

THE GREATER GOOD

Spring 2023

A Quarterly Report from Delaplaine Foundation, Inc.

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Spring arrived early this year! Although the Spring equinox officially occurred on March 20th, I don't ever recall seeing cherry blossoms in bloom in late February! Chalk up another point in the "loss column" for that furry weather prognosticator Punxsutawney Phil whose Feb. 2nd forecast predicted another six weeks of winter. Still, unseasonably warm



Winter temperatures confused Mother Nature, forcing Spring to make an early appearance. As much as I love Maryland's four seasons, I've always been partial to Spring. It captures the excitement of new possibilities. Spring holds promise, endless potential, symbolizes new growth, and a fresh focus on that which brings enrichment and empowerment – two key elements of our mission at Delaplaine Foundation.

Through grant funding in support of our community nonprofit impact partners, we continuously work to empower, improve and enrich communities, families and quality of life for all. We carry out that mission by operating on the 6 "C's" of community. We **create** relationships whose missions align with ours and who provide programs and services that support families and individuals. Through grant funding, we **connect** with identified human need and through **collaboration** with other funders and community partners who do the same, we ensure a greater impact. In the process, we help bring about **change** because we are **committed** to maintaining and sustaining community enrichment. Together, we **celebrate** shared values and interests, as well as diverse backgrounds and perspectives that yield a beautiful blend of humanity and spirit in a dynamically vibrant community. A community that cares for its own while focusing on increased impact and enrichment by supporting diverse, equitable and inclusive programs and services for "The Greater Good."

Marlene
MARLENE B. YOUNG
President



More than 600 private airplane owners donate their time, aircraft and fuel to transport patients, caregivers, and service personnel for medical care and special transport. Above, U.S. military veterans prepare for a flight provided by PALS. Below, PALS co-founder, board chairman and volunteer pilot Jim Platz is seen with (l-r) Faith and Skylar, who are PALS patients.

PALS Provides Patients Free Air Transport to Medical Centers

Patients and veterans requiring non-emergency medical treatment, who cannot obtain these services via car or commercial flight, can now travel on free private flights. Since 2010, Patient AirLift Services, known as PALS, has transported 28,000 critically ill or injured individuals to medical facilities for treatment. PALS seeks to eliminate transportation barriers that prevent vulnerable and low-income individuals from accessing vital health care.

"Air travel that is needed for out of town, highly-specialized medical care can be too expensive to take on for individuals and families," says Brook Leighton of PALS, noting the many other expenses above and beyond medical costs associated with out of town care such as fuel, hotels, and meals. "Because of medical circumstances, some patients may also not be able to fly commercially, and require a private flight."

More than 600 private airplane owners volunteer their time, aircraft, and fuel costs to transport patients and veterans to

locations throughout the east coast. Flights are carefully customized for each patient to meet their individual needs.



Flights are also offered for compassionate assistance, such as caretakers, humanitarian purposes, and veteran transport. If flying is not an option, PALS will organize and pay for automobile transportation.

Delaplaine Foundation was introduced to PALS by Delaplaine Foundation Associate Board Member and pilot Brayden Semler. Semler learned about PALS from a former flying instructor who had volunteered his services. After his mother was diagnosed with cancer in 2017, Semler became aware of how hard it can be for families with sick

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Delaplaine Foundation, Inc., is a private family foundation based in Frederick, Maryland, dedicated to the enrichment of communities and families within Maryland, nearby states and the District of Columbia by supporting programs to strengthen the arts and sciences, historical preservation, educational advancement, spiritual enlightenment and well-being.

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A collection of locally-manufactured wedding dresses helps to represent the introduction of factory produced clothing in "Stitches Through Time." The exhibit also includes a collection of dresses created by nationally-renowned fashion designer Claire McCardell, a native of Frederick, seen below.

Heritage Frederick's "Stitches Through Time"

Exhibit documents women's evolving role in the local history of sewing

Heritage Frederick's new exhibit, "Stitches Through Time" offers visitors to the museum unique insight into the history of sewing in Frederick County, and the changing roles of women in textile development and design.

The exhibit interprets the history of women's work in distinct eras. Frederick County's first female settlers assumed the tasks of sewing clothes and bedding, but not before first having to cultivate, raise, and process the raw materials (wool and flax), which originated on their homesteads. Heritage Frederick's well-preserved collection of quilts and tools used in the creation of yarn and linen is a reminder of the accessibility of clothing in this day and age.



The Civil War and the immediate need for uniforms fast-tracked the development of ready made clothing produced in factories. At war's end, these factories pivoted to making men's suits and soon after, women's wear. By the 1880s, much of America's sewing was still performed by women, typically in low-paying assembly line jobs in male-owned factories. The exhibit tells the story of women at work in a 19th century factory by displaying an authentic section of a sewing table of the era, illustrating the demanding role assigned to women at the advent of mass manufacturing.

