

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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**Bascom Palmer Edition** 



## Dear Friends:

I hope everyone is continuing to stay safe and healthy in these tumultuous times. I know that you join me in trusting that, while the current pandemic is unprecedented in modern times, we will get through it because the best scientists, epidemiologists, infectious disease specialists and other medical professionals in the country are working together tirelessly and selflessly on treatments, therapies, and cures.

Indeed, the most important advancements in health and medicine - and, society in general - always come to fruition because of teamwork. I remember that when Neil Armstrong was asked about being the First Man to step onto the Moon, he said it was not a singular accomplishment but the result of hundreds of thousands of men and women who toiled for years to make it happen.

While that "giant leap for mankind" occurred 50 years ago, I am now reminded of it. That's because I just learned that because of the amazing folks on the Bascom Palmer team, led by my dear friend Dr. Eduardo Alfonso, the renowned Eye Institute was just ranked Best in Ophthalmology by U.S. News & World Report. This is the 19<sup>th</sup> time that Bascom Palmer has received the #1 ranking from US News since the publication began surveying for its annual rankings 30 years ago.

As you know, I have a long-standing love, appreciation and admiration for Bascom Palmer. It was where my mother was cared for when she was diagnosed with macular degeneration and up until her death. Everyone there was so wonderful to her during the many years she received treatment. I will never forget their compassion, kindness and support.

So I was proud to make a very sizeable donation in her memory a few years ago to create the Lois Pope Center for Retinal & Macular Degeneration Research at Bascom Palmer's Palm Beach Gardens campus. The facility opened earlier this year and is equipped with the latest research, diagnostic and imaging technology, and state-of-the-art training facilities.

(Dear Friends continued)



Most important, it is home to an incredible team of physicians, scientists and other professionals who - like those on front lines of the current pandemic - are working together tirelessly and selflessly to make life-transforming breakthroughs in gene therapy, regenerative medicine, transplantation, and new drug treatments. Ultimately, I'm confident that they will find a cure for macular degeneration and other blinding retinal diseases.

It is said that there is no "I" in team, but in this case (if you'll pardon the pun) there is an "EYE" in its team! So, please join me in congratulating Bascom Palmer on its unprecedented accomplishment.

With Love,

Lois

## **Upcoming Events**

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

**TBD** 

American Military Hero Dog Monument Dedication

Tri-County Animal Rescue, Boca Raton, FL