SHARE Walk Features Panorama Whaling Exhibit

On Saturday, October 6, SHARE’s Fun Walk 2018 offers participants a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. It’s truly special.

Walkers will meet at the Kilburn Mill on 127 West Rodney French Boulevard in New Bedford for registration at 9:15 a.m. At check-in, walkers can turn in pledges, get a name tag, and pick up certificates for free gifts.

Then, the real adventure begins! The New Bedford Whaling Museum is displaying a 1,275-foot-long panorama of a whaling voyage around the world. The exhibit is a quarter of a mile long and you will want to see it all, so remember to wear comfortable shoes.

The mill is wheelchair accessible, but the floor of the old building has some rough spots so we’ll have people nearby to help. This is the first time the entire panorama can be seen by the public, and we’ll be there on one of its last days on display.

Around 11 a.m., it’s time to drive or walk (a mile and a half from the mill) to SMAST East at 706 South Rodney French Boulevard. There, redeem your certificates ($50 or more) for this year’s free gifts. We have some special surprises in store!

Donations of $250 or more will entitle you to our major gifts, so round up your friends and family and build up those pledges!

At around noon, we’ll cap off the morning with a pizza party and drawing where SHARE will be awarding more than $500 worth of gift certificates and other prizes generously donated by local businesses. Register now to be eligible to win!

With Fort Taber and the Military Museum nearby, there’s plenty to do in the area after the party. To preregister and get your walker’s kit, please call 508.999.8482. Most of all, tell your family and friends so we can have a great turnout for this once-in-a-lifetime event!

Longtime SHARE Supporter Donates $20,000 in Honor of Les Cory’s Leadership

Paying tribute to Professor Lester Cory’s “consistent and clear leadership,” Dr. Greg Maravelas recently donated $20,000 to SHARE.

“I was happy to do it,” said Dr. Maravelas in a phone interview. Through his donation, Dr. Maravelas established the “Lester W. Cory Discretionary Fund for SHARE” with the condition that the money be used for a purpose determined by Professor Cory.

“Dr. Cory can decide in consultation with the others at SHARE,” said Dr. Maravelas. “He understands the organization best, as well as the clients’ needs.”

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In what he describes as “a seamless transition,” Professor Lester Cory has turned over the directorship of the UMass Dartmouth Center for Rehabilitation Engineering to Client Services Coordinator Beverly Thorn.

“I’m getting older and past my ‘sell by’ date,” Professor Cory said with a laugh. “I’ll still be involved with SHARE, but less so than in the past.”

After retiring from the university about a decade ago, Professor Cory has continued to serve as president of the SHARE Foundation.

Incorporated in 1982, SHARE, which stands for Society for Human Advancement through Rehabilitation Engineering, is the fundraising arm of the Center for Rehabilitation Engineering. He established the nonprofit organization with two university colleagues, Professors Phil Viall and the late Richard Walder.

Professor Cory said that he hopes to limit his SHARE duties to about once a week, keeping in mind that he has experienced a number of health issues in the past few years. He and his wife Pat have a home in Florida that he would like to enjoy more with fewer distractions.

“From the time I walked in the door at UMass to now, it has been 59 years,” Professor Cory noted. “Doing the same thing for all that time, I’m bound to miss it when I go.”

He said that his most memorable moment came when the Center for Rehabilitation Engineering was established in 1987 as an integral part of the university.

“That was one of the highlights of my career,” said Professor Cory.

As for the new director, Professor Cory has every confidence that Thorn will provide fine leadership to the Center’s small staff.

Thorn said she does not think her new title will result in major changes. She has been client services coordinator since 1999 and has a background as an occupational therapy assistant. She says she enjoys meeting clients and determining the type of equipment they need to help facilitate greater independence in their lives.

Thorn said the most difficult part of the job occurs when clients pass away, as a bond develops through working with them over time. The volume of paperwork is challenging as well.

She added that there is always a waiting list, and equipment and services are always needed. The Center’s clients have conditions including ALS, multiple sclerosis, stroke, cerebral palsy, spinal injuries and many others.

Dr. Maravelas noted that he heard about SHARE’s work “a third of a century ago” and was able to contribute modestly, gradually increasing donations in frequency and size.

“A few years ago, I donated $5,000, and this year I was able to give $20,000 very happily,” he said. “I’m very impressed and gratified by the work SHARE does on behalf of physically disabled people. I hope that others might be encouraged to contribute as well. Anything a person can donate will be helpful and appreciated.”

He also encouraged people to tap into SHARE’s website—www.SHARE.umassd.edu—to learn more about the organization, noting that once they see the beneficial work the nonprofit is doing, they will want to support it.

Professor Cory said that he has not yet determined a specific use for the donation, but he is certain it will involve some newly emerging technology. He is challenging others in the community to contribute toward a match for Dr. Maravelas’s wonderfully generous contribution.

Golfers Wanted

Golfers are still needed for the 3rd Annual Quittacus Masonic Lodge Golf Tournament on Saturday, September 29 at the Allendale Country Club, 1047 Allen Street in North Dartmouth.

Registration at noon
Shotgun start at 1 p.m.
Scramble format
$125 per person includes 18 holes, cart and dinner.

For more information, contact Scott McGarty at 774.451.6189 or Quittacusgolf@Gmail.com

Donor Contributes $20,000 in Honor of Professor Cory

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The following donations were received from April 19, 2018 through September 5, 2018.

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- Mary Rice
- Tarah Warner
SHARE’s Classic Car Show and Giant Flea Market Aims to Please

The SHARE Foundation 24th Annual Classic Car Show and Flea Market will be held on the UMass Dartmouth campus at 285 Old Westport Road, North Dartmouth, on Sunday, September 23 from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. The rain date is September 30th.

Join us for this great event for the entire family! Admission is only $2. Children under age 12 can attend for free.

The fun starts with auto registration at 8 a.m. and continues with a stupendous flea market. Last year, there was merchandise of all kinds, including the kitchen sink—there’s no telling what you may find this year!

Vendor spaces are available for only $10 for the entire day. To reserve your space, call SHARE at 508.999.8482.

Auto registration is $10. There will be peer judging with trophies for the top 75 cars, as well as special trophies for the “Best in Show” and “Professor’s Choice.”

Also featured will be contests for the drivers and games for the kids. DJ Johnny Angel will spin the best in rock ‘n’ roll music. Don’t miss out on fabulous food, prizes and a lot of fun!

For more information, call John at 508.763.0576.