

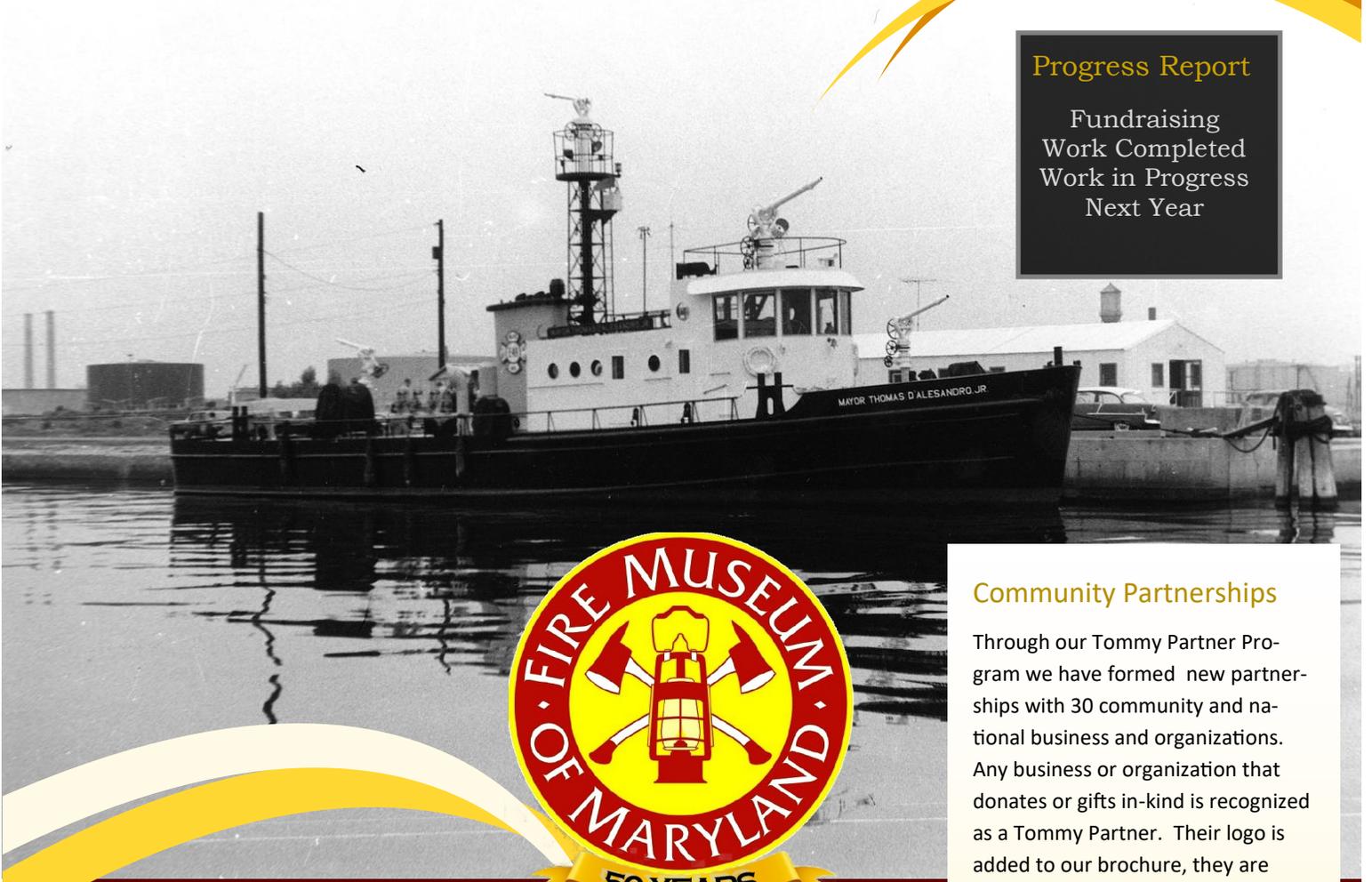
# BRINGING TOMMY HOME

YEAR END REPORT

OCTOBER 2019-DECEMBER 2020

## Progress Report

Fundraising  
Work Completed  
Work in Progress  
Next Year



## Community Partnerships

Through our Tommy Partner Program we have formed new partnerships with 30 community and national business and organizations. Any business or organization that donates or gifts in-kind is recognized as a Tommy Partner. Their logo is added to our brochure, they are added to our online list, and promoted on social media.

