
Sharon photographer helps adoption cause

By Paul E. Kandarian

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A picture may be worth a thousand words, but pictures of children in need of adoption could bring the priceless reward of finding them a home, said Terry Louison (inset) of Sharon, a portrait photographer.

Louison is volunteering her time and expertise for the Massachusetts Adoption Resource Exchange's 2d Annual Walk for Adoption May 22 at Jordan's Furniture corporate office, 450 Revolutionary Drive, Taunton, from 9 a.m. to noon.

She will be on hand to raise money by taking keepsake portraits of walkers and teams, and has already raised more than \$1,000 for the Boston-based adoption agency. She has been a MARE volunteer for five years, taking photos of local kids in need of adoption for the group's Heart Gallery exhibit.

"I started out doing Heart Gallery pieces for them and as I got to know them, I got into a networking group and we decided to do our own fund-raiser, and it just took off from there," said Louison. "Another Sharon friend of mine, Anne Schwartz, was part of a golf fund-raiser for them as well."

She said volunteering to take photos of kids in foster care "really was a no-brainer. When you see the Heart Gallery, it's really, really moving, and it works to help get kids a home."

Louison, who has three children, runs Terry Louison Photography in Sharon and employs local high school and college kids, many of whom are involved in the MARE volunteer effort as well.

"It's really such a great cause and really, who doesn't want to help out kids in foster care?" she said. "My goal this year was to raise \$1,000 and I've already surpassed that."

WCVB's Bob Halloran, New England Cable News's Eileen Curran, and their daughter will be walking at the event. They are from Milton.

"Adopting Grace was the best thing I've ever done in my whole life," Curran said. "When you adopt a child, some people say you 'rescued' that child. Truth is, the child rescues you."

According to MARE, there are more than 2,000 local children now in foster care awaiting adoption. Its programs include "Wednesday's Child" on WBZ-TV, children's profiles in newspapers, and the Heart Gallery portrait exhibit shown in stores, libraries and malls. MARE officials said the agency has helped more than 5,600 children find permanent homes during the past 53 years.

The walk will feature a family-friendly 5K walk (indoor and outdoor), arts and crafts, entertainment, prizes and refreshments. Adam Pertman, author of "Adoption Nation," will be on hand for book signings. For more information, visit www.firstgiving.com/MARE.

SOUTH SHORE ACTORS IN BOSTON PRODUCTION: Seven South Shore actors will take part in the Boston Children's Theatre's "To Kill a Mockingbird" production, with shows today at 2 p.m. and May 14-15 at the Wimberly Theatre in the Boston Center for the Arts. It's the kickoff for the theater's 60th anniversary season.

The actors are Rachel Padell of Braintree; Andy Jasmin of Brockton; Helena Carrington of Canton; Matthew Champagne of Walpole; Charlie Clinton of Hull; Chris White of Scituate; and Katherine Nedder of Westwood.

BUSINESS BRIEFS: Paul Elliott of Foxborough was appointed by Governor Deval Patrick to the State Board of Optometry. Elliott is one of four optometrists appointed to a five-year term on the board. He has been practicing optometry for 25 years and has shops in Foxborough, Norton, and Milford.

Paula Daniels of Norton was hired as the volunteer coordinator/development associate for Quincy-based Interfaith Social Services. She is responsible for recruiting and overseeing volunteers for the agency's programs serving those in

need in the South Shore.

Timothy R. Lynch was named to the board of directors at Brockton-based HarborOne Credit Union. Lynch has been an internal medicine consultant on staff of Signature Healthcare-Brockton Hospital for more than 10 years, and in 1996 co-founded Primary Care Affiliates.

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