

IPVI INSIGHTS

Connecting & Supporting Families Whose Children are Visually Impaired, Including Those with Additional Disabilities

**April
2013**



Please Join Other Parents for an Evening of **INFANT MASSAGE**

Learn how to effectively massage your child in order to:

- ★ Explore a new way to connect
- ★ Facilitate sensory integration through touch
- ★ Better understand your child's communication signals
- ★ Help your child relax & improve sleep habits
- ★ Share another way to "give" and "get" love & engagement
- ★ And, of course, have fun with your child!

**PLEASE BRING A FAVORITE BLANKET OR TWO
AND YOUR BEAUTIFUL BABY**

Training by a certified instructor

Date & Time: Tuesday, April 9, 2013, 6:00-8:00 p.m.

Place: The Chicago Lighthouse Development Center
1850 W. Roosevelt Road, Chicago, IL 60608



CHILDCARE & REFRESHMENTS PROVIDED!

Sponsored by The Chicago Lighthouse & Illinois Association for Parents of Children with Visual Impairments (IPVI)

Please RSVP to Mary Zabelski at (312) 997-3675

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Annual Dues

Bill Bielawski, IPVI President

We are going to change the way we collect your annual dues. In May, we will mail each of you a membership form. It will be preprinted with the information we currently have in membership database. We ask you to update it and return it.

As a parent or guardian, you have the option to join only IPVI for \$15 per year, or to join both IPVI and NAPVI for \$40 per year. IPVI is the Illinois affiliate of the National Association for Parents of Children with Visual Impairments (NAPVI).

Why join NAPVI?

- You will receive our quarterly publication "Awareness" which is filled with resource information for parents of children with visual impairments.
- Access to a national parent-to-parent network on rare eye conditions.
- Promote the development of state and local organizations for parents of children with visual impairments.
- Information on local, regional, and national conferences.
- Updated information on legislation that affects the education of our children.
- Increase public awareness concerning specific needs of our children.
- Foster communication and coordination of services among federal, state, and local agencies and organizations involved with people with visual impairments.
- Opportunity to contribute to an endowment fund to secure NAPVI's mission.

You can check out NAPVI at www.napvi.org.



MS. VIC'S VOLLEYS
Victoria Juskie, IPVI Treasurer

VOLLEY I

Since our last publication, there were no new members.

VOLLEY II

The Lions Club members I met recently let me know that they have a Leo's Club for youngsters 18 and under. If anyone would like to start a club like this in your area, please contact me and I'll get you in touch with your local Lion's Club leader.

VOLLEY III

Please note the District-1A Lions Club is sponsoring the Helen Keller Walk for Sight on April 28, 2013. If anyone wants to be a part of this, all you have to do is walk. The best part of this is that 40% of the money collected will be donated back to IPVI. If you're interested in getting involved with other members from the program, let me know at vajuskie@aol.com and I will get you the paperwork. Colleen Huels, President, Mt. Greenwood Lions Club Zone 5-C Chairmen, (Cell: 708-363-5998, has more information and is my contact.

VOLLEY IV



In keeping with my latest music themed columns, Erika Musser submitted this information regarding her daughter Heidi's music tutoring. Heidi has received

multiple accolades in her life. She is a gifted musician, scholar, as well as an Iron Man Triathlete. Oh, and if you didn't know, she has no vision. Heidi's one of my heroes. She inspires all who meet her.

**SHARING THE VISION,
PARENT TO PARENT**

Let's have a dialogue. Do you have a question? One of us may have an answer or at least a suggestion. Submit questions and responses for the IPVI Newsletter to Pam Stern, NAPVI Region 3 Representative:

pamstern3@gmail.com

MAY QUESTION

*How has a Blind Role Model Impacted How
You Feel About Your Child's Future?*

Newsletter entries will be published maintaining the anonymity of all unless otherwise approved.



Hi, Everyone. This is Vicki Juskie. My son Matthew is coordinating an IPVI fundraiser in conjunction with the Lion's Club. Our organization receives 40% of all the donations made from our group. Here are the details. Call me at 815-464-6162 to put you on the list as a walker or runner. Bring the kids and the rest of the family. It will be a fun day.

Thanks for helping.
Matt Juskie and Vicki Juskie

**Third Annual District 1-A Lions –
Helen Keller 5 K Fun Run/Walk**

Set for Sunday April 28, 2013 at Richards High School, 10601 S. Central, OAK LAWN – A day of fun, fellowship and great exercise is in store for participants in the Third Annual District 1-A Lions Helen Keller 5 K Run/Walk. Best of all, all proceeds will benefit programs

assisting people who are blind or hearing/visually impaired.

Race day registration begins at 7:30 am with runners starting promptly at 9am and walkers at 11am.

Added features for attendees will be a free Hearing Screening and also a free Diabetic Retinopathy eye screening.

“We enthusiastically invite everyone to join us as we walk and run for the benefit of our fellow citizens with disabilities,” said Chairperson Chris Coleman.

Lion Chris added that unique to the Walk portion of the event is the opportunity for community groups - such as scouts, school clubs, booster clubs, church groups and baseball teams - to have up to 40% of the total amount of collected donations, returned for the benefit of their specific service activities.

He also noted that the Run will be timed and feature awards for men and women who place first, second and third.

All 5K runners will receive a T-shirt and all 5K walkers with \$50 or more in donations will also receive a T-shirt. All walkers will receive a participation medallion following the walk.

“This is a family day so we encourage our participants and guests to come out early to picnic, experience Beep baseball, walk the special obstacle course for the visually impaired, get a free wellness check and browse the vendor area,” said District 1-A Vice District Governor Dave Hansen.

To register on line, go to the District 1-A Lions website at www.lions1a-us.org and choose “5K Walk/Run.” Registration fees for the 5K Run are \$30.00 and \$20.00 for the 5K Walk. If walk participants raise \$50.00 or more in do-

nations, then registration is free.

All proceeds of the Run/Walk go towards funding of the District Lions Clubs Open Area’s account, serving people where there is not a local Lions Club; the Chicago Lighthouse for People Who Are Blind or Visually Impaired, one of the nation’s most comprehensive social service organizations; and the Lions of Illinois Foundation which operates 14 programs serving the visually and hearing impaired.

District 1-A - Lions e-District Houses

www.lions1a-us.org

The District 1-A is a part of Lions Clubs International, a network of volunteers who work together to answer the needs that challenge communities around the world.

LARGE PRINT, INEXPENSIVE BOOKS

If you are visually impaired or know someone who is, looking for lower priced ebooks, or previously visited our website, here’s some good news.

We have now completed adding an additional 200 books to our library and reduced the prices for all our books. Many of our books are now available for \$.99 and most are priced at least 50% below any other source.

I work with the Virginia M. Woolf Foundation. Our mission is to make available publications with large type to satisfy special needs.

The books we offer are displayed in type sizes of 18, 28 or 48 point in PDF format for reading on a tablet or computer screen. We also provide ASCII and Kindle compatible versions. (They also look very good on a Nook or iPad.)

(Continued on page 8)



Her mom, Erika, indicated that she had the most wonderful news. You see, one of Heidi's music students is a young girl, Rupa Sprecher, another child with

no vision. Rupa has been tutored by Heidi and had the opportunity to play the piano accompanied by a chamber orchestra for the DePaul Division Concerto Festival at DePaul University at Fullerton campus on March 16th. Erika related that it has been a most heart-warming experience to watch the dedication of Rupa's adoptive parents, Alan and Paula, (who respectively are blind and visually impaired also) over the past four years since Heidi introduced Rupa to the piano playing at Heidi's home. Rupa's little sister, Aihua (also visually impaired and adopted by the Sprechers) is becoming a close runner-up for learning to play the piano.



