

FALL 2014

# CHOICE Remarks

## IMPORTANT DATES & EVENTS

October 23, 2014  
**80 Years of Choice  
Celebration**  
Sixty State Place  
Albany, NY

For more information  
about upcoming events,  
please visit  
[www.uhpp.org](http://www.uhpp.org)

## Susie Essman to Receive Award at 80 Years of Choice

On Thursday, October 23, Upper Hudson Planned Parenthood will proudly present Susie Essman its inaugural Giraffe Award for sticking out her neck to defend abortion and reproductive rights. The standup comedy veteran has played Susie Greene for all eight seasons of the hit HBO comedy series, *Curb Your Enthusiasm*. About 200 guests will attend the 80 Years of Choice Celebration and hear Essman share why she supports Planned Parenthood.



### **You have a home in the Capital Region. What brought you here?**

My husband grew up in Delmar. I followed him, and we brought up our four kids here. Now we're empty nesters.

### **Why are you so passionate about reproductive rights?**

Because I really don't like people telling me what to do with my body. I have three daughters, all in their 20s. I really don't want them to have to live through the horrors that so many women have lived through for hundreds of years...And I feel like women are still so marginalized. There's still such an intense patriarchy in our lives. It's still a struggle and a fight. And this is one example that's so deeply personal.

### **You've done TV, film, stage and standup comedy. Do you prefer one more than the others?**

No. I like the variety. I like doing all different things all the time.

### **Susie Greene, the character you play on HBO's *Curb Your Enthusiasm*, is known for being loud and foulmouthed. What makes her so popular with fans across the world?**

People always think it's the language. I think it's her complete and total comfort with her anger. Women are taught not to be angry. Susie Greene gives people a certain sense of freedom, especially women.

### **I read that people assume that you're like the character you play on *Curb*. But you're not.**

It's this little thing I do called acting! It's bizarre that I walk down the street and people want me to tell them to "go f---k themselves." But you could be known for worse things than that.

# Youth Health Promoters Support Education and Outreach



Newly-hired high school and college students are shaping UHPP's youth sex education and community-based outreach. Youth Health Promoters select and canvas targeted communities, speak with friends about UHPP's services, and create content to share with their social media networks. Students enjoy working as paid professionals while making a difference in their community.

Director of Education Meaghan Carroll explains, "Youth Health Promoters help Education staff decide where to go, what work is most important, and how to speak with their friends about it. Their involvement shows young people that UHPP is serious about being helpful and relevant."

To follow the YHPs, like UHPP on Facebook, Instagram and Tumblr.

## Don't Forget to Vote!

Now that state and local primary elections are over, New York State voters are turning their attention to the November 4 general election. Know where your legislative leaders stand, learn about the ballot proposals, and don't forget to vote!

Complete electronic voter register applications and updates online at <http://dmv.ny.gov> by searching for Voter Registration. Time is running out, so don't delay!



For mail or in-person voter registration, name or address changes, and absentee ballots, visit <http://www.elections.ny.gov>.

## UHPP Shares Patient Call Center



In mid-August, UHPP began sharing a patient call center with its southern neighbor and primary partner, Planned Parenthood Mid-Hudson Valley (PPMHV). "Patients see their clinicians faster when the health center staff gets fewer phone calls," explains Customer Service Specialist Pam Rotsky.

Call center staff use the same phone script for both Planned Parenthoods. They also collect more patient data over the phone so patients spend less time in the waiting room.

Together UHPP and PPMHV annually serve about 25,000 Hudson Valley women, men and teens, primarily residents of Albany, Columbia, Dutchess, Greene, Orange, Rensselaer, Sullivan and Ulster counties.

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