

SHARENotes

The Newsletter of the Society for Human Advancement through Rehabilitation Engineering Foundation, Inc.

SHARE Builds Adaptive Technology Lifeline to Independence for Longtime Client Rob Maloney

Visit Rob Maloney and you can't miss the control center of tech equipment that dominates his living room. The North Easton, Mass., resident will be the first to tell you that he wouldn't have it any other way.

"Recently, I said to myself, 'I've got too much tech in the house,'" said Maloney. "But I really need all of it."

For decades, Maloney has relied on SHARE for its expertise in pairing him with the right adaptive computer equipment and commercial devices to meet his evolving needs and abilities. Because Maloney has cerebral palsy and is quadriplegic, this tech network is a lifeline that has empowered him to live independently—and enjoy life to the fullest.

"It allowed me to stay out in the community," said Maloney. "I love being on my own."



SHARE client Rob Maloney enjoys his suite of adaptive equipment, which has allowed him to remain active and on his own in the North Easton community.

installing and customizing the suite of adaptive technologies that Maloney uses to communicate and control his home environment independently. Maloney's first environmental control system relied

on vocal commands to activate infrared signals that operated his air conditioning, heat, lights, door opener, music, television and cable.

He controlled his computer using an on-screen keyboard and adaptive Quad Joy mouse, moving the mouse

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Maloney first reached out to SHARE at the recommendation of his psychologist in the early 1980s. "They brought a new computer in for me and I used it every day."

Through the years, SHARE Advance Technology Specialist Tom Meggison has remained on standby,

Jay Bernardo Joins SHARE Board of Directors



The SHARE Foundation is pleased to announce that **Jay Bernardo**, Assistant Vice President and Branch Manager at BayCoast Bank, has joined its Board of Directors. Bernardo was elected to the nonprofit's board at its annual meeting in December 2025 and will serve in his volunteer advisory role for a term of three years.

"I join the SHARE Foundation Board in welcoming its newest member," said Jack Dresser, SHARE Executive Director. "Our organization

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Many Thanks for All You Do

All of us at the SHARE Foundation know that our work is never done alone. Every communication device delivered, every environmental control system installed, and every life made more independent is the result of a community of people who believe deeply in our mission. This issue of SHARENotes is, in many ways, a celebration of that community.



First, I want to thank our Board of Directors for their guiding vision, steady direction, and hands-on commitment. Our Board members are not just advisors; they are active partners in problem-solving, planning, fundraising, and outreach. We are pleased to welcome Jay Bernardo, our newest Board member, who is profiled in this issue.

We also extend our heartfelt appreciation to the more than 500 donors who supported SHARE in 2025. Your generosity fuels everything we do.

Your impact is felt every day in the lives of people with severe physical and vocal disabilities who now have a stronger voice and greater independence because of you.

Special thanks go to those who have organized and supported events benefiting SHARE. These efforts require time, creativity, and persistence, and they bring both vital funding and new friends to our organization. They include the participants and volunteers of our 40th Annual Walk & Roll and the members of the Rotary Club of Pawtuxet Valley, RI, who ran the 42nd Annual Ben Boyle & Ron Kostyla Golf Classic. We remember with gratitude John Remedis, whose support of our work is memorialized in this issue. We are also thankful to Tricia Muldoon, whose choir concert fundraiser is noted in the profile of her brother and SHARE client Rob Maloney. Acts of service like these remind us how powerful individual initiative can be.

Finally, we thank our many partners in adaptive technology—area hospitals, nursing homes, therapists, Councils on Aging, and Commissions on Disability. Your referrals, collaboration, and shared problem-solving allow SHARE to reach people who might otherwise go without the tools they need to communicate and live more independently. We are honored to work alongside you.

To everyone who gives time, talent, resources, or encouragement to SHARE: thank you. You are the reason our mission continues, and the reason hope and independence reach so many homes across our region.

Thank you,



Jack Dresser
Executive Director

Jay Bernardo Joins Board

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will benefit from Jay's demonstrated commitment to serve the community and the continuation of the SHARE Foundation's relationship with BayCoast Bank."

