SHARE Fun Walk Returns to Fall River Carousel

It's that time of year—SHARE is gearing up for its 32nd annual Fun Walk, which will be held on Saturday, October 7, at the Fall River Carousel at Battleship Cove.

Registration will take place between 9:15 and 10 a.m. at the lower level of the Carousel building. As usual, coffee and donuts will be available to help jump-start all the action. Thanks to Towne Donuts for providing these sweet treats!

Stepping off at 10 a.m., participants can walk from the Carousel to Heritage State Park or keep going all the way to Veterans Bicentennial Park, home of the Iwo Jima Memorial and the new Gold Star Families Memorial. Given the Walk route's accessibility, our friends who use wheelchairs can take part as well.

The waterfront destination is perfect for a day of fun, sightseeing and, most especially, helping a worthy cause. The carousel is the same merry-go-round housed at Lincoln Park from 1921 until 1987. Walkers can ride for free as many times as they wish from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Nearby attractions include the Maritime Museum and historic Battleship Cove featuring the Battleship Massachusetts, the Destroyer Kennedy, the submarine Lionfish, a PT boat and more. Tickets must be purchased for admission to Battleship Cove—but you just might WIN admission via one of our raffles!

Our post-Walk pizza party starts at 11:30 a.m. and, as usual, there will be prizes, T-shirts, raffles and a wonderful assortment of restaurant gift certificates that you might win. A minimum of $50 must be raised in order to qualify. Walkers who turn in $250 or more will qualify for larger gifts in addition to extra raffle tickets, so start collecting those pledges now!

Of course, the best prize of all is the knowledge that you are helping SHARE to provide assistive technology at no charge to people with disabilities. Hundreds of people turn to us for help year-round, so please be part of making a difference in so many lives.

To register, call the SHARE office at 508.999.8482, email SHARE@UMassd.edu to say “I'M COMING” and don't forget to tell us how many people to expect (kids and adults) so we can plan for food. You also can register or make a donation online at www.sharefunwalk.kintera.org/2017, or fill out the registration form included with this newsletter.

Please join us. Tell your friends, family and neighbors. Be a part of the SHARE Team. From the many children and adults awaiting SHARE's help, thank you for lending your generous support to Fun Walk 2017! ■

A little rain couldn't dampen the spirits of these dedicated walkers at SHARE Fun Walk 2016!
SHARE Client RedisCOVERS Happiness with Help from UMD Center for Rehabilitation Engineering

"Life-changing." That's what Kathy Benton calls the equipment SHARE has provided to her brother Billy. A motor vehicle accident left William McGough with traumatic brain injury, left side paralysis, memory loss and vision problems. A stroke added to his difficulties, and he uses a wheelchair.

"He used to be depressed, but now he is happy all the time," said Benton.

Provided with an adaptive computer system, Billy now is able to communicate with his old friends, catch up on news and sports online, and expand his world.

Billy's system includes a Keys-U-See (larger, higher-contrast letters) keyboard, software called "Zoom Text Express" featuring enhanced-size letters, and a monitor with a 20-inch screen.

Because one of his hands could not manipulate a traditional mouse, Billy was given a track ball with a drag button as an alternative. Unlike a mouse that the user moves over a smooth surface, a track ball is stationary on a desk top. It incorporates a ball about the size of a big marble that a user can manipulate by moving just one or two fingers. For people who have difficulty moving their hands, a track ball makes controlling the cursor on a computer screen much more manageable.

"His life is different now. He was very popular in high school, but after his accident, he lost touch with a lot of people," Benton said. "Through Facebook, they found each other again. People send him encouragement and invitations."

Since SHARE became involved two years ago, Benton has nothing but praise for the support Billy has received. "Everyone is so nice. I can't say enough about how helpful and knowledgeable they are," she added. Best of all…her brother is more like his old self again.

SHARE Client Billy McGough enjoys staying connected to friends on Facebook using adaptive computer equipment provided by the UMD Rehabilitation Engineering Center.

