

LIFE notes

LIFE prides itself on helping those in need and for being the champion for those who cannot speak but who enrich our lives and everyday make us a little more... human.

Issue 40 July 3, 2017

Season in Review!



Thank you for an amazing year!
(Full story on page 2)

Upcoming events



July 16, 2017

American Humane
Shelter to Service Dog
Inaugural Graduation Ceremony
Hobby Hill
Water Mill, NY

September 16

American Hero Dog Awards Gala
Beverly Hills Hilton Hotel
Los Angeles, CA

October 5

National Day of Honor for
American Veterans Disabled for LIFE
The American Veterans Disabled
for LIFE Memorial
Washington, DC

Saturday, December 2

LIFE's 24th Annual "Lady in Red"
"Over the Moon" Gala
The Mar a Lago Club, Palm Beach

LIFE Welcomes New Board Member Tammy Karu

Tammy Karu is the newest addition to LIFE's Board of directors.

(Full story on page 3)

To learn more or to donate, visit
www.life-edu.org or call 561.582.8083.

Dear Friends,

When it comes to fulfilling our mission of recognizing and improving the lives of our nation's most courageous heroes, this has been a banner season. In fact, we accomplished more over the past few months than many larger organizations do in years.

Here's the evidence:

- Thanks to our advocacy, October 5 was declared an appropriate national day each year to honor American Veterans Disabled for Life. The day was authorized late last year through a resolution introduced in Congress by our dear friend Rep. Lois Frankel and included in a veterans health bill sponsored by Rep. Jeff Miller and Sen. Richard Blumenthal. We will observe the inaugural commemoration this coming October 5 at the American Veterans Disabled for Life Memorial in Washington DC, and have invited President Trump; Members of Congress; Dr. David Shulkin, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs; disabled and able-bodied veterans; and other special guests to join us as we pay tribute to the brave men and women who have sacrificed so much so that we may enjoy freedom. It goes without saying that I hope all of you can be with us for this historic occasion - after all, your support over these many years helped build the Memorial and ensure that the 4.2 million disabled American veterans are never marginalized or forgotten.
- Of course, we all know that heroes come on four legs, just as they do on two legs. So we began work on the first American Military Hero Dog Monument to be based in our nation's capital. There are some 2,7000 dogs currently active in military service and more than 700 who have been deployed overseas, according to the U.S. Department of Defense. Like the many thousands who served in the military dating back to World War I, these courageous canines provide comfort and companionship to our troops, detect explosive devices, carry out life-saving tasks, search areas that cannot be accessed by soldiers, do sentry and scout work, and even shield soldiers from flying bullets - it is estimated by our partner American Humane that each military dog saves the lives of up to 150-200 service men and women. Just as with our human warriors, these dogs get injured, even killed in combat; many suffer emotional and psychological consequences of war, such as Post-Traumatic Stress. But for far too long, these dogs were not given the credit due to them for their heroic acts on and off the battlefield. Now, thanks to American Humane and the Lois Pope LIFE Center for Military Affairs, we can bestow upon them the honor they deserve with this permanent physical tribute.
- Speaking of amazing dogs, Patton the Pup took on the all-important job of Ambassador for American Humane. He is named for the legendary General George S. Patton and will no doubt do a wonderful job representing America's Hero Dogs.
- The valiant men and women representing America's five military branches - Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, and Coast Guard (active and reserve) - are heroes, one and all. Yet, when they return home, many continue to bear physical and emotional scars. Unfortunately, as we have all come to learn, those who are charged with working to help those scars heal have been less than adequate in fulfilling this responsibility. The new documentary that I produced and Emmy-winner Ric Burns directed called VA: THE HUMAN COST OF WAR illuminates the true cost of battle and is told through the voices and stories of those who served so admirably in our armed forces but were neglected by a broken, mismanaged, underfunded, and scandal-plagued system here at home. The film, which premiered at Mar-A-Lago a few months ago and will air on national TV this Fall, has launched a national Facebook conversation "What Do We Owe Our Veterans?" I urge all of you to participate in the conversation; we will share our findings around Veterans Day this year.
- We all shared a wonderful evening at LIFE's 23rd Annual "Lady in Red" Gala, headlined by the Empress of Soul Gladys Knight. The amazing evening of great fun and great entertainment raised more than \$1.2 million to benefit our partnership with American Humane and will go a long way in propelling forward the mission of the oldest organization in America dedicating to ensuring the well-being and welfare of pets and children. I look forward to seeing all of you at this year's 24th Lady in Red on Dec. 2, headlined by the iconic Paul Anka and the Las Vegas hit "Fab Four."

Thanks again to all of you for this most successful of years. Let's top it in the 2017-2018 season!

With Love,

Lois

Follow Lois:



LIFE Welcomes New Board Member Tammy Karu (continued from page 1)



LIFE is pleased to welcome Tammy Karu as a member of its Board of Directors. With more than 25 years in financial resource development and non-profit management, Tammy Karu is the Southeast Regional Director for American Friends of Magen David Adom, Israel's first-responder, blood-services and emergency medical care provider.

In her position with AFMDA, Tammy is primarily responsible for donor cultivation and solicitation, developing and implementing fundraising activities and events in existing and new markets in the southeastern United States. Fundraising and cultivation events have included galas, donor-driven, community-wide events, including missions to Israel, as well special project campaigns and speaker-driven activities to raise overall AFMDA awareness. Past professional experience includes Women's Division Director for the Jewish Federation of Palm Beach County, Sales Executive with Marriott International as well as Associate Executive Director at the Jewish Community Center of the Greater Palm Beaches.

An avid runner, reader and horseracing enthusiast, Tammy has lived in Israel and holds a Bachelors' degree in Jewish Studies. Tammy lives in Palm Beach Gardens with her husband Stuart and has two grown sons.

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