SHARE WALK-A-THON '93 PROMISES FUN, SURPRISES

WHEN YOU WALK IN THE SHARE FOUNDATION'S WALK-A-THON '93, DON'T BE SURPRISED IF YOU END UP IN FLORIDA! Slated for Sunday, October 24, this year's fundraiser promises prizes that really "go the extra mile" in giving something special back to participants. Top prizes for pledge earners include a one-week stay at the Orlando Marriott Residence Inn, a get-away weekend, and a free studio portrait. In all, more than a dozen great prizes will be up for grabs by the walkers who raise the most in pledges. Walkers who turn in $50 or more the day of the walk will receive a key to a prize-filled treasure chest. And all participants also will have the chance to win one of two hot air balloon rides as well as other prizes in a special drawing at the close of the event.

As in previous years, the Walk-A-Thon will be held on the UMass-Dartmouth campus and will feature a brand new 10-kilometer route totally accessible by wheelchair. The walk will officially kick off at 9 a.m., but walkers may begin the route any time between 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. As always, pledges will be used to provide computer systems and other adaptive equipment to help disabled children and adults lead more independent and productive lives.

Participants will receive free refreshments and their choice of a free SHARE T-shirt, mug or hat. Festivities include the music of Couto and Mulligan.

Don't miss the autumn fun of a country walk among good friends! For Walker's Kits and additional information, call SHARE headquarters at (508) 999-8482.

Proceeds from Walk-A-Thon '93 Earmarked for Those Waiting for Equipment and Services

More than 20 people with disabilities are waiting for SHARE to provide custom equipment to enable them to achieve a greater level of independence. Here are a few examples of needs which we hope will be filled by using some of the proceeds from Walk-A-Thon '93.

➤ A local child who sustained a severe head injury is waiting for a custom keyboard with oversized keys to control a SHARE-designed talking word processing system.

➤ A woman with cerebral palsy, who cannot speak or use her hands, is waiting for a portable head-controlled speech system to be mounted on her wheelchair.

➤ Funds are needed to build an infrared control system to be mounted on a wheelchair to enable a person with cerebral palsy to electronically open and close the security door on his apartment complex so that he can enter and leave without assistance.

➤ A man with a severe heart condition is waiting for a pendant-sized radio transmitter to enable him to summon help from his wheelchair when he is alone.

➤ A fifteen-year-old girl with cerebral palsy, who types on her computer with a mouth stick, is waiting for a digital disk drive containing an electronic encyclopedia and a library of educational materials.

➤ A visually impaired college student is waiting for a document scanner and text enlarger to enable him to read his classmates' notes and textbooks in large print on his computer screen.

We hope to have the resources this year to design and build a new, low-power, portable speech system that is small enough to be carried and which has better speech quality than presently available systems.

We also hope to have money to develop new equipment to improve telephone access for people who can neither speak nor type.
Update from the
UMASS REHABILITATION ENGINEERING CENTER LAB

Susan Cook of Barrington, Rhode Island recently welcomed a new “helper” around the house thanks to the creative efforts of UMass-Dartmouth Rehabilitation Engineering Center engineer Mike McCarrick.

Mike adapted a device controller to enable Susan, who is blind and physically disabled, to turn devices on and off independently.

Susan activates the device by hitting a single switch. As it scans the control module, it speaks “1,” “2,” “3,” etc. to alert Susan when the selector corresponds to the device she wants to turn on or off. For example, if her television is plugged into the control module as device “2,” Susan can turn it on or off by hitting her switch after the controller speaks “2.”

Another convenient feature of the controller is that it activates appliances through wireless controls. Susan’s appliances are plugged into a control module, not the controller device itself.

The device’s official name is the X10 Scanner Controller. Susan just calls it “Mike!” (See Susan’s letter. >)

Dear Mr. McCarrick:
Although we have never met, I felt the need to thank you personally. The X10 Scanner Controller and such has proven invaluable to me. I understand the SHARE Foundation has loaned it to me and I appreciate every day that I am able to use it. You cannot conceive the feeling I have when I use it— it enables me to regain some of my independence and for this I am grateful.

You also might be amused by the closeness the X10 and I share—I call him “Mike” and we get along famously.

Thank you so much!
Susan Cook

SHARE Helps to Make Dream Come True for Laddie Holt

Laddie Holt recently began living a dream come true when he returned to his old hometown of Riverside, Rhode Island and set up residence there.

For the past several years, Laddie, who has cerebral palsy, has lived at Zambarano State Hospital, a long-term care facility for infirmed and mentally retarded adults, because it had the staff and experience to provide the total care that he needs. Yet throughout his stay there, his dream was to live independently in Riverside, his home until his mother (now in her nineties) was no longer physically able to care for him.