So if anyone comes across a blind/visually impaired child who displays an interest for music, the Mussers ask that you let me know, and I'll give them your contact information. They would like to meet the child and his/her parents as they have volunteered to help.

So my tip of the day is seek and you shall find; ask and it shall be given; knock and the door will be open; and the love will come a trickling down. (Okay, I stole that from a Kingston Trio song which stole it from the Bible - Matthew 7:7-11 but it is true. If our community asks for help, we put out the feelers and it seems someone steps up and answers the call.) Play it forward readers.

ASK M@



ASK M@

Hi, everyone. I hope all is well this April. Hopefully, all of you are looking forward to summer as much as I am. Anyway, this month I have a short and sweet message, the

main idea being basically to be you and not try to be someone you're not. This is more for the kids due to all the peer pressure in school; but obviously, anyone and everyone can and should follow this advice (as weird as that is because the main idea is to not follow everyone.)

Now one can pretty much see this everywhere if you stop and think about it. For example, as happy as we all were when the Hawks won the Stanley Cup, I think some people just jumped on the bandwagon, if you catch my drift. Before that, at school you wouldn't hear anything about hockey. After they won though, it seemed that all these people I knew for years became die-hard Blackhawk fans, and their newest passion was hockey. This is fine, but only if it really is how you feel. If you are just going to say that you are a fan because you think you will be cooler, then don't do it. This is a miniature example compared to peer pressure to use drugs or alcohol, but it has the same meaning. If it was to come to that, definitely do not do it. Drugs and alcohol don't make you cooler for doing them. Some kids make it seem that way, but the truth is drugs and alcohol do so much long-term damage that you may not be able to understand. They kill brain cells, hurt your growth, and so much more.

To some this may seem obvious, but with any luck that little recommendation will kind of stick in your head. Then hopefully you can

take this advice and remember that it doesn't matter what others think. It is what you think of yourself, that's what really matters!

Now that I got that food for thought out there, I want to completely switch subjects. I would like my call to action this month to be for everyone to renew that gym membership or start taking some walks around the block because, per a suggestion to my ipviaskm@gmail.com mailbox, I would like to get another Hustle up the Hancock team together. This time it would be through Pam and Kevin at the Chicago Lighthouse. Due to the popularity of the event, we need to start getting ready now for next year. Please email me if you or anyone you know would be interested. Hopefully next February we are "Hustlin'."

Until next time, see ya!



**HUSTLE UP
THE
HANCOCK**

Equal Opportunity For Students with Disabilities to Participate in Extracurricular Athletics: U.S. Department of Education Clarifies Schools' Obligation to Provide Equal Opportunity to Students with Disabilities to Participate in Extracurricular Athletics

On January 25, 2013, the US Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights issued guidance clarifying school districts' existing legal obligations to provide equal access to extra-curricular athletic activities to students with disabilities. In addition to explaining those

legal obligations, the guidance urges school districts to work with community organizations to increase athletic opportunities outside of the existing extra-curricular athletic program.

Students with disabilities have the right, under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, to an equal opportunity to participate in their schools' extracurricular activities. A 2010 report by the U.S. Government Accountability Office found that many students with disabilities are not afforded an equal opportunity to participate in athletics, and therefore may not have equitable access to the health and social benefits of athletic participation.

"Sports can provide invaluable lessons in discipline, selflessness, passion and courage, and this guidance will help schools ensure that students with disabilities have an equal opportunity to benefit from the life lessons they can learn on the playing field or on the court," said Education Secretary Arne Duncan.

The guidance letter provides examples of the types of reasonable modifications that schools may be required to make to existing policies, practices, or procedures for students with intellectual, developmental, physical, or any other type of disability. Examples of such modifications include:

- The allowance of a visual cue alongside a starter pistol to allow a student with a hearing impairment who is fast enough to qualify for the track team and opportunity to compete.
- The waiver of a rule requiring the "two-hand touch" finish in swim events so that a one-armed swimmer with the requisite ability can participate at swim meets.

The guidance also notes that the law does not require that a student with a disability be al-

lowed to participate in any selective or competitive program offered by a school district, so long as the selection or competition criteria are not discriminatory.

"Participation in extracurricular athletics can be a critical part of a student's overall educational experience," said Seth Galanter, acting assistant secretary for the Office for Civil Rights (OCR). "Schools must ensure equal access to that rewarding experience for students with disabilities."

The mission of the Office for Civil Rights ("OCR") is to ensure equal access to education and to promote educational excellence throughout the nation through the vigorous enforcement of civil rights. Among the federal civil rights laws OCR is responsible for enforcing are Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964; Title IX of the Education Amendment Act of 1972; Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973; and Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act. For more information about the Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights and the anti-discrimination statutes that it enforces, please visit OCR's website at <http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/aboutocr.html> and follow OCR on twitter @EDcivilrights.

This article is reprinted from NEWSLINE Winter 2013, Federation for Children with Special Needs, The Scrafft Center, 529 Main Street, Suite 1102, Boston, MA 02129, fcsn.org.



FAMILY CONNECT WEBSITE

Advice I Wish I'd Gotten at the Start

by *Anne McCarthy*

I have to catch you up a bit on things. Yes, we met with the school district about two weeks ago. Yes, they approved James's placement at New York Institute for Special Education, the school for the blind in the Bronx. They didn't even fight it. The representative from the Institute barely made a case, simply citing his current medical condition (not diagnosis, since he does not have one): "With legal blindness, global low tone, neurological impairment, and speech impairment, we feel the Institute is best suited to address his educational needs." Rubber stamp. Done deal.

The road was paved to this outcome by our lawyer. Our meetings with the Committee on Special Education (CSE) usually last four or five hours (this was a record two with pleasantries and photocopying), but that was when I thought it was a good idea to fight for myself, rather than use a lawyer. How misguided I was. That assumes that school districts and the CSE in particular are made up of rational people who listen to a parent's position and argument. This is not true. In fact, it's to their advantage to wear you down with emotion till you can't see straight for your fear, grief, anger (or all three at once), then throw some legal bullshit at you at end the meeting to keep your kid from getting what he needs.

I wish I'd had a lawyer FROM THE START. That's right, from the start. I wish no one had told me (as so many advocates did) that it could be workable if we were team players and played nicey-nice and if we just presented things in the right way and let certain

things go because it's all about compromise. It's not about compromise, and NEVER LET ANYONE CONVINCE YOU THAT YOU SHOULD EVER COMPROMISE. You and your kid have rights. It is the district's job to give you every accommodation allowable under the law. You do not know the law (most of you) as well as a lawyer. Sure, take those trainings on what an Individual Education Plan (IEP) is and understand as much as possible. But, for every single thing that you need, do the following:

- 1) Ask the district to do it, buy it, fix it (don't even wait for a CSE meeting—send an e-mail so it's documented).
- 2) If they say no, ask a lawyer if you have a right to what you want.
- 3) Have the lawyer contact them to inform them you know your rights.

