

# 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.*

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*Good Times Ahead Edition*



Dear Friends:

To paraphrase Shakespeare's Richard III, this is certainly not the winter, but the "spring of our discontent." Indeed, between the COVID-19 pandemic, the George Floyd murder and the ensuing protests across the country, these are certainly the most turbulent of times.

But it is the second line of the Bard's famous play that I'm hoping we can all focus on: "Made glorious summer by this son of York." And while I'm a daughter of Philadelphia, not a son of York, it is my belief that with the radiant sun and warmth of summer now upon us, good times are ahead. And we will all be better, brighter and stronger as a people and as a nation.

With this in mind, I'm happy to tell you that the dedication of the American Military Hero Dog Monument, originally set for this past March, has now been scheduled for Monday, October 5<sup>th</sup> at Tri-County Animal Rescue, which you all know is run by our dear friend Suzi Goldsmith. The monument is a national tribute to the canines who serve in the five branches of the Armed Forces.

We chose this date because of its personal and recent historic significance. As you know, October 5<sup>th</sup> is the day Congress designated as the annual celebration of the National Day of Honor for American Veterans Disabled for Life. And, of course, it is also the anniversary of the American Veterans Disabled for Life Memorial that we built in Washington D.C. as the nation's first permanent public tribute to the 4.2 million living disabled veterans and all those who have died.

The location of the new American Military Hero Dog Monument is also significant. That's because Tri-County Animal Rescue will now be home to a new site for the Pups4Patriots initiative. You will recall that this program, which I created in partnership with American Humane, takes dogs, primarily those languishing in shelters, and provides them with months of specialized training to become certified therapy dogs. Upon completing the training, the dogs are given free of charge to military veterans to help them manage and cope with Post-Traumatic Stress and Traumatic Brain Injury.

To learn more or to donate, visit  
[www.life-edu.org](http://www.life-edu.org) or call 561.582.8083.

(Dear Friends continued)

There are more than 2,700 dogs currently in active military service and about 700 who are deployed overseas, according to the U.S. Department of Defense. But for the most part, these courageous canines – like the countless thousands who served in the military dating back to World War I – have not been given the credit due to them for their heroic acts on and off the battlefield.

In fact, only a handful of these animals have been decorated. So I felt it was time that they, too, had a permanent monument to honor them for their heroism. That is why I partnered with American Humane and nationally prominent sculptor Austin Weishel to create this new monument.

The dedication event will begin at 12 noon and will be followed by a light lunch. RSVPs are required given the need for social distancing and other precautions. I hope you can join us. And in the meantime, please stay safe and healthy in the days ahead.

With Love,

*Lois*

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### *Upcoming Events*

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October 5, 2020

**American Military Hero Dog Monument Dedication**

Tri-County Animal Rescue, Boca Raton, FL

12:00 noon

Light lunch to follow

By Invitation Only

February 19, 2021

Lois Pope and LIFE's Board invite you to

**LIFE's 27th Annual Lady in Red Gala**

The Breakers Palm Beach

6:00 pm

To learn more or to donate, visit  
[www.life-edu.org](http://www.life-edu.org) or call 561.582.8083.