SHARE’s Classic Car Show and Giant Flea Market Guaranteed to Thrill Fans and Draw Crowds This Fall

For the 23rd year, UMass Dartmouth's observatory field will be the site for SHARE's Classic Car Show and Flea Market event on Sunday, October 15. Sponsored by the Downshifters Classic Car Club, the event opens to the public at 9 a.m.; the entrance fee is $2, and children under age 12 can attend for free.

Approximately 200 antique cars and trucks will vie for trophies, compete in back-up, loud exhaust and other contests, and delight classic car enthusiasts. The entrance fee is $10 per car.

In addition to the car show, a variety of vendors will be on hand selling their wares, with set-up beginning at 7 a.m. If you are interested in turning some of the stuff in your garage or basement into cash, contact SHARE at 508.999.8482 to sign up and reserve a space. Bring your own tables or sell from the back of your vehicle. Flea market space is $10.

For your entertainment, DJ Johnny Angel will spin classic rock 'n' roll hits with plenty of nostalgic tunes. Food will be on sale throughout the day, starting with coffee and donuts supplied by Towne Donuts. Refreshments, Dana's famous chowder and hot dogs will be ready by 11 a.m.

All proceeds will support the SHARE Foundation, the funding arm of the Center for Rehabilitation Engineering at UMass Dartmouth. Since 1981, SHARE has provided adaptive equipment free of charge to people with a range of physical disabilities.

SHARE’s Classic Car Show was one of 200 cars on display during the 2016 SHARE Foundation Classic Car Show and Flea Market.

This beautifully restored Oldsmobile 88 was one of 200 cars on display during the 2016 SHARE Foundation Classic Car Show and Flea Market.

SHARE client Billy McGough enjoys staying connected to friends on Facebook using adaptive computer equipment provided by the UMD Rehabilitation Engineering Center.

SHARE Client Billy McGough enjoys staying connected to friends on Facebook using adaptive computer equipment provided by the UMD Rehabilitation Engineering Center.
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Golfers Wanted for Charity Tournament

We’re still looking for players and sponsors for the Quittacus Masonic Lodge’s 2nd Annual Golf Tournament on Saturday, September 30 at the Allendale Country Club, 1047 Allen Street in North Dartmouth.

Registration is at noon, and shotgun start is 1 p.m. for the 18-hole scramble team tournament. Prizes will be awarded for Hole-in-One, Longest Drive, Closest to the Pin, etc.

Raffles will be featured at this event as well, with proceeds going to several local charities, including SHARE.

A Portuguese Buffet Dinner follows. The fee is $100.

A field of 144 golfers is expected.

For more information, contact Scott McGarty 774.451.6189

Advancement Professional Robert Saltzman Joins SHARE Board of Directors

Joining the SHARE Foundation’s Board of Directors is Robert Saltzman, an individual with strong ties to UMass Dartmouth. A graduate of Cornell University who went to Southern Illinois University at Carbondale for its graduate program in higher education administration, Mr. Saltzman has spent his entire career building national advancement programs at educational institutions.

From 1980-1991, he served as director of annual giving and alumni affairs at UMass Dartmouth, returning in 2013-2015 to the position of assistant vice chancellor for alumni relations. In that role, he helped to revive alumni activities, leadership development and communications efforts; he also worked on the annual giving campaign and the campus 50th anniversary celebration.

Throughout his career, Mr. Saltzman has worked in leadership roles in the educational advancement realm, including at Hofstra University and Yeshiva University in New York and Monmouth University in New Jersey. He currently is director of advancement for Brockton Public Schools.

He also is active as a volunteer with numerous local organizations, including the New Bedford Whaling Museum, American Red Cross, New Bedford Food Pantry and Tifereth Israel Congregation.

“I have known Bob for more than 30 years. He is a person of ability, integrity and great compassion,” said Prof. Lester Cory, president of SHARE. “It is indeed a pleasure to welcome him to the SHARE Foundation Board of Directors. I look forward to working with him as we strive to improve the quality of life for people with disabilities through the creative application of modern technology.”

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