If they say yes, you can have this thing for your kid, tell them you will wait X amount of time (again, in an e-mail so it's documented). Pick an arbitrary but not too-kind time period (say, a month) and tell them that, at that time, you will take further steps to resolve it (sure, be vague). The purpose here is to give both the district and you a deadline for action. I have seen districts fritter away months that turn into years for technology that he needed desperately. Put the deadline on your calendar. If they miss that deadline, see Steps 2 and 3 above. Don't—I repeat—DON'T mess around. Being nice gets you nowhere. It is nice parents that pad school budgets because parents give up and let things go and think they may be asking too much. YOU ARE NOT ASKING TOO MUCH. It's nothing personal, it's the law in action.

I don't want to belabor the point, but maybe I do—because I have never gotten anything

like this advice from anyone and, believe me, I've talked to a lot of "support" organizations. My lawyer required a retainer of \$2,000. Put it on a credit card if you have to. Then every e-mail that takes her 2 minutes to answer costs you very little overall and saves you SO MUCH emotion and heartache. It is the not knowing what you are entitled to and giving all the power to the district that kills us parents. Finally, if there's a thing you need that doesn't cost as much as the legal advice would, do one of two things:

- 1) Save up a bunch of these smaller issues for one call to the lawyer, when it will be worth it
- 2) Buy the thing or pay for the service yourself (or ask a charity, like the Lions Club), if you can.



DON'T MESS AROUND. If you feel it's necessary, go through five or more years of heart-crushing anguish, anxiety, and depression that would challenge the strongest marriage vows, and neglect of all the other people in your life, including yourself. This was the approach I chose, but that was just me—I never got this advice.

You can go to our website:

www.extralargeprint.org to see the many publications we have available – many are best sellers.

Although the publications open up in large print, if you wish, the type can be reduced to make them more comfortable to read. You can copy and print them without restriction. When printed they retain the large print size.

(Continued on page 12)

The Chicago Lighthouse

Preschool Enrichment Program

2013 Spring Session Now Enrolling!!!

Come Join Us for 8 Weeks of Fun,
Friends and Learning!

Students will learn social skills, daily
living skills, Pre-Braille/Braille Skills
and much, much more!



Dates: Tuesdays & Thursdays
Starting April 16th to June 6th

Time: 2:00 – 3:30

Location: The Chicago Lighthouse
Children's Development Center
1850 W. Roosevelt Rd.
Chicago, IL 60608

Fee: \$275

For enrollment information contact Mary Zabelski (312) 997-3675

The Chicago Lighthouse for People Who Are Blind or Visually Impaired
1850 W. Roosevelt Road | Chicago, IL 60608
www.chicagolighthouse.org



Foundation Fighting Blindness presents:

Chicago Chapter Speaker Series

Date:

Sunday, April 28, 2013

Time:

2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Location:

Alexian Brothers Medical Center

Kennedy Conference Center

800 Biesterfield Road

Elk Grove Village, IL 60007

Topic: **The Doctor is In**

Guest Speaker: Joseph Civantos, MD

Illinois Retina Associates

Please join the Chicago Chapter where Joseph Civantos, M.D., will share current retinal research updates and information. Dr. Civantos is a nationally recognized expert who specializes in the medical and surgical treatment of diseases of the retina and vitreous, including macular degeneration, retinal detachment, diabetic retinopathy, trauma to the eye and retinopathy of prematurity. In addition to his busy medical practice, Dr. Civantos is an Assistant Professor of Ophthalmology at Rush University Medical Center in Chicago. He has been associated with Illinois Retina Associates since 1994.

RSVP to Amy Chambers at 847-680-0100 or ACHambers@FightBlindness.org
Save The Date!

Sunday, June 9, 2013

Chicago VisionWalk

©2011 Foundation Fighting Blindness
7168 Columbia Gateway Drive, Suite 100
Columbia, MD 21046





State of Illinois
Department of Human Services

30th Annual
Opening Doors
to parents and their young
children with vision loss



Parent/Infant Institute

June 5-8, 2013
at the
**Illinois School
for the Visually Impaired**
Jacksonville, Illinois



Children with Visual Impairments

Illinois School for the Visually Impaired to Hold 30th Annual Parent Infant Institute: Opening Doors

The Illinois School for the Visually Impaired will be holding its 30th Annual Parent Infant Institute, called "Opening Doors", June 5-8 on their campus in Jacksonville. This event is open statewide for up to 25 families of children with vision loss, aged birth to five. Families stay free of charge, on the schools' campus for the four days. Parents are provided a rare opportunity to meet and network with other parents of children with vision loss. Many say they develop lasting friendships with fellow parents while at Opening Doors. Parents attend informational sessions throughout the days and evenings on topics such as early literacy, sports for children with vision loss, dining and sleep issues, orientation and mobility. While parents attend session, their child is in a small classroom setting where they have opportunities for developmentally appropriate activities and social interaction with other children, and are provided functional vision and orientation and mobility consultations by professionals.

Special presentations will be given on a wide range of topics specific to this age range. There will be a special "Ask the Doctor" session where parents will be able to ask Dr. Michael Zost, an Optometrist from Chicago, specific questions about their own child's vision loss. Staff and consultants for the event are from the Illinois School for the Visually Impaired, in addition to experts from around Illinois in the field of vision loss and early intervention.

Assistance to families related to transportation and transportation expenses is available.

Registration is now open. For more information, contact Gail Olson at gail.olson@illinois.gov or Aimee Veith at

Illinois Association for Parents of Children with Visual Impairments

aimee.veith@illinois.gov.

Gail Olson, Coordinator
Hearing and Vision Early Intervention Outreach

Illinois School for the Deaf & Illinois School for the Visually Impaired
125 Webster Avenue
Jacksonville, Illinois 62650
217-479-4320

gail.olson@illinois.gov

www.morgan.k12.il.us/isd/hveio

Facebook search: Hearing and Vision Early Intervention Outreach

If you have any questions, please call or write:

Woolf-
Foundation@ca.rr.com
Mike Gold, Executive Director
424.263.2057
1602 W. 259 Street
Harbor City, CA 90710



MAKING SENSE

New App Makes Learning iPhone Fun:

LookTel has just recently released a new app called VoiceOver Tutorial that teaches all the basic gestures to navigate and investigate an iPhone, iPod and soon, iPad. This free app comes with two games that make practicing the basic gestures fun. The app is available at the iTunes store and will soon have more games that incorporate all the gestures needed to operate these devices.

Get in the Game - New Sports Encyclopedia:

The Encyclopedia of Sports and Recreation for Persons with Visual Impairments by Andrew Leibs showcases many inspirational stories of blind athletes, along with many accessible recreational programs, products and providers. The book also offers guidance on how and where to get started as a visually impaired athlete. The Sports Encyclopedia is available from **Amazon.com**.

Reprinted from MAKING SENSE, April 2013, Second Sense, Beyond vision loss, 65 East Wacker Place, Suite 1010, Chicago, IL 60601, 312-236-8569, www.second-sense.org.



(Continued from page 8)

More good news: we continue to offer a fee book to introduce our service. You can select any one of the books we offer- old favorites or best-sellers, and receive the book at no cost or obligation.

Choose a book from our library and reply to this message with your choice. We will promptly email the book to you.

Go to our website and select the "Library" button. That will bring up a selection menu. You can then search for a book by title or genre or any word in the book description including an author's name. When you have decided which book you would like, use the arrow on the top left of the screen to return to the main menu.

Once back on the main menu, select the "Special Gift" button at the top of the screen. This will bring up a page describing the free book offer. There is a link, (in blue) titled Woolf-Foundation@ca.rr.com. If you click on this link it will start your email system. Type the name of the book you'd like and send the message. When we get it we will send you the book by email.



IPVI's Matthew Benedict Juskie Scholarship Fund

For students who are blind or visually impaired

Any individual intending to continue his/her education at a college, university or trade school and is interested in being considered for the MBSF, must meet the following criteria: Illinois resident, blind or visually impaired, undergraduate or graduate student, and an IPVI member.

The candidate's application is processed free of charge. The student must mail or fax a written request to receive a copy of the application from IPVI. Then the student must complete the MBSF Application Form, provide 3 completed Reference Forms, submit medical records or a letter from the vision specialist confirming the condition, and mail them to IPVI. The applicant may attach a 1-page resume of clubs, offices held, or any other pertinent information concerning his/her activity record.

The IPVI Board of Directors will review all scholarship applications and select the winners. IPVI reserves the right to announce such awards in its newsletters and marketing materials.

The MBSF is funded completely from tax-deductible donations from **individuals, companies and corporations who support IPVI's goals.** Any individuals or groups wishing to donate to this fund, please forward your tax-deductible donations to IPVI. Thank you for your continued support of IPVI.



To request a scholarship application, please contact the Scholarship Program Coordinator, Vicki Juskie at: 815-464-6162 or vajuskie@aol.com

The background of the entire page is a photograph of the Chicago Lighthouse building at night. The building is a multi-story structure with many windows, some of which are lit up. In the foreground, a large group of penguins is gathered on the sidewalk in front of the building. The penguins are of various species, including penguins with yellow necks and penguins with black and white feathers. The building's marquee sign is illuminated and displays the date 'MAY 16th 2013'.

The Chicago Lighthouse

Seeing
WHAT'S
Possible

Annual Dinner 2013

Thursday, May 16th, 2013
Four Seasons Hotel Chicago

Honorary Co-Chairs

Governor Pat Quinn and
Congressman Danny Davis

Dinner Co-Chairs

Richard and Daphne Boykin

Dinner Planning Chair

Anida Johnson "Cookie" Cohen

Honored Guests

The Harris Family Foundation
Judge Nicholas T. Pomaro, Ret.

Guest Speaker

Mike Ditka

For tickets, call **312.997.3679** or go to:
www.chicagolighthouse.org/SWP13



SAVE THE DATE

Thursday, June 13, 2013
6:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.

Green Acres Country Club
916 Dundee Road
Northbrook, IL 60062-2706

For tickets and information please contact Amanda Clayton at
AClayton@FightBlindness.org or (847) 680-0100.

We invite you to join us for a fine selection of tastings from Chicagoland's premier chefs, perfectly paired with a splendid selection of wine. We also invite you to participate in our silent auction and sweepstakes, featuring items from our generous local and in-kind supporters. It's a perfect way to support an important cause while enjoying an evening of delicious food and wine.

To purchase tickets online please go to:

[http://www.regonline.com/Register/Checkin.aspx?](http://www.regonline.com/Register/Checkin.aspx?EventID=1191869)
[EventID=1191869](http://www.regonline.com/Register/Checkin.aspx?EventID=1191869)

Event Co-Chairs:

- Joal & Barbara Stone

Honorary Chair:

- Bruce Grieve

Wine Committee:

- George & Marietta Abraham
- Jim & Lesley Anixter
- David & Priscilla Baum
- Ted & Marlene Beck
- Daniel & Harriet Crane
- Edward & Sherry Fox
- Stuart & Ellen Goldin
- Jim & Judy Hoke
- Ronald & Caryl Kushner
- Michael & Judy Lavin
- Buzzy Lippman
- Jim & Barb Marland
- Keith & Denise Morton
- David & Karen Sager
- Brian & Carolyn Schroeder
- Bruce & Jan Shapiro
- Joel & Cheryl Siegel

- Larry & Miriam Silverman
- David & Yvette Stone
- Michael Stone
- Russell & Shelly Stone
- Herb & Karen Wander
- Robert & Gail Wertheimer

Foundation Fighting Blindness
7168 Columbia Gateway
Drive, Suite 100
Columbia, MD 21046
800-683-5555
www.FightBlindness.org

FOUNDATION
FIGHTING
BLINDNESS

FOUNDATION
FIGHTING
BLINDNESS

Join the Fight to
SAVE SIGHT

By the year 2020 it is estimated that 20 million Americans will lose vision because of macular degeneration, retinitis pigmentosa and other eye diseases. That's 1 in every 15 people just in the United States!

Blindness is one of the most urgent health issues of our time. And that is why I have sent you this invitation to become our newest member by making a monthly gift commitment of just \$12, \$10 or even \$7.

You may think a [monthly gift of \\$7](#) is not much. But your gift, combined with those of other supporters, makes it possible for us to continue investing, each and every month, in cutting-edge research that promises to improve the lives of so many individuals and families.

Your membership would mean the world to me and to the children featured on our 2013 Membership Card, Derrick and Meredith Day, ages 6 and 4. These beautiful children were born with severe vision loss caused by a retinal disease. But thanks to the research progress we've made possible, I'm now very confident telling Derrick and Meredith's parents that we will have a cure within their children's lifetime.

That's a pretty remarkable promise—but it's one I can keep if friends like you stand with us.

Right now, there are more human clinical trials underway than at any time in our history – and we're committed to being involved in no less than 30 trials by 2015.

So, are you in? Please [join the fight against blindness](#) with a monthly gift of \$7, \$10 or \$12 today. I promise you will be glad you did.



Sincerely,



William T.
Schmidt
CEO

P.S. Whether you [join as a monthly donor](#) or with a [single gift](#), please know that we will use your contribution to support new treatments for retinal degenerative diseases that could

©2011 Foundation Fighting Blindness
7168 Columbia Gateway Drive, Suite 100
Columbia, MD 21046



Davis Square Park

Programs for individuals with visual and physical disabilities

4430 S Marshfield, Chicago, IL 60609

Adaptive Recreation

2013 Spring Session

April 1, 2013-June 8, 2013



Daily Living Skills

Tuesday & Thursday, 11:30am-2:30pm

Ages 18+

\$10.00

Arts and Crafts

Tuesday, 2:30pm-4:30pm

Ages 18 and up

\$5.00

Teen Learn to Swim

Thursday, 4:00pm-5:00pm

13-17

Free

Bocce

Friday, 2:00pm-4:00pm

Ages 18 and Older

\$5.00

Music

Friday, 5:00pm-7:00pm

All Ages

\$5.00

Judo

Saturday, 9:30am-11:00am

All Ages

\$10.00

Track & Field

11:30am-4:00pm

All Ages

\$5.00



Registration
begins
March 4th



For registration and questions contact:

Christina Moy, Special Recreation Coordinator
312-747-6107

Christina.Moy@Chicagoparkdistrict.com

www.chicagoparkdistrict.com

312-742-PLAY 312-747-2001 (TTY)





The National Federation of the Blind of Illinois Presents Seminars for Parents and Teachers

“Dare to Make a Difference”

Friday, May 10, 2013

8:30 a.m. to 4:30 P.M. -- Holiday Inn Express and Suites Chicago O'Hare
CPDUs are Available

On Friday, May 10, 2013, the National Federation of the Blind of Illinois will hold its teachers' seminar at the Holiday Inn Express and Suites Chicago O'Hare 6600 Mannheim Rd Rosemont, IL 60018. The seminar will be a day-long event consisting of meetings for teachers of children with visual impairment or blindness. Topics will include encouraging others to foster independence, technology, and so much more.

If you would like to attend the seminar, please submit the registration form by May 1, 2013. For more information, please contact Patti Gregory-Chang at (773) 307-6440 or pattichang@att.net. Vision impairment can be reduced to a nuisance with proper training. Please come and work with teachers, students, and mentors with a positive outlook on blindness.

For more information on NFB go to www.nfb.org.

For more information on our Illinois Affiliate of NFB, go to www.nfbfillinois.org.

“Dare to Make a Difference”

Saturday May 11, 2013

8:30 a.m. to 4:30 P.M. -- Holiday Inn Express Hotel and Suites Chicago O'Hare

On Saturday, May 11, 2013, the National Federation of the Blind of Illinois will hold its annual parents' seminar at the Holiday Inn Express Hotel and Suites Chicago O'Hare, 6600 Mannheim Road, Rosemont, IL 60018. The seminar will be a day-long event consisting of meetings for teachers and parents of children with visual impairment or blindness. Topics will include socialization, education, assistive technology, development of requisite blindness skills, and much more.

Children age three to eleven are invited to participate in Kids Camp. This all-day program will provide children with the chance to try new activities and to meet other young people who are also visually impaired or blind.

Young people between the ages of twelve and eighteen may take part in The Teen Scene. This program is run by our Illinois Association of Blind Students for young people.

If you would like to attend the seminar, please submit the registration form by May 1. For more information, please contact Debbie Kent Stein at (773) 203-1394 or dkent5817@att.net. Vision impairment can be reduced to a nuisance with proper training.



**The Chicago Lighthouse Vision Rehabilitation Center
proudly presents**

**Jay Strechay, CareerConnect Program Manager
American Foundation for the Blind**

Middle School through college students are invited as well as parents, Teachers of the Visually Impaired, O&M Specialists, Transition Counselors, Division of Rehabilitation Services Counselors, young adults, any adult interested in employment, etc.



Reprinted with permission (c) Overbrook School for the Blind

**Wednesday, April 17, 2013
5:00pm-8:00pm
222 Waukegan Road
Glenview, Illinois 60025**

Workshop is intended to prepare participants to enter the workforce and will cover such topics as interests, strengths, weaknesses, skills, communication, action planning, exploring careers, disability statements, disclosures, mentors, interviews and more.

Light refreshments will be served.

**Please RSVP at your earliest convenience:
Pam Stern, Manager of Youth/Adult Enrichment Programs
847-510-2054 or pam.stern@chicagolighthouse.org**



The Chicago Lighthouse Vision Rehabilitation Center proudly presents

Cooking Classes with Chef Laura Martinez



Tuesdays, April 23 – May 28, 5:00pm-7:00pm
222 Waukegan Road
Glenview, IL 60025

Ages: 14 and up. Fee: \$20/session, 6 sessions total.

Charlie Trotter (L) and Laura Martinez (R)

Learn to cook: Chinese fried rice, pizza, brioche, cous-cous, Grandma's recipes, and student requests.

Explore: kitchen safety, food preparation skills, seasonal fruits and vegetables and healthy menu planning.

Laura Martinez is a graduate of the prestigious Le Cordon Bleu culinary program at the Cooking and Hospitality Institute of Chicago. She is totally blind, and excels in knife skills and in her use of herbs and spices, through her senses of touch and smell. Her finished product is as accomplished as any young chef. Laura also has the distinguished honor of being a chef at one of Chicago's highest rated restaurants, Charlie Trotters.

To register contact:
Pam Stern, Manager of Youth/Adult Enrichment Programs
847.510.2054
pam.stern@chicagolighthouse.org



COOKING WITH LAURA MARTINEZ REGISTRATION FORM

Name: _____

D.O.B.: _____ Grade _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: ____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Parent's Email _____

Child's/Young Adult's Email _____

Cost: \$120 for 6 classes; \$20/session Circle Credit Card:

Visa

Mastercard

Discover

Card Number: _____

Expiration Date: _____ Security Code: _____

Name on Credit Card: _____

Billing address if different from above:

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____

Zip: _____ Phone: _____

Return registration form to:

Pam Stern

Manager of Youth/Senior Programs

222 Waukegan Road

Glenview, IL 60025

Tel. (847) 510-2054

Fax (847) 729-2207

pam.stern@chicagolighthouse.org



CHEF LAURA MARTINEZ

I was born in Mexico twenty-six years ago as the youngest of three brothers and two sisters, the only one that couldn't see. At the age of one I was diagnosed with cancer in both of my eyes, because of all the heavy treatment: I lost my right eye and all my sight in the left one. However, being blind didn't stop me from being a normal child that climbed trees, rode a bike, and ran around chasing other kids. I did, and still do, consider myself a curious girl; always eager to learn and discover my surroundings. I remember that I loved to play with knives, and big iron sticks: before, I realized that I was blind: It was my dream to be a famous surgeon.

Growing up wasn't always easy or fun for a blind girl with lots of powerful dreams. In my life I have met both insensitive and very pessimistic people who tried to destroy my self-esteem along with my dreams. I didn't listen to them, instead I stood strong. Sure of what I wanted I fought against every obstacle I encountered. I always ignored the ridiculous words: "you'll never make it, because you are a retarded blind girl," by telling myself of course I can achieve my dreams someday if I just try hard enough! Wanting to be a surgeon wasn't the only dream that I had though. I also dreamed to become a famous chef: not because I am blind in a sighted profession, but because of my talent for cooking. My mother always cooked food from scratch every day for my whole family, so I tried to learn as much as possible. As soon as I moved out I put everything I learned from my mother, Josefina, into practice.

Before I moved to Chicago almost three years ago, I researched and found the cooking school that sparked my intention to go forward with my dream. Yes, once again I had to face more obstacles, and also ignorant people. But not everything was a nightmare. I really had wonderful chefs that taught me great cooking lessons. Now, I can say that I have all the school's staff on my side, supporting me.

Now, that I had the experience working with Chef Charlie Trotter, I learned so much, that makes me keep wanting to keep achieving bigger dreams. Along with my dream, I also enjoyed teaching my cooking class: is so fun and enjoyable, because my students are my passion! I learned so much from them, that makes me keep loving them. I'm also ready to move forward with my next dream, to open my own restaurant!!

PATHWAYS TO THE FUTURE

A Journey from Elementary School to Employment for Individuals
with Visual Impairments

Friday, May 10, 2013
8 a.m. – 2 p.m.

DATE/TIME:

May 10, 2013
8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

WHERE:

Harper College
Bldg. A, Rm. A-238
1200 W. Algonquin Road
Palatine, Illinois

COST: NO FEE

Continental breakfast and pizza lunch provided



Harper College

Building A is located off the Algonquin Road entrance to Harper. Follow the drive up to either handicapped parking in front of Building A (or Building M), or general parking in Lots 1 or 2.

Conference Details

8:30 am- Keynote Speaker: Patti Gregory-Chang

A Busy Life; a City of Chicago Lawyer, Mother, Wife and NFB President

9:05 am- Session 1: SPEAKERS: Laura Martinez and Julie Brandt

Cooking; It Really CAN BE FUN!

10:05 am- Session 2: SPEAKER: PACE Bus representative

Check out the PACE bus, see how it works!

12:00 pm— Announcements & Lunch

1:00 pm - Session 4: SPEAKER: Jenna Sticken & Justin Haegele

Get Up Off Your Feet; Adaptive Sports and Sports Camp



Registration Information

(Please register by: Friday, May 3, 2013)

Please specify the following:

Contact: Laura Huyser: laurahuyser@sd54.org

▶ Student (grade level), parent, teacher, other

(847) 357-5055

▶ Format preference: Large print, braille

Fax (847) 357-5007

▶ E-mail address

▶ Mailing address

Handouts for conference just prior to conference day:

▶ Phone number

<http://sd54.org/pathways/>

▶ Need for CPDU's or CEU's



Please contact us regarding disability services.



The Chicago Lighthouse North will provide transportation for the PATHWAYS TO THE FUTURE...a Journey from Elementary School to Employment for Individuals with Visual Impairments, on May 10, at 7:20am, returning 2:30pm.

The Chicago Lighthouse

Lighthouse Away Southwest Expedition

July 22nd - 30th, 2013

The expedition is intended for both sighted and blind/low vision students between the ages of 15 and 19 years old

Program Highlights



Warm yourself by a campfire as you visualize ancient tales recounted by a Navajo storyteller and flute player under the endless stars of Canyon de Chelly.



Enjoy a true escape as you raft the San Juan River, embrace the mystical powers of the desert and conduct important research on the impact of sound on the environment.



Explore hidden and mysterious cliff dwellings and learn how their original inhabitants faced conservation issues similar to those we face today.



Take your new leadership skills to the next level at the No Barriers Summit, and meet with other youth to truly explore what it means to have a No Barriers mindset.



Program Description

The stunning scenery of the Southwestern U.S. never fails to awe and inspire those who take the time to discover its riches. This region, known as the Four Corners, showcases dramatic geologic formations and sits at a crossroads of American Indian, Spanish and American cultures. As a testament to the unique combination of natural and cultural history in the region, the Colorado Plateau boasts the country's highest concentration of National Parks and Monuments. Raft the San Juan River, explore spectacular National Monuments, and visit the Navajo Nation, the largest American Indian reservation in the country. There's no better place to contemplate your place in the universe than under the desert sky's magnificent canvas of stars.

Pre-Travel Curriculum



Desert ecology, soundscape research and Southwest conservation issues



Navajo culture and Spanish, American Indian and U.S. history



Leadership skills, service learning and responsible travel knowledge

For more information on camp,
Contact Pam Stern, Manager of Youth and Adult Enrichment Programs,
At 847-510-2054 or pam.stern@chicagolighthouse.org

Program Itinerary

This is a sample standard 9-day program. This program provides an intense wilderness experience - travelers should be in good physical health and comfortable “living” in the outdoors.

Day 1:

Travel Day

Today we drive from Telluride to Durango, Colorado. Here, we spend the night at a modest motel.

Day 2:

Canyon de Chelly & Navajo Culture

Today we travel to the Navajo Nation, specifically Chinle, Arizona – the gateway city to Canyon de Chelly National Monument. We get our first taste of Navajo culture and watch the sun set from an overlook on the rim of spectacular Canyon de Chelly. Tonight we camp at a campground on the rim.

Day 3:

Hiking & Storytelling

Before we hike down into the dramatic red rock walls of Canyon de Chelly, a Navajo Park Ranger introduces us to the challenges of protecting an area that's been inhabited by humans for over 5,000 years. Once in the canyon, our resting spot is Antelope House Ruin, where we camp under a massive alcove on a Navajo family's property. Tonight we are captivated by fireside Navajo storytelling and music as we gaze at the stars above.

Day 4:

Hiking & Service

Today we engage in a service project that will help the family whose property we're staying on. We may help clear the area of invasive species or assist Canyon elders with a special project such as building fences or benches. We hike out of the canyon in the late afternoon and then drive a few hours to the San Juan River. Tonight we meet up with our river guides from Grand Canyon Youth and camp near the river at a campground called Sand Island.

Days 5-7:

Raft the San Juan River

We begin our voyage down one of the most spectacular rivers in America, the San Juan. We spend the next four days floating 27 miles from Sand Island, Utah to Mexican Hat, Utah.

Although we use rafts to make our way down the river, we actually spend quite a bit of time on land hiking to ancient ruins, playing games around camp and exploring the amazing geological features of the region. This is a calm section of the river and the largest rapids we encounter are Class II. During our time on the river, we camp on sandy beaches every night and help with each meal preparation.

Day 8:

Transition Day

Today we spend our last morning on the river and then help our guides unload all the boats and pack up gear. From the “take-out” in Mexican Hat we either drive to Gallup, New Mexico or Moab, Utah. Here, we enjoy a much-deserved shower at our motel and reflect on our awesome adventure.

Day 9:

Travel Day

Depending on whether we're driving or flying, we may have time to visit another National Park nearby before heading home.



To learn more, visit http://globalexplorers.org/news/chicago_lighthouse_canyon_skies_program_2013



**Please make plans to join
The Chicago Lighthouse Vision Rehabilitation Center
for our second year of summer camp.**

**A different theme will be featured
every Friday from 9:00am-4:00pm,
June 14 to July 19, 2013, for ages 6-21.**

Program Highlights

Campers will participate in a variety of multisensory activities ranging from therapeutic horseback riding, swimming, kayaking, tandem cycling, cooking (and of course, eating), Beep Baseball, and field trips. To add to the excitement, each day will revolve around a theme, and in the past have included costumes, the “un-birthday” celebration, talent show, and Olympics Day.



**Campers will develop friendships, learn new skills, and above all, HAVE FUN!
To learn more about the summer day camp program,
please contact Pam Stern at
847-510-2054 or pam.stern@chicagolighthouse.org.**

**We are conveniently located at
222 Waukegan Road in Glenview, Illinois**



CAMP LIGHTHOUSE REGISTRATION FORM

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Fridays, 9:00am – 4:00pm, June 14 - July 19, 2013 (6 sessions)
Fee \$360; prorating is available for those who miss a week.

Circle Credit Card:

Visa

Mastercard

Discover

Card Number: _____

Expiration Date: _____ Security Code: _____

Name on Credit Card: _____

Billing address if different from above:

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____

Zip: _____ Phone: _____

Return registration form to:

Pam Stern, Manager of Youth/Adult Enrichment Programs
222 Waukegan Road Glenview, IL 60025
pam.stern@chicagolighthouse.org
Tel. (847) 510-2054, Fax (847)-729-2207





The Foundation Fighting Blindness'

**8th Annual Chicagoland VisionWalk
Kick-Off Luncheon**

We hope you can join us for this free event to kick off our 8th Annual VisionWalk.

Who: All team captains, individual walkers, their friends, family members and colleagues. We also welcome anyone who has not participated previously and wants to learn more about the event.

What: A free luncheon to kick off the Chicagoland VisionWalk. Learn how you can support the important work of the Foundation Fighting Blindness. VisionWalk will take place Sunday, June 9, 2013, at Busse Woods in Elk Grove Village, Illinois.

When: The luncheon will take place Saturday, April 13, 2013, from 1 to 3 p.m.