### Phase-1

### “Bringing Tommy Home”

Phase-1 Consists of moving the Mayor Thomas D’Alessandro Jr. to the Fire Museum of Maryland. Work to affect this move includes work on two different sites and coordination between multiple companies, government agencies, and the Museum.

Site-1 is the boat, located in the Bethlehem Steel Shipyard at Sparrows Point on Tradepoint Atlantic’s property.

Site-2 is the Fire Museum of Maryland located in Lutherville, Md.

## CONCEPTION



**ERIC M. KELSO,**

**CURATOR & PROJECT LEAD FMM**

## MESSAGE FROM THE CAPTAIN

*This project is about partnerships and community development. Its much more than an exhibit.*

I am very pleased with the progress we have made since launching the campaign 15 months ago. We have had success in all areas from fundraising and parts procurement, to partnerships and the actual work of getting the boat here. When Walt Mathers of the Baltimore & Chesapeake Steamboat Co. first brought this boat to my attention I had no idea the places it would lead us to. A native born Cincinnati, I have had to learn the history of Baltimore as I go. So, when asked if I knew who the boat was named after all I could do was read the side “Mayor Thomas D’Alessandro Jr.” I had no idea this project would take me all the way to the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives. I have quickly become an expert of the boat, and continue to learn new information all the time.

Once the wheels started turning I took inspiration from other Museums I have visited and came up with a plan. With the support of my Director, Stephen Heaver, and the Museum’s Board of Directors, I began assembling a plan to bring the boat to the Museum. This vision provides for several needs of the Museum in concert with a wonderful new exhibit. The Tommy will change the face of the Museum increasing both visual appeal of the building and our visual presence in the surrounding area. Do to the nature of the move, and individuals involved in the project we can anticipate a good amount of media coverage. However, we have been competing with current events such as a Presidential Election and COVID that has made it difficult, but we expect some of these challenges to subside in 2021.

This report will look at the progress we have made over the last 15 months, and what we can expect in the coming year. I am very proud of the work my team has accomplished thus far, and the direction we are headed.

Eric M. Kelso  
Curator and Project Lead  
“Capt. of the Boat”



**TOMMY CREW**



**BOB HAY**



**SPENCER JAMISON**



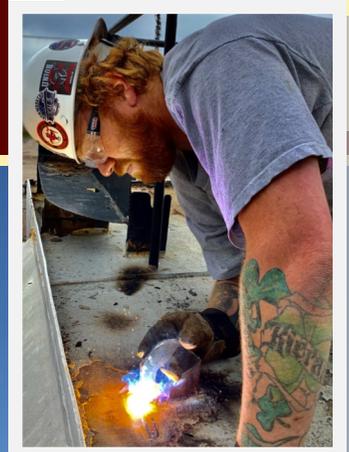
**GARY HARTNER**



## Reaching out...

In October 2019, we kicked off our fundraising in Baltimore's Little Italy at the Italian Heritage Festival. With a goal of \$100,000, our year-end total raised is \$96,043 with an additional \$75,000 in in-kind contributions. Through a combination of funds raised and services donated we have accomplished a tremendous amount of work. The Museum's Tommy Crew, consisting of Bob Hay, Gary Hartner, Spencer Jamison, and myself, successfully stripped the boat of all materials. Much of this work was made possible through the use of battery operated tools donated by Craftsman. Items being reused were brought back to the Museum, and items being discarded were disposed of. The Iron Workers Local 5 cut and removed the house structure from the hull and set to

the side in preparation for both moving and lead abatement. The International Union of Painters and Allied Trades completed all lead abatement activities (blasting inside and out) and put three coats of primer on the hull and house structure (inside and out).



# SALVAGE AND PARTS PROCUREMENT



A salvage trip was taken to Norfolk, Va. Where Tim Mullane is in possession of the BCFD Fireboat Mayor Harold Grady. Tim allowed Ethen (my son) and I to salvage whatever we wanted from the boat that we could use for the Tommy or the Museum. There was not much left, but we were still able to recover some much needed items for both the restoration and Museum. Mr. Mullane will be delivering in the coming year, one of the massive hose reels off the Grady that will be incorporated as part of the outdoor exhibit This will also hold new fire hose, to be used for musters. In January, I am flying out with my daughter (Ella) to Seattle, Wa. We have been presented with a unique opportunity to recover several parts for the wheelhouse restoration that may even include a very rare 1956 Radar pedestal system. Finding the correct hardware for the wheelhouse from 1956 will be challenging, but we have been fortunate to have these opportunities come our way.



Captain Bildstein of the Baltimore City Fire Department delivered much of the original equipment from the Tommy including one set of name boards and the replacement binnacle used in the wheelhouse.



# WORKING THROUGH THE CHALLENGES OF COVID

The foundation is nearing completion and will be ready to receive the boat in January. This was made possible through a combination of fundraising and community partnerships like our engineers from CityScapes and Walkley Engineering, Redford Excavating who has donated 100% of their work, Delta Contracting who is working at cost to finish the concrete, and Shuster Concrete who has given us a very favorable price for the concrete. While we had the benefit of being able to continue work on the boat during the shutdown, since the union workers were considered essential, we still faced some delays due to COVID. We mailed a 800 piece solicitation to companies associated with the port of Baltimore as part of our fundraising, but the country shut down 2 weeks later effectively nixing any hope of return on that solicitation. Delivery of the boat was expected to be this year, but has been pushed back to 2021 and I believe it to be ready to move by the end of winter.



# PHASE-1 “BRINGING TOMMY HOME”

## COMPLETION

Items left to complete Phase-1 are:

- 1). **The cutting down and repair of the boat to its final dimensions.** All steel being removed will be recycled to repair other parts of the boat on the portion we are keeping. This work will be completed by Iron Workers Local 5.
- 2). **Moving to the Museum.** This will likely happen in the middle of the night. The route will be published ahead of time and the media notified. In addition to the police escort we hope to have the Pride, as well as an engine from both the City and the County. These services are 100% donated by B L Enterprise Inc., Maryland State Police, and the State of Maryland (excluding a permit fee required by law).
- 3). **Placed on the foundation and reassembled** by Iron Workers Local 5.
- 4). **Color coats will be painted** in the spring by the International Union for Painters and Allied Trades.
- 5). **Temporary Lighting** will be installed to light the boat at night.



**B L Enterprise Inc**



## PHASE-2 “BRINGING TOMMY TO LIFE”

Next year will also see the start of Phase-2 “Bringing Tommy to Life.” During this phase we will run electric inside and out to include a lighting package that will allow for maximum visibility at night with the ability to display the boat in different colors. The three monitors will be re-piped to allow a fire engine to pump water through the monitors from inlets located on the port side. The door and walkway inside the Museum will be installed to allow visitors to go out onto the deck. A camera system for security and observation will be installed. Estimates are not yet available for this work, but the initial fundraising goal will be \$100,000.





The Irvin H. Hahn Co.  
National Manufacturer Since 1898  
Baltimore, MD.



TRADEPOINT  
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**THE PAUL &  
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CHARITABLE  
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## MOVING INTO 2021 WITH PURPOSE

*Continuing partnerships and building new relationships.*

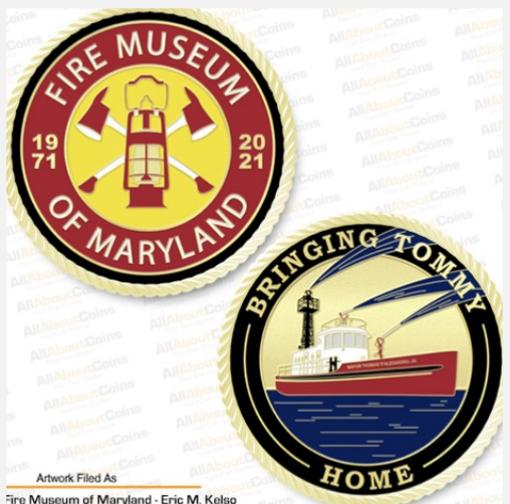
In the coming year the first challenge coin (in a 3 part series) designed by the Irvin H. Hahn Co. at a discount and T-shirts will be launched to bolster funding. These items will be sold in the store and used as thank you gifts for donors. 100% of the proceeds from these items will support the Tommy. Finally, next year will see a major donation push (pending contract approval) through Salamone Associates, LLC. Who will advocate, seek out, and procure donations on the Museum's behalf for the Tommy. Based in Washington D.C., Salamone Associates has raised millions of dollars each year for organizations across the country and in Italy such as the AARP and the National Italian American Foundation.

I cannot thank the all our Tommy Partners enough, but especially some of our key partners who without their contributions this would not have been possible. Trade Point Atlantic, who made a donation of \$5,000 in 2019, and has allowed us to use the space currently occupied by the Tommy to prep the boat for moving Tradepoint is also responsible for the donation of the boat to the Museum.

The International Union of Painters and Allied Trades, who has given tirelessly of their time to do significant work to the boat at cost with volunteer labor.

Iron Workers Local 5 who donated \$500 in 2020 and has donated 100% of their invaluable services thus far.

House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, who is the daughter of Mayor Thomas D'Alesandro Jr., and her husband Paul have been our chief financial contributors at \$75,000 for Phase-1 (A full list of Tommy Partners is at the end of this report).



Artwork Filed As  
Fire Museum of Maryland - Eric M. Kelso

# REMEMBERING THOSE WE LOST...



I would also like to take a moment to recognize a loss we had in our extended Tommy Crew.

Chief Raymond Smith passed away unexpectedly this year. Chief Smith was the father of Captain James Smith of the Baltimore City Fire Department. Capt. Smith was a long time Capt. of the Tommy, fire buff, and had a deep affection for the fire boat that his family still shares today. Chief Smith and his wife donated \$5,000 in their son's memory in 2019. A new ships bell is planned in honor of Capt. Smith. The family also asked that donations be made to the fireboat in lieu of flowers.



*Captain James Smith*  
1957-2012



I have come to know many members of the family throughout this project, and share in their loss. We are grateful for their continued support.

## FIRE MUSEUM OF MARYLAND

[FireMuseumMD.org](http://FireMuseumMD.org)

1301 York Road, Rear Building  
Lutherville, MD 21093

410.321.7500 ph

410.769.8433 fax

# COMPLETE LIST OF TOMMY DONORS

Associated Italian American Charities, Inc.  
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B L Enterprise INC  
Baltimore City Fire Department  
Sr. Lyle and Mrs. Barlyn  
Scott Bierman  
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John Bloom  
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Erica D'Alesandro  
Mica Monique D'Alesandro  
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Kathleen Grote  
Keith Hammack  
Timothy Harner  
Gary Hartner  
International Union of Painters and Allied Trades  
Ironworkers Union Local 5  
Eric and Jody Kelso  
Maryland State Police  
Walter Mathers  
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# TOMMY PARTNERS

**THE PAUL & NANCY PELOSI  
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 O'CONNOR CARES SOLUTIONS

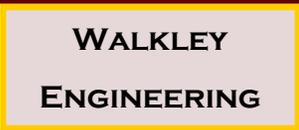
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**Eastside Church of Christ**