



United Way of Anchorage

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Janet and Troy Weiss Honored for Philanthropy, Community Service

Anchorage AK – Janet and Troy Weiss were awarded United Way of Anchorage’s Alexis de Tocqueville Society Community Service Award on Thursday, June 11, in a virtual reception hosted by Society members Kevin and Doré Meyers, and Co-Chairs Tina Grovier and Patrick Flynn, and Barbara and Larry Cash.

Janet Weiss, longtime president of BP Alaska, and her husband Troy, a 21-year BP veteran now retired, were toasted by dozens of Anchorage’s most generous philanthropists, who each give \$10,000 or more annually to create long-lasting changes in tackling some of our community’s most serious problems.

Patrick Flynn and Tina Grovier presented the award, and Flynn spoke of the Weisses’ inspirational resume of community service in donations, on nonprofit boards, through church and mentorship and in on-the-ground volunteering. Their record reads like a guiding template for philanthropic leadership that comes from the heart and gives in style.

Over the years they have run donation drives, hosted Celebrity Chef fundraisers, served meals on Christmas morning, jumped in frozen lakes, hammered nails and raised houses, and outbid all hands at charity auctions and then given away items to those they outbid, and slept in the cold to raise awareness and money.

For 20 years, they’ve given to United Way of Anchorage, including the last nine as Tocqueville Society members, and Janet has been 7-year United Way board member.

“When I think about her community work, my mind first goes to Elizabeth Barrett Browning – ‘Let me count the ways,’” said Michele Brown, United Way of Anchorage president.

“On reflection, though, it’s not the volume (high as it is) of Janet and Troy’s community work that is most noteworthy. It’s the quality of their engagement. They are as comfortable being a volunteer in the trenches pounding nails, as they are in a boardroom pounding out a 10-year action plan to improve graduation rates or a strategy to help more low-income families own their own homes.

“Whatever the role Janet and Troy are serving, they fill it genuinely, consistently, and authentically. When they walk shoulder to shoulder with you, it’s because they feel it and live it,” Brown added.

In 2019, United Way of Anchorage’s Tocqueville Society, which makes up 1.4 percent of the donor base, contributed 23 percent of community campaign revenue.

“Consistent support from Tocqueville members make it possible for us to tackle our community’s hardest issues,” Brown said. “They allow us to move beyond help for a few individuals and build community-wide systems that sustain a healthier, better-educated and more prosperous Anchorage.”

The Tocqueville Society was named after Alexis de Tocqueville, a French writer known for his observations of American society and politics in the early 1800s. One of those observations was that Americans hold in common a special willingness to work for the public welfare, especially in times of need. To judge by the record of Janet and Troy Weiss, that observation still rings true.

About United Way of Anchorage

United Way of Anchorage is a community of donors, advocates, volunteers, and partners who work for the health, education and financial stability of every person in our community. LIVE UNITED.

www.liveunitedanc.org