Where: Maggiano's Restaurant, 1901 E. Woodfield Road, Schaumburg, Illinois

Why: More than 10 million Americans are affected by blinding retinal diseases, such as macular degeneration, retinitis pigmentosa and Usher Syndrome. The Foundation Fighting Blindness is working to find treatments and cures for these devastating diseases. It funds cutting-edge research in areas such as genetics, gene therapy, transplantation, artificial retinal implants and pharmaceutical and nutritional therapies.

Contact: RSVP by Friday, April 5, 2013, to Michele DiVincenzo at 847-680-0100 or mdivincenzo@fightblindness.org. For more information on VisionWalk, go to www.visionwalk.org.
Join Us at the Walk!

**8th Annual Chicagoland VisionWalk
Sunday, June 9, 2013
Busse Woods, Grove #5**

**FOUNDATION
FIGHTING
BLINDNESS**

Foundation Fighting Blindness
7168 Columbia Gateway Drive, Suite 100
Columbia, MD 21046
800-683-5555
www.FightBlindness.org

FRCD



Family Resource Center on Disabilities
Providing parents of children with disabilities with information, training, assistance, and support.

REGISTER FOR YOUR FREE PARENT WORKSHOP TODAY!

Space is limited; registration is mandatory Please visit www.frcd.org or call 312-939-3513 for registration and workshop location.

“My Child is Special - Lo Que Es Especial de Mi Jijo(a)”

Monday April 1, 10am

“My Child is Special - Lo Que Es Especial de Mi Jijo(a)”

Monday, April 8, 10am

Los padres especialistas en apoyo del Plan de Educación Individualizado (IEP), proven ayuda individual a otros padres ayuda individual a otros

Wednesday, April 10, 9:30am

Come join us for “ADORE”

Saturday, April 13, 9am

“My Child is Special - Lo Que Es Especial de Mi Jijo(a)”

Monday, April 15, 10am

“My Child is Special - Lo Que Es Especial de Mi Jijo(a)”

Monday, April 29, 10am

Phone Workshops

None Scheduled

You are invited to contact FRCD for information, resources, support and training.

1-312-939-3513 • info@frcd.org • www.frcd.org
20 East Jackson Blvd., Room 300, Chicago, IL 60604



“ADORE”



A Day of Recognition Event for parents, families and caregivers of children with special needs. We will honor the hard work, dedication, support and love that special families provide to help their children succeed.

Entertainment, Kid's Activities, Workshops, And MORE!!!

Date: April 13, 2013 **Time:** 9:00am—2:00pm
Location: Hope Institute Learning Academy
1628 W. Washington Blvd. Chicago, IL. For more information email:
adoreplan2013@gmail.com

7th Annual College Summit for High School Students with Disabilities

The Mayor's Office for People with Disabilities' Employment Services Unit will be hosting its annual College Summit for students with disabilities. At this event we hope to expose students with disabilities to the myriad of options at their disposal when it is their turn to decide the next steps in their efforts to reach their desired goals.



Date: Saturday, April 20, 2013

Time: Registration: 8:30 am Program: 9:00 am
– 1:30 pm

Location: 2102 W. Ogden, Chicago, IL

For more information:

Phone: 312-746-5743

TTY: 312-746-5713

Fax: 312-746-5749

APH NEWS

[APH TEXTBOOKS: Did You Know?](#)

Did you know that textbooks from APH are available in a variety of formats?



Braille Textbooks are available in the following formats:

- Hard copy braille
- Downloadable braille-ready files (.BRF) from the APH File Repository that are ready to be embossed at your location

Large Print Textbooks are available in even more formats:

- Hard copy large print
- Downloadable digital files to be used on computers, iPads, Book Port Plus and other digital players
- Downloadable digital files with image descriptions

Check out all the options by visiting the [Accessible Textbook Department](#) or calling 1-800-223-1839. Order your textbooks now for timely delivery for the upcoming school year!

[Have You Heard of APH's Soft Snap Puzzles?](#)

Soft Snap Puzzles are designed to enhance the TADPOLE program, but they're great with any assessment or play-coaching for young children—especially those with multiple disabilities.

Each puzzle shows an image of a common ob-



**The Chicago Lighthouse
Vision Rehabilitation Center
proudly offers**

**Young
Professionals**



**monthly
at
222 Waukegan Road
Glenview, Illinois 60025**

**For more information contact:
Pam Stern, Manager of Youth/Senior Pro-
grams
847.510.2054
pam.stern@chicagolighthouse.org**

ject taken from Tasha Tadpole's Puzzle Book, affixed to a firm, yet spongy foam. Many children who are tactually defensive will be able to use the smooth Soft Snap Puzzles. Each puzzle is made of six, large foam pieces housed within a spongy frame. Each is simple, colorful, and easy to see.

Soft Snap Puzzles can help teach:

- parts of a whole
- visual closure
- shape discrimination
- eye hand coordination
- figure ground discrimination
- Scanning
- object identification
- crossing midline plane



Using Soft Snap Puzzles will:

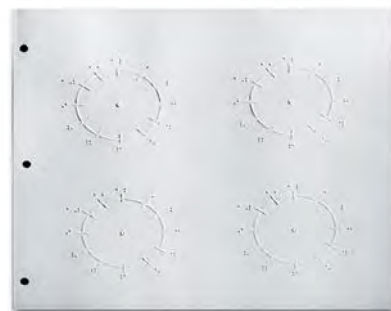
1. Add new interest to the ToAD or TADPOLE kits.
2. Introduce a new and engaging activity to students' routines.
3. Provide a new tool to build visual and perceptual skills.
4. Provide pleasing, smooth texture for students who are tactually defensive.
5. Offer new opportunities for co-operative play among students.
6. Save teachers time spent to develop a new toy or testing tool.
7. Be fun, fun, fun!

The "Established" APH Product Series

The Analog Clock Model helps teach about time-telling concepts. It has braille and raised large print markings and hands that are easily rotated. This clock has no motor. Teachers and students can easily rotate the hands of the clock which are synchronized like those of an actual clock.



To help reinforce concepts of time, you can also use the Clock Face Sheets in Braille. Each sheet contains four embossed braille clock faces. Hands can be added to these blank clock faces using a variety of methods. The worksheets can be used for both instruction and assessment purposes.



Kristie Smith-Armand has written an article entitled Time Passages for Children Who are Blind that provides some teaching suggestions using these, and other, materials. This article is featured in the Fred's Head blog, an APH resource that contains many tips, techniques, tutorials, in-depth articles, and resources such as this that are written for and by blind or visually impaired people. We encourage you to explore the blog for more useful information.

If you have any suggestions for other products you would like to see highlighted in this monthly feature, please send your comments to Monica Turner at mmturner@aph.org.

Coming This Fall: The World's First Fully-Accessible Handheld Graphing Calculator!

Coming for the fall 2013 school year: A specially adapted version of the Texas Instruments TI-84 Plus calculator will transform STEM education for students who are blind and visually impaired!\

Orbit Research and APH have announced the introduction of the Orion TI-84 Plus, the world's first fully accessible handheld graphing calculator. Based on the popular TI-84 Plus model from Texas Instruments, the Orion TI-84 Plus represents a breakthrough in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) education for students who are blind and visually impaired.



Building on APH's experience in the development of educational products and Orbit Research's expertise in adapting mainstream calculators for accessibility, and its long-term partnership with Texas Instruments, the companies collaborated to develop this unique product.

