



New Vision News

May 28, 2014 | Volume 6, Issue 9

www.newvisionfl.org

Leave a legacy: remember New Vision in your estate plans!

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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.

New Vision to Host Low Vision Technology Open House

Join New Vision and Enhanced Vision for hands-on demonstrations of the latest technology available for people with low vision.

Low vision technology may be able to help with daily living skills, hobbies, and more. Enhanced Vision representative David Christensen will be on hand to answer questions.

When: Monday, July 7, 10-12

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

Please call to RSVP: 1-800-440-9476,
ext. 2231.

Donor News

New Vision for Independence is grateful to Bob McKee, the Lake County Tax Collector's Office, and its employees for their support of the Blind Babies program over the past few years. Through the employees' sales of candy bars, stuffed animals, and other fundraising efforts, employees raised over \$30,000. They discontinued their fundraising efforts due to new accounting policies, but the children and their families who are able to receive free early childhood intervention services can attest to the impact of their support and philanthropy.

New Vision also wishes to thank the following for their recent contributions:

- Mount Dora Lions Club, \$900
- Orange Blossom Gardens Lions Club, \$1,000
- Walt Disney World Resorts, \$1,922 in-kind donation

New Vision Gears Up for Summer Camp for Visually Impaired Teens

New Vision is preparing for our 3rd annual summer transition camps, as part of our VITAL program (Visually Impaired Teens Accessing Life). This year's camp will take the form of paid internships at New Vision's office and will conclude with a simulation in apartment living in Daytona Beach.

This will be the last summer for two of our teens who are graduating this year. We are proud of our graduates and hope the services they've received so far will help them in their new phase of life. They will be "transitioning" to our adult programs.

4th Annual Dining in the Dark raises \$9,000

On May 2, 2014, the Lake County Sheriff's Office SWAT team, wearing night vision goggles, served nearly 160 people in complete darkness at the fourth annual Dining in the Dark event

The dinner helped raise community awareness of the need for blind services in our community, as well as raised much-needed funds for services for people with low vision or blindness in Lake and Sumter counties and The Villages.

Held at Lake Receptions on Friday, May 2, the evening began with a "blind" silent auction and photos with members of the Lake County SWAT team. The dining experience began with graduates of New Vision's services sharing testimonials. Donors were offered potted plants decorated by children in the Blind Babies program. The



Volunteers from the Tavares Kohl's pose with Lake County Sheriff's Office operators. New Vision wishes to thank all the donors, sponsors, attendees, and volunteers who made this event possible.

lights went out and the salad and entrée were served in the dark, with volunteers from the Lake County SWAT team serving as part of a training exercise. Dessert was served with the lights on.

Photos are available on New Vision's Facebook page:
www.facebook.com/newvisionfl.

Considering Where to Live When You Are Visually Impaired

By DeAnna Quietwater Noriega, blogger for VisionAware.org

Source Link: [http://www.visionaware.org/blog.aspx?](http://www.visionaware.org/blog.aspx?BlogID=13&BlogEntryID=1214)

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One of the things that a person with vision loss has to consider is where to live. When you reach the point that driving is no longer an option, getting where you need to go when you need to go can pose problems. Some folks opt to live in large cities with good transportation systems. Other people choose small towns with good sidewalks. By living in the middle of town you can readily walk everywhere you are likely to need to go. These choices work well if you are the type of person who is a confident traveler with a guide dog or cane.

Building a Support Network

What if you aren't so adventurous? If you have a sighted spouse, or many family members and friends are flexible

about time, you can use a network of supports to handle shopping and going to medical appointments or church. Assisted living might be a good option if you have additional disabilities that rule out doing everything on your own.

Parantransit might be available. Each individual must analyze their own situation and put together a system that works for them. It can be tough building that support network, but if you offer to contribute toward gas, buy your driver lunch, or a ticket to an event you want to attend, it can work.

Thinking About Your Housing Options

How does this all relate to fair housing? Well, you might need

Considering Where to Live, continued

to consider housing that will meet your needs so that you can age in place. Even if the apartment or rental residence you are considering doesn't allow pets, they must by law allow a dog guide or other service animal because if it mitigates your disability, you are entitled to keep one. Many senior living communities also provide some transportation and other services or activities that make owning and driving a car unnecessary. In many communities, personal care attendants can assist with bill paying, shopping, household tasks, and driving.

