CHRISTMAS CONCERT TO BENEFIT SHARE

What would Christmas be without the majesty of music and the merriness it brings? On December 3, 1989 at 4 p.m., the Newport Navy Choristers will sing the many joys of this special season when they give a Christmas concert to benefit the SHARE Foundation. Hosted by the First Baptist Church of Fall River, Massachusetts, the concert will showcase the vocal and musical talents of these renowned performers in one of their few holiday appearances.

The prestigious group of over 80 members will perform classic Christmas selections as well as lead traditional sing-alongs for the audience.

All proceeds from the Choristers concert will be used by the SMU Center for Rehabilitation Engineering to build communication systems for disabled children and adults and to provide them with equipment and supporting services.

This concert marks the third time the Newport Navy Choristers have offered their talents for the benefit of SHARE clients. In 1984 and 1985, their concerts raised $6,000 for the Foundation.

SHARE invites you to start your holiday season on a beautiful note by attending this moving performance. Tickets are $2.50 and may be purchased by calling SHARE at (508) 999-8482.

NEW SYSTEM FOR STEVE RESENDES TOPS CHRISTMAS LIST

Christmas, 1982. While the rest of the world bustled about—shopping, baking, decking the halls—Les Cory and Phil Viall were tinkering in their computer lab at SMU, putting the finishing touches on a communication system for 11-year-old Steve Resendes.

They finished Steve’s first system late that afternoon, but that was only the start of SHARE’s relationship with the Fall River, Massachusetts youngster. Cory and his colleagues have watched Steve, one of their first clients, grow from a boy to a young man.

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Durfee High student Steve Resendes with his communication system

Photo by Pat Cory

A Publication of the Society for Human Advancement Through Rehabilitation Engineering Foundation, Inc.
JUST A REMINDER...

...to federal employees and military personnel—soon the Combined Federal Campaign brochure will be distributed at your workplace. Please consider designating the SHARE Foundation to receive a portion of your 1988-89 contribution.

It's easy to do—just look for our name, SHARE Foundation, in your campaign brochure. To designate us to receive your contribution, write our number on your contribution card.

Your contribution through your local Combined Federal Campaign will help SHARE provide disabled people with the equipment and services they need so very much.

When you fill out your campaign form this year, remember SHARE. It takes only a minute and makes such a difference in someone else's life. If you have any questions, please call 508-999-8482.

A Note to Rhode Islanders: Due to an administrative oversight, SHARE is not listed in this year's Rhode Island Federal Employees Campaign brochure. If you were planning to designate a portion of your pledge for SHARE, please consider sending your contribution directly to us at this address: SHARE Foundation c/o Southeastern Massachusetts University North Dartmouth, MA 02747

STEVE RESENDES
Continued from page 1

young man. And along the way, they have been there to upgrade Steve's system to meet his changing academic and personal needs. But Steve now needs a new communication system. And Cory finds the young man in his thoughts at Christmas time once again.

Steve Resendes Photo by Pat Cory

Born with cerebral palsy, Steve has received special education throughout his school years. But when he turns 22 years old, he no longer will be entitled to a free public education, according to Public Law 94-142. Although Steve cannot speak or write without a communication system, he nevertheless will have to leave behind the school-owned SHARE computer that has let him talk with friends and do his school work.

With this in mind, SHARE has its sights set on providing Steve with a new, more sophisticated communication system for use at his home.

"He must become as independent as possible," says Cory, of Steve's future. "For him, there's not going to be any independence without some technology."

Cory says that Steve's new system will be designed to meet the needs of his adult life. The personalized computer will enable Steve to speak on the phone, write letters and control objects in his environment such as a lamp, a radio and the television.

Despite his physical limitations, Steve has "progressed remarkably well," says Cory.

And with the promise of a new system, Steve's Christmas—indeed his whole future—will be a hopeful one.
November 17, 1989

Dear friend of SHARE,

The sights and sounds of Christmas are about to fill our lives once again. Colored lights and holly wreaths trimming front doors and fireplaces. Neighbors singing carols from house to house. Brightly wrapped presents waiting beneath twinkling trees. Egg nog, Santa, mistletoe. And families and friends laughing together as they celebrate the joy of the season.

Christmastime carries a magic all its own. It lifts our spirits and opens our hearts to the love and goodwill that give Christmas its true beauty. It inspires us to reflect upon our own blessings and, more importantly, to give from that bounty to those around us.

This year I ask that you join us in spreading some Christmas magic to a very special young man. Born with cerebral palsy, 19-year-old Steve Resendes cannot speak or write without the aid of a complex communication system he uses as a student at Fall River’s Durfee High School. But as Steve nears his final year there, he faces an uncertain future. Without his own communication system at home, he will leave behind the computer that unlocked his silent world and let him express his thoughts, needs and desires to others.

But you can help. By taking part in our upcoming Christmas benefit, you can give Steve and other disabled people like him a precious and priceless gift—the gift of communication.