With the financial support of a local memorial fund and funds solicited on Laddie’s behalf by SHARE, that dream has become a reality. Laddie is now living independently at Crescent Park Manor in Riverside, less than a mile from his boyhood home.

Funds were used to procure three independent but interconnected computer systems to enable him to speak, write, use the telephone and control electrical devices within his home. These systems feature emergency and routine telephone dialers and a device to activate the building’s alarm system.

His home is a marvel of technology and he is controlling it very effectively. He is learning to hire and manage his staff of personal care attendants under the guidance of PARI, the Paraplegics Association of Rhode Island. He is also learning how to shop, pay bills, obtain transportation and perform the many other tasks that those who are able-bodied take so much for granted.

Happily back to his old haunts, Laddie is again traveling the neighborhood in his motorized wheelchair to renew acquaintances and visit with his mother and sister. And with his distinction as the “poet laureate” of Riverside and authorship of several books and articles to his credit, we won’t be surprised if this odyssey is serving as the inspiration for his current literary work already in progress. However, Laddie’s keeping the plot top secret! □
S.H.A.R.E. Foundation
WALK-A-THON '93

Sunday, October 24, 1993
UMASS-Dartmouth
Official Start Time - 9 AM

PRIZES

- One Week's Stay Orlando Marriott Residence Inn - The Claremont Corp.
- Get-Away Weekend - Westport Travel Agency
- Studio Portrait - J. Thomas Darmody, Photographer
- $150 Gift Certificate - LensCrafters
- $135 Gift Certificate - Dr. Earle U. Scharff III & Associates
- $100 Gift Certificate - Byron Ford Jewelers
- $75 Gift Certificate - Grundy's Lumber
- Free Gutter Cleaning ($75 value) - K. A. Encarnacao - Carpenter/Builder
- $50 Gift Certificate - Kate Cory's Restaurant
- $25 Gift Certificate - Silas Brown
- Gift Basket - Fieldstones - Sweet & Savory Foods

FREE Refreshments
FREE T-Shirts for Every Walker

ENTERTAINMENT

Music by Couto & Mulligan

★ Drawing for 2 HOT AIR BALLOON RIDES from Balloon Adventures of New Bedford
★ Turn in $50 or more the day of the Walk-A-Thon, and Receive a KEY to our prize-filled TREASURE CHEST!

S.H.A.R.E. WALK-A-THON '93 Registration Form

☐ Yes, I will walk on October 24th. Please send me a Walk-A-Thon kit.
☐ I can help find walkers. Send me ________ more walker's kits.
☐ I would like to sponsor a disabled walker. Here's $___________.

NAME ________________________________

STREET ______________________________ PHONE ________________

CITY, TOWN ____________________________ STATE ______ ZIP _________

MAIL TO: S.H.A.R.E. Foundation, UMASS-Dartmouth, North Dartmouth, MA 02747
or CALL (508) 999-8482 to Register
Congressman Frank Joins SHARE Honorary Advisory Board

 Hats off to SHARE board member George Rogers for recruiting Barney Frank to be a member of the SHARE Honorary Advisory Board.

 We received a nice note of acceptance from Congressman Frank who wrote: “I’m flattered to be asked to join the Board of SHARE and I’m glad to do so. I wasn’t aware of the organization and what good work it does and I look forward to participating.” Thank you, Congressman Frank, and welcome aboard!

New Staff Members Join Team at SHARE

SHARE recently welcomed two new staff members to its office at UMass-Dartmouth. Barbara Bachand joined us as an administrative assistant during Linda Vandal’s maternity leave. They will be job-sharing when Linda returns to work in mid-October.

Susan Encarnacao, who also works part-time for SHARE, has been focusing her attentions on this year’s Walk-A-Thon, making sure the annual fundraiser is a big success.

10th Annual Ben Boyle Golf Classic a Summer Fundraising Success

Many thanks to long-time SHARE supporter and board member Ron Kostyla and the Sunday Morning Golfers for their fundraising efforts again this past summer. Their 10th Annual Ben Boyle Golf Classic, held July 17 and 18, raised $3,500 to support the work of the UMass-Dartmouth Center for Rehabilitation Engineering.

Our deep appreciation to this tenacious fundraising team for ten years of support, and to the tournament’s many sponsors and participants over these years.

It’s a Girl! It’s a Girl!

We’re thrilled to welcome special arrivals for two staff members at SHARE. Administrative assistant Linda Vandal and her husband Mike celebrated the birth of their first child Jillian June on June 22.

And SHARE computer engineer Mike McCarrick, his wife Joy and their son James Owen welcomed baby Holly Michelle on July 4.

Best wishes to both families!

SHARE Foundation
University of Massachusetts Dartmouth
North Dartmouth, MA 02747

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED