



New Vision News

January 8, 2012 | Volume 6, Issue 1

www.newvisionfl.org

Make a donation to New Vision today!

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This newsletter is in large print, APHont 16pt font. It is also available electronically or as an audio recording on newvisionfl.org/newsletter.php, or as an audio recording on cassette upon request.

Your New Year's Resolution: Volunteer More!

New Vision seeks volunteers to help our organization. We are looking for volunteers for the following tasks:

- Researchers
- Fundraising & special events
- Office assistant

To learn more about volunteer opportunities or to become a New Vision volunteer, visit: www.newvisionfl.org/volunteer.php or contact Chantel Buck at cbuck@newvisionfl.org.

"Volunteering is good for your physical and mental health, as well as the local economy," said Amanda Moore McBride, Washington University. "Research links volunteering with improved overall well-being, and connections between people within a community correlates with strong economic indicators. Do everyone a favor this new year and volunteer."

Free Braille Transcription in Honor of National Braille Literacy Month

January is National Braille Literacy Month. In observance, New Vision is offering free Braille transcription to local businesses, schools, and nonprofits who want to have a printed or electronic document converted to Braille for their customers, students, or clients.

“Braille is an important tool of independence for those with low vision or blindness who desire a new means of reading and writing,” said Chantel Buck, New Vision’s executive director.

“Having print materials more available in Braille helps those who read Braille, as well as those businesses and organizations who want to expand their client base.”

Some ideas of how Braille can be used in a business or organization:

On January 4, we say “Happy Birthday” to Louis Braille, who, in 1824, created the Braille writing system at age 15.



- A small restaurant can have a Braille menu printed,
- A business can have a flyer or marketing piece printed in Braille,
- A store can have a key to the store layout printed in Braille (for example, Aisle A-1: canned goods, spices).

Please limit requests to a maximum of 5 copies of a 5-page Braille document, one document per business, organization, or school. Donations are always welcome. Contact: Theresa Tabone at info@newvisionfl.org

UPCOMING EVENTS

Dining in the Dark

Served in total darkness, the third annual Dining in the Dark fundraising event for New Vision will be a unique expedition in to a world of smell, taste, sound and texture.



When: April 19
Reception at 5:30
Dining at 6:30

Where: Lake Receptions, 4425
N. Highway 19A, Mount
Dora

Cost: \$50 per ticket, \$360
per table of 8

Tickets or tables may be purchased by calling New Vision at 352-435-5040 or online via PayPal at www.newvisionfl.org.

Living Well Expo

Join us on February 12 for the third annual Living Well Expo. Learn about local companies and community organizations whose products and services can help you "live well."

Vendors include:

- Langley Health Services,
- Mid-Florida Eye Center,
- Lake Eye Associates,
- Rodan & Fields Skin Care, and
- Many more!

When: February 12, 1-4

Where: Magnolia Room,
Lake Sumter
State College,
9501 US Hwy
441, Leesburg

Cost: FREE!

UPCOMING EVENTS, CONTINUED

“See It My Way” Tactile Art Exhibit

The Mount Dora Center for the Arts has partnered with New Vision to host a tactile art exhibit titled “See It My Way—Sight Unseen.” This exhibit, almost two years in the making, will be fully interactive, allowing anyone to appreciate the art without relying on vision. Audio descriptions for each piece will also be available.

When: March 8 thru April 12
Where: Mount Dora Center for the Arts, 138 East 5th Avenue, Mount Dora

For more information, contact the Mount Dora Center for the Arts at (352) 383-0880 or visit their website at www.mountdoracenterforthearts.org.

Holiday Party

Thank you to Bob and Doris Schott for your hard work over the years in coordinating the annual New Vision Christmas Party. The torch has been passed to New Vision to carry on the tradition. We are grateful for everything they have done to establish this annual gathering. New Vision staff is already hard at work preparing for the 2013 Holiday Party.

Staff Anniversaries



Jenna Pruett, 3 years

FOR SALE

Large Print Calendar \$10

The 2013 Large Print Calendars are available at New Vision office for \$10. If you would like it mailed you, add \$2.50.

EZ Eyes Large Print Keyboard \$10 ▼

Enlarged black letters on yellow keys for improved readability, less eye strain, and better accuracy. New in the box.



Donated printers/ scanners:

- Visioneer 4800 USB Scanner \$50
- HP 4315 AIO Print/Fax/Scan/Copy \$60

5x Necklace Magnifier \$6

Jordy \$350

Enables people with low vision to see objects at a distance, up close and at any range in between. This battery operated system can be worn like a pair of glasses or used as a DeskTop CCTV when placed on its docking stand. Donated.

Eschenbach Stand Magnifiers \$5 each

Available strengths: 4x, 5x, 7x. Donated.

Extreme Reader \$100

Computer-scanner combo allows for easy access to printed materials. Donated.

Donated lamps:

- Table clip-on magnifier lamp 2x - 3.5x \$20
- Dazor floor lamp \$30
- Weighted table lamp with magnifier \$30

Free Full-Year “Transition” Program for Visually Impaired High School Students

New Vision announces the first local, free, comprehensive program for visually impaired and blind high school students to prepare them for life after high school and successful entry into college or the workforce.

This pilot transition program, effective this month, features at least 14 service hours per month, building skills such as money management, safe cooking techniques, self-advocacy, job readiness, and much, much more.

The program is free to eligible students.

Families should contact the Division of Blind Services to register for services and be referred to this program.



▲ Transition participants and instructor Sharisse Roberts at the Long & Scott Farms Corn Maze in December.

▼ Participants tactually explore a statue in downtown Tavares in October.



Glaucoma-related Vision Loss May Increase Risk for Auto Accidents

The first study to compare accident rates for drivers who have advanced glaucoma – an eye disease that affects peripheral vision – with normal-vision drivers, found that the glaucoma group had about twice as many accidents. This study, which was conducted in Japan using a driving simulator, suggests that potential drivers should pass a visual field test to ensure adequate peripheral vision before a license is granted or renewed.

In this study, which was conducted at Tohoku University Graduate School of Medicine, in Sendai, Japan, two groups of 36 people each were tested using a driving simulator. People in group one had advanced glaucoma and those in group two had normal vision. The groups were matched for age, driving experience and other characteristics. The most common accident sce-

nario for both the glaucoma and normal-vision groups was when a child, car, or other object suddenly entered the driver's path from the side. The glaucoma group, however, had more than twice as many collisions as the normal-vision group.

Glaucoma affects more than 2.7 million Americans age 40 and older. It is the second leading cause of blindness worldwide. If untreated, glaucoma reduces peripheral vision and eventually causes blindness by damaging the optic nerve. Only half of the people who have glaucoma are aware of it, since the disease is painless and vision loss is very gradual.

Source: American Academy of Ophthalmology, www.aao.org

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Free Matter for the Blind

Thank you to our community supporters



Lake Sumter
State College



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Hours: Monday-Thursday, 8-5