In his current role at BayCoast Bank, Bernardo supports both retail and business customers, with a special focus on identifying ways to improve the customer experience and strengthen community connections. Deeply committed to community service, Bernardo said he believes that strong local institutions are the foundation of economic and social well-being. Throughout his career, he has been involved in initiatives that support financial literacy, small businesses, and customer advocacy, and is known for his approachable style, practical problem-solving, and genuine care for the people he serves.

"I was drawn to SHARE because it's dedicated to supporting people with disabilities who face substantial daily challenges," said Bernardo. "As a bank manager, supporting individuals and families is a big part of what I do every day, and SHARE's mission really aligns with that commitment to being there for people in the communities where we live and work."

Looking ahead, Bernardo said his work on behalf of SHARE and its clients will be shaped by his personal and professional commitment to helping others achieve their greatest success and fulfillment.

"My leadership experience and long-standing dedication to community service help me bring both practical decision-making skills and a compassionate perspective to the board," said Bernardo. "I hope SHARE expands its reach, strengthens community connections, and continues to be a trusted, supportive presence for individuals living with disabilities that impact daily life."

Rob Maloney Remains Independent with Adaptive Technology

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with a rod clasped in his teeth and clicking it with a sip on the Quad Joy mouthpiece. Dragon Naturally Speaking voice recognition software installed on his computer enabled Maloney to speak simple commands that directed on-screen functions.

Over time, Maloney recognized that his changing physical abilities were impacting the ways he operated his equipment. “I don’t have the lung capacity anymore,” said Maloney. “Dragon doesn’t pick up my voice as easily. My voice and my speech have gotten a lot more difficult to understand.”

Meggison took a fresh look at Maloney’s system and engineered a solution, swapping in new commercial technologies to keep the longtime SHARE client up and running. The infrared technology that Maloney had used for his environmental controls has now been replaced with Amazon Alexa and compatible smart plugs that enable voice control for any home devices plugged into them. The updated system is both easier for Maloney to operate and better able to detect his vocal commands despite his diminished ability to articulate clearly. “That’s what I really appreciate about SHARE,” said Maloney. “When I call with a problem, it’s fixed really fast.”

Maloney notes that he and Meggison often team up and troubleshoot together when tech issues do arise, and it’s a welcome challenge fueled by his own love for computers.

“Before I call Tom, I try to figure it out myself,” said Maloney. “I say, ‘Hey, can we try this?’ I like being the guinea pig. It’s helped me psychologically, too, because I look forward to trying out new equipment and new ways of doing things—not only for me, but for others who are in the same boat.”

Talk with Rob Maloney and his lighthearted laughter will brighten



Rob Maloney enjoys a visit from his brother-in-law Kevin Muldoon, right, and Jack Dresser, SHARE Foundation Executive Director.

every conversation. Maloney finds joy in living life on his own terms and credits the responsive circle of support around him—his sister Tricia and her husband Kevin Muldoon, his health care team, his neighbors, and SHARE—with making it all work.

“I’m very lucky and very thankful that I have great family and friends here,” said Maloney. “I’m thankful for SHARE and for Tom. Tom doesn’t give up, and neither do I.”

Do you know of someone who would benefit from the technology and services SHARE provides? Please contact Client Services Coordinator Beverly Thorn at 774-992-0674.

Tricia Muldoon Rocks Her Voice for SHARE

Rob Maloney’s sister Tricia Muldoon (pictured center) channels her love of singing through her involvement in Rock Voices, a no-audition adult choir that performs rock music to benefit local communities. A member of the nationwide organization’s South Shore chapter, Muldoon recently nominated the SHARE Foundation to receive fundraising support from one of the group’s area concerts. The spirited Rock Voices show led to a \$600 donation to help SHARE continue to provide adaptive technologies and training to its many clients living with severe physical and vocal disabilities.



“I’ve seen firsthand the work SHARE does and the monumental impact it has had on my brother Rob’s life. Although his body can’t work like ours, he has a brilliant mind, loves history, sports, current events and, most of all, talking and laughing with his friends and neighbors,” said Muldoon. “The work SHARE has done for Robert has improved his life beyond what we thought was possible. Because of SHARE, Rob is able to live, function and thrive in his community.”