On December 3, 1989, the First Baptist Church of Fall River, Massachusetts will host an afternoon of Christmas cheer when they present the Newport Navy Choristers in concert. Recognized throughout Southeastern New England for their outstanding musical talents, the Choristers promise an enchanting performance that will brighten your holiday. Tickets for the event are $2.50, but I am hopeful that our SHARE Notes readers can send us a $25.00 donation, for which you will be listed as a Sponsor in the concert program. If you wish to make a greater contribution, you will be listed as a Sustainer, Patron or Benefactor as outlined on the attached form. All concert proceeds will directly benefit SHARE clients; your tax-deductible contribution will help us provide them with much-needed communication systems and supporting services.

On behalf of my colleagues at SHARE, Phil Viall and Rick Walder, and the many volunteers who work with us in our endeavors, I thank you for your generosity. Have a joyous holiday season . . . and may the true magic of Christmas be yours.

Warm regards,

Lester W. Cory
President of SHARE
RESPONSE FORM

Yes, I would like to help SHARE. I want Steve Resendes and other disabled people like him to receive the equipment and services they need to better their lives. Please list my name in the concert program as a:

_______ CONTRIBUTOR ($10.00)
_______ SPONSOR ($25.00)
_______ SUSTAINER ($50.00)
_______ PATRON ($100.00)
_______ BENEFACCTOR ($250.00)

I would like my name to be listed in the program exactly as follows:

________________________________________________________________

TICKET INFORMATION
Please fill in the information below.

Please send me ____ tickets to the concert!

____ I will be unable to attend this year.

____ Please send me a copy of the concert program.

Please send my ticket(s) and/or program to:

________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________

Please make your check payable to SHARE, Inc. and mail it along with this form to SHARE, c/o SMU, North Dartmouth, MA 02747. Your contribution is tax deductable. We must receive your contribution by November 28, 1989 to ensure that your name will be listed in the program.
SHARE WALK-A-THON '89

A WINNING FALL FUND RAISER FOR SHARE

SHARE supporters stroll through the Dartmouth countryside. Photo by Tim V.B.-O'Brien

Thanks to the many walkers, volunteers and supporters who made pledges, this year's walk-a-thon marked another triumph for SHARE, bringing in nearly $30,000 to the Foundation.

"We're certainly well-pleased with that number," says SHARE president Les Cory. "It's an indication of excellent community support to be able to raise anything like that magnitude of income."

The October 15th walk-a-thon attracted its usual troop of families and friends who took part in the Sunday walk, food and festivities. Cory says that of the 220 walkers who crossed the finish line, the last two were an especially interesting pair. SMU Dean Donald Howard made his way along the route with faithful companion, Sir Winston—his pet dog, who found a special reward waiting for him after his six-mile walk.

"Sir Winston was able to take advantage of the fact that we had some hot dogs left over and proceeded to devour a half dozen of them at the first sitting," says Cory. "And then he came back for more!"

"I think everyone had a good time," he smiles.

Dean Howard and four-legged friend Sir Winston Photo by Rick Walder

AN UPLIFTING DAY FOR SHARE BALLOON RIDE WINNER

Isaiah Avila hasn't even gone on his hot air balloon ride yet, and he's already on cloud nine. The 72-year-old Fall River, Massachusetts resident won the ride in the sky when he was picked from nearly 300 walkers and workers whose names were entered in a drawing following the SHARE Walk-A-Thon.

"I was so thrilled when he called me up and told me, 'You're going up in the air,'" says Avila, of the congratulatory call from Les Cory. "I went haywire!"

Avila says he expects to make arrangements for the flight with Balloon Adventures (the company that donated the ride to SHARE) as soon as he can find a spare moment in his busy schedule. Vice-president of the We Love Children organization, Avila devotes much of his time to helping the youth of his community. He says that participating in the SHARE Walk-A-Thon was an extension of that vocation.

"When it comes to kids, I'm right there," he says.

And when it comes to adventure, he's more than game for his upcoming, uplifting experience. Offered $75 in exchange for his balloon ride, Avila quickly turned down the money. He'd rather let his "dream of a lifetime" take flight.

"I want to have that experience," says Avila. "They could have given me a million dollars and I wouldn't have been as happy."
Attention Readers!!

Please notify us when you have a change of address so that we can keep our mailing list up to date. Also, if you know of any SHARE Notes reader who has moved, write or call us with the new address. We'd like to ensure that you don't miss a single issue of SHARE Notes!

WHAT IS SHARE?
SHARE is a non-endowed, nonprofit foundation combining high technology with a heart for the world of disabled people.

Founded by Professors Les Cory, Philip Viall and Richard Walder of Southeastern Massachusetts University, SHARE is a resource agency working with SMU's Center for Rehabilitation Engineering to provide equipment and services to physically disabled people, particularly those unable to communicate independently.

SHARE's fundraising efforts support the work of Rehabilitation Engineering Center volunteers who tailor computer software and equipment so that nonvocal people can "speak" through voice synthesizers and "write" with computers. Since 1981, hundreds of clients across the country have benefited from SHARE's endeavors.

If you'd like more information about SHARE, write us at the address below or call (508) 999-8482.

SHARE Foundation
c/o Southeastern Massachusetts University
North Dartmouth, MA 02747

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