The 19th and early-mid 20th century historical phase of the industry is represented with a display of wedding gowns collected by Heritage Frederick since the organization was founded in 1892. Interpretive panels documenting the owner and origin connect the clothing to local families who preserved and then donated these items.

The 20th century ushered in the emergence

Mendez Sculptures Will Commemorate Nationally-Famous Clara Barton and Lefty Kreh



The sculptured memorial of Clara Barton aiding a Union soldier on the Antietam Battlefield will be located in Hagerstown at the southeast end of the town's cultural trail.

Nationally-recognized artist and Washington County resident Antonio Tobias Mendez will bring to life the accomplishments of two famous, local Americans with sculptures to be installed in Hagerstown and Frederick.

Clara Barton is recognized as being the first battlefield nurse in America. As the September 1862 Battle of Antietam was about to commence, Barton traveled from Washington DC with a wagon full of medical supplies before Army suppliers were able to arrive. She cared for soldiers injured on the battlefield and assisted in surgeries. In 1881, she established the American Red Cross. Hagerstown's newest piece of public art was initiated by the Clara Barton Memorial Committee and sanctioned by the City of Hagerstown.

Delaplaine Foundation is supporting the project with a \$25,000 grant.

Mendez says that the most challenging aspect of the Barton sculpture was its 180% life-size scale. Equally important, he says, was ensuring that the details of the sculpture were historically accurate. Mendez is unaware of any other public art sculptures of Barton.



Left, the full scale sculpture of Lefty Kreh. When bronzed, it will be installed at knee height in Baker Park's Culler Lake.

Right, Mendez completing the small scale clay model of Boston Red Sox "National Baseball Hall of Fame" player Carl Yastrzemski in 2013, seen today at Fenway Park, in Boston, MA.

Mendez's sculpture of Lefty Kreh, to be installed in Frederick's Culler Lake at Baker Park, could not be more different in terms of subject matter. Kreh, a Frederick native, was born in 1925 and grew up in poverty following the untimely death of his father. He went on to become a premier innovator and promoter of fly fishing. Previously a sport engaged in by the affluent, Kreh introduced fly fishing to the working class with a new approach to casting and the development of a fishing fly considered among the best.

"Every fly fisher I know, knows about him," says Mendez, who acknowledges that he had never heard of Kreh until learning of the project. Kreh wrote or co-authored more than 30 books on the subject of fly fishing, wrote an untold number of columns for magazines and newspapers (including The Frederick News-Post, his first assignment), as well as making videos, selling signature fishing rods, and more.

Mendez says the sculpture at 130% life-size is a match for Kreh who had a larger than life personality. Overtime, Kreh personally instructed thousands of people to cast. Millions more learned how using the DVDs he produced, which are still sold.

Mendez says his depiction of Kreh will be quite fun to see, as it will be placed in the waters of Culler Lake, in Baker Park. Delaplaine Foundation supported the project with a \$20,000 grant.

Both the Barton and Kreh sculptures will be installed and unveiled this autumn.



SPOTLIGHT



L-R: Derek McGinty, Washington, DC-based journalist, Mila Vasudevan, Kyleigh McGee, Breanna Brea, Ariana Ferraco, Jovie Hall, Aaron Henry, Ryan Franko, Kastle Smith, Deacon Withers, Nikitha Tokala, Abhiram Tammana, Levi Johnson, Millie Johnson, and Caron Dale, Founder. See the digital email version of this newsletter for a complete list of winners.

Chords of Courage

Chords of Courage challenges Frederick County middle and high school students to write songs about courageous individuals as part of the STEP UP! Frederick Student Songwriting Contest. Now in its fifth year, for this year's competition, the song "Warrior" received the middle school top prize, written by Nikitha Tokala and Abhiram Tammana, both eighth graders at Windsor Knolls Middle School. Thomas Johnson High School senior Deacon Withers received the top high

Chords - cont. below



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PALS - cont. from page 1

loved ones to ask for assistance. "I loved the idea of pilots, who—like me—have a passion for aviation, being able to use their abilities and resources to help families in need," Semler said.

Since its inception, PALS has provided approximately 50 flights to Frederick County patients and residents. Delaplaine Foundation has supported the nonprofit with \$25,000 in grant funding. Learn more about PALS at www.palservices.org.

Stiches - cont. from page 2

of female designers, many of whom mimicked fashions coming from Paris. However, Frederick native Claire McCardell bucked the system. Although she studied for a year in Paris, McCardell is credited as being one of America's first sportswear designers whose clothing was groundbreaking in its casual elegance and ease of wear. Unlike many of her peers, McCardell's innovative designs live on in the work of contemporary designers.

"Stiches Through Time" was made possible in part through the grant support of Delaplaine Foundation.

Chords - cont. from above

school prize for his song entitled "The Bayou Don't Bow".

Along with song entries, students must also complete a STEP UP! community service project.

Delaplaine Foundation has supported Chords of Courage since the beginning of the songwriting contest and President Marlene Young presented the 1st place awards at the concert held on March 19th at Frederick Community College's Kussmaul Theater.