YOUR FUNDRAISING MATTERS! SHARE welcomes your ideas for creative fundraising that could support our ongoing work. If you or your group would like to design your own fundraiser for SHARE, call us today at **774-992-0674** or email Jack Dresser at jack@thesharefoundation.org.

OUR GRATITUDE GOES OUT TO THE MANY SUPPORTERS OF SHARE who took part in 2025 fundraisers to benefit the foundation’s work. Thank you to the sponsors, event organizers, volunteers, and participants for sharing their gifts and time for the benefit of others in need.

Team Southcoast Health takes to the scenic road at **SHARE’s Walk & Roll**, which raised \$29,000 to support the organization’s work.

Below, SHARE client John Pereira and his sister Tracy Rayray enjoy a break during the Walk’s festivities.



A golfer sets up a shot to the green at the Richmond Country Club during last year’s Ben Boyle & Ron Kostyla Golf Classic, which raised \$12,000. Since its inception in 1984, the tournament has raised more than \$300,000 to benefit SHARE.



Car enthusiasts enjoyed a sunny day at the **Antique & Classic Car Show** sponsored by the Downshifters Car Club of New England. An annual fan favorite, the event raised \$900 to support SHARE last fall.

REMEMBERING JOHN W. REMEDIS, JR.

JOHN REMEDIS, a devoted friend and champion of the SHARE Foundation, passed away recently, leaving behind a legacy of service, generosity, and community spirit. John will be fondly remembered by SHARE for his leadership of the Downshifters Car Club of New England and for more than two decades of tireless support for SHARE’s mission.

For over 20 years, the Downshifters Car Club hosted its annual Antique & Classic Car Show to benefit the SHARE Foundation. John, with the help of his wife Linda, organized and ran the event each year, transforming it into one of SHARE’s most cherished fundraisers. The show raised vital funds for SHARE’s client services and brought



together car enthusiasts, families, and supporters in a true spirit of community.

John added his own special touch by serving as the show’s deejay under his cheerful persona “Johnny Angel.”

His music and easy warmth helped set the tone for a day that was as joyful as it was meaningful.

Beyond his service to SHARE, John led a life marked by courage and public service. He was a decorated Vietnam veteran, awarded the Silver Star Medal and the Purple Heart for his valor, and later pursued a career in law enforcement.

“Through the car show he and Linda built, John helped change lives,” said Jack Dresser, Executive Director of the SHARE Foundation. “We are profoundly grateful for all John gave to SHARE and to our community, and he will be deeply missed.”

THANK YOU

to our many donors for partnering with us to bring help and hope to others through the power of technology.

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**SAVE
THE DATE**

**43RD ANNUAL
BEN BOYLE & RON KOSTYLA
GOLF CLASSIC**

JUNE 14, 2026

Richmond Country Club
Hope Valley, RI

For more information,
contact Don Osley,
dosley@navigantcu.org

The graphic features a green banner with the text 'SAVE THE DATE' in blue. Below it, the event title '43RD ANNUAL BEN BOYLE & RON KOSTYLA GOLF CLASSIC' and date 'JUNE 14, 2026' are displayed in white on a blue background. The location 'Richmond Country Club Hope Valley, RI' is written in white. At the bottom, there is an image of a golf club head and a golf ball with 'SHARE' written on it. Contact information for Don Osley is provided in blue text.

**Joe's original
KITCHEN+BAR**

Dine In or Take Out
at Joe's Original on
Tuesday, March 24, 2026
and mention you're supporting
the SHARE Foundation.

**15% of your purchase*
will be donated to SHARE!**

*Excludes alcohol, tax, gratuity and take-out delivery.

Joe's Original Kitchen+Bar
61 State Road | Dartmouth, MA | 508.992.5637

The advertisement has a yellow background. At the top, the 'Joe's original KITCHEN+BAR' logo is enclosed in a black-bordered white box. Below the logo, the text 'Dine In or Take Out at Joe's Original on Tuesday, March 24, 2026 and mention you're supporting the SHARE Foundation.' is centered. A large, bold red text block states '15% of your purchase* will be donated to SHARE!'. A smaller line of text below it reads '*Excludes alcohol, tax, gratuity and take-out delivery.' At the bottom, the address and phone number 'Joe's Original Kitchen+Bar 61 State Road | Dartmouth, MA | 508.992.5637' are listed.