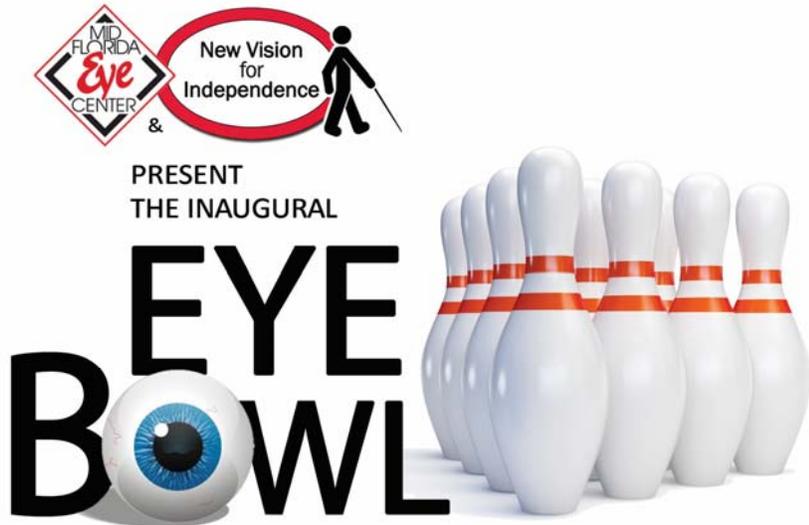
Another option is to open your home to a single person who will assist with driving and light housework for a reduction in their living accommodations. Students and single women will often agree to such an arrangement. But you will need to think about your need for priva-

cy and also issues such as identity theft.

You might consider seeking out a roommate with a different disability. I once roomed on a college campus with a young woman who had cerebral palsy. I could carry trays, open doors, and assist her with foot care tasks and she could read signs, the mail and drive. The thing here is to think it through and make a plan that fits your needs. Where there is a will, there is a way.

*Note from New Vision:
This article was taken from
VisionAware.org. Ideas present-
ed do not necessarily represent
the views of New Vision. Please
exercise caution when inviting
strangers into your home.*

UPCOMING EVENTS



New Vision and Mid Florida Eye Center announce the inaugural Eye Bowl fundraiser and outreach event on August 12, 2014, 6 to 9 p.m. at Break Point Bowling Alley in Tavares.

This event is open to doctors' offices only

to help raise awareness about New Vision's local services offered at no charge to those with low vision or blindness.

Patients are encouraged to ask their doctors to participate in this unique event.

Visit newvisionfl.org for more information.

Call-In Support Group

Join our monthly low vision/blindness phone support group from home — all you need is a phone.

When: Monday, June 9 and July 14, 10-11 a.m. (second Monday monthly)

Call in information:
1-866-740-1260,
access code:
4355040
(New Vision's phone number)

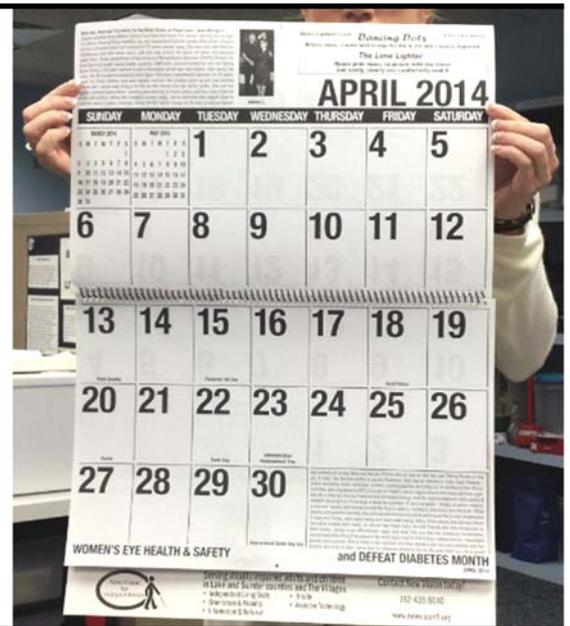
Contact Jayne Maravola for more information about this and other low vision support groups.

SUPPORT US ON AMAZON.COM

If you frequently shop on online store Amazon.com, you can support New Vision for Independence via their AmazonSmile charity program, which offers up to 0.5% of all purchases towards a charitable institution of your choice. Visit smile.amazon.com.

Calendars on sale

Large print 2014 calendars on sale for \$5 each (add \$2 if you want it delivered). We only have a few left—get yours while they last!



Other Ways to Support New Vision in the community

@ the Driver's License office: make a contribution to "Senior Vision Services" to support New Vision's services.

@ the Lake County Tax Collector's office: buy a candy bar to support New Vision's blind babies program. You can also purchase "A State of Vision" license plate or make a contribution to "Blind Babies" to support us.

New Vision for Independence
9501 US Hwy 441
Leesburg, FL 34788

Free Matter for the Blind

Thanks to our supporters



Lake Sumter
State College



Annual Report

New Vision's fiscal year 2013 annual report is now available online at newvisionfl.org.



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