>



SAVE THE DATE!

Here's a list of Upcoming Events you don't want to miss

Sunday, November 3- Daylight Savings Time Ends

Tuesday, November 5- Election Day

Monday, November 11- Veteran's Day

Thursday, November 28- Thanksgiving

Tuesday, December 3- Giving Tuesday



www.LivingResources.org

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