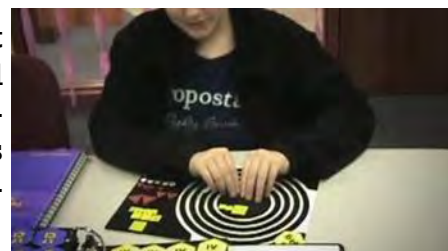
We're also happy to announce that the Orion TI-84 Plus will be available for purchase with Federal Quota funds and will ship in time for the 2013-2014 school year!

NEW! Large Print Textbooks for Your eReader!

The Accessible Textbooks Department of APH now offers hundreds of large print textbooks for digital download! Almost 400 textbooks created using APH's exclusive accessibility process are available for purchase through the File Repository of the Louis Database. Books are in PDF format and may be read on Kindle®, iPad®, laptop, or many other digital readers. These accessible PDF files may also be read using synthetic speech on devices that do not have a screen, such as APH's Book Port Plus™. Find out more at the Accessible Textbooks Department website!

Learn About Many Products Via Our Website

On the APH Product Information page we offer three different ways to learn about selected APH products: videos, webcasts, and PowerPoints. Find out how APH products can help you, your students, or your clients with multimedia presentations on such items as Book Port DT, Braille Plus 18, Azer's Periodic Table, MathBuilders, and many more!



Oldies but Goodies: The “Established” APH Product Series

The HANDS ON Kit: Functional Activities for Visually Impaired Preschoolers helps children develop skills such as concentration, hand and visual coordination, ability to complete a cycle of activity, and socialization skills. The kit also helps develop a sense of order and a positive self-image.

This product includes six specially designed plastic trays; a work tray, a two-section tray, a bowl tray, a sorting tray, a stringing tray, and a multi-section tray with flashlight insert.



The philosophy in the included HANDS ON guidebook incorporates many Montessori principles. The activities in the handbook encourage blind and visually impaired preschoolers to function independently, but do not require the student to perform in isolation. Many of the activities lend themselves to small group or side-by-side play. The work is presented sequentially, beginning with simple tasks such as pouring beans to more complicated tasks such as preparing snacks. The tasks outlined in the HANDS ON guidebook use the included trays and commonly available materials and can be performed in the classroom or at home.

The guidebook is available as a free-of-charge PDF file download, which you may print as needed. Visit our downloadable manuals page at <http://www.aph.org/manuals/index.html>.

If you have any suggestions for other products you would like to see highlighted in this monthly feature, please send your comments to Monica Turner at mmturner@aph.org.

APH Introduces DAISY Online in USA for Book Port DT!

APH is excited to announce the first U.S. implementation of DAISY Online! This amazing service utilizes the features of the new Book Port DT to provide users the ability to find, download and play DAISY content without the need for a computer! DAISY, or Digital Accessible Information System, is an international standard for the Digital Talking Book (DTB).

The debut of DAISY Online brings *Newsweek* and *Readers Digest*—which APH has provided in braille and audio formats free of charge for many decades—to the Book Port DT!



In addition, DAISY Online makes available, to those Book Port DT users who are registered with Bookshare, access to Bookshare's collections of accessible books, newspapers, and more. Bookshare currently provides access to more than 175,600 titles.

We are also pleased to share that the Migel Library has now made over 1,000 books from its research collection available free of charge in DAISY format. The Migel is one of the largest histori-

cal collections of non-medical books and magazines related to blindness in the world. Those titles, which already are available on the web through the Migel website, will be made available via Book Port DT soon.

To see how to use the Book Port DT with these services, see http://tech.aph.org/bpdt_online.htm

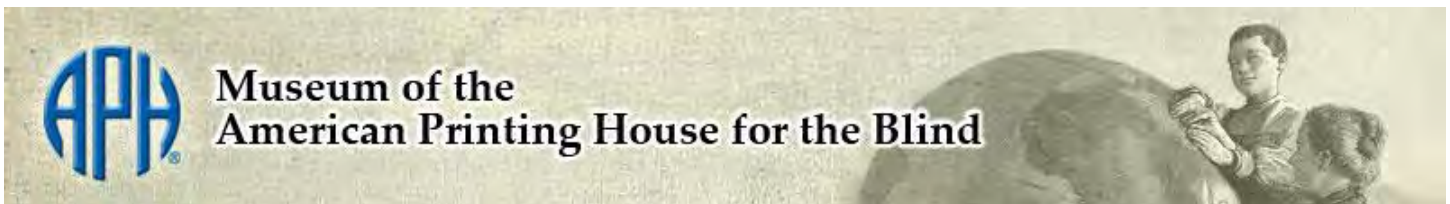
For more information on the Book Port DT, visit APH at <http://shop.aph.org>

For more information on *Newsweek* and *Readers Digest*, visit APH at <http://www.aph.org/products/magsubsc.htm>

For more information on DAISY, visit the DAISY Consortium at <http://www.daisy.org/>

For more information on Bookshare, visit Bookshare at <http://www.bookshare.org/>

For more information on the Migel, visit APH at <http://migel.aph.org>



Plan Your Visit/Education — The Drop-In Tour

The American Printing House for the Blind offers free guided tours of its facility. Visitors will see the production of braille publications, the recording of talking books, and a demonstration of special educational aids for visually impaired students.

The tours take place at 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. Monday - Thursday, except holidays. Tour length is approximately one hour. Please make advance reservations for groups of ten or more. Donations are gratefully accepted.

The tours can be customized for each group. Please let your tour guide know of any special interests.

Visitors may also tour the Museum of the American Printing House for the Blind. Hours are from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday - Friday and from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. on Saturday. The Museum is closed on major holidays and on Derby Day (the first Saturday in May).

IPVI

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**THIS PUBLICATION IS SUPPORTED
(IN PART) BY THE NATIONAL
ASSOCIATION FOR
PARENTS OF CHILDREN WITH
VISUAL IMPAIRMENTS (NAPVI)
HILTON/PERKINS
PROGRAM AND (IN PART) FROM A
GRANT FROM THE FAMILY RE-
SOURCE CENTER ON DISABILITIES**



Join **IPVI** or renew your membership today!

The Illinois Association for Parents of Children with Visual Impairments is a state-wide, non-profit organization that enables parents to find information and resources for their children who are blind or visually impaired, including those with additional disabilities.

Your IPVI membership dues or generous contributions help to support all of our ongoing efforts:

- Regular communications which include: workshops, conferences, training seminars, legislative issues, organizational announcements, products, and advice about raising a child who is visually impaired.
- Offers several \$500 college scholarships each year.
- Publishes a resource catalog which includes anything and everything to do with visual impairment.
- Conducts training and support sessions where parents share experiences and ideas.
- Holds fun outings adapted for children with visual impairments at athletic, cultural, educational, and entertainment settings.
- Represents parents of children with visual impairments at conferences, public hearings, and on committees.

What does IPVI do?

- Promotes and provides information through meetings, correspondence, publications, etc., which will help parents meet the special needs of their children with visual impairments.
- Facilitates the sharing of experiences and concerns in order to provide emotional support and relief from feelings of isolation for parents and their families.
- Creates a climate of opportunity for children who are blind in the home, school, and society.
- Fosters communication and coordination of services among federal, state, and local agencies and organizations involved with providing services to people who are visually impaired.
- Advocates on a statewide level for services to children who are visually impaired and their families.
- Keeps members informed about current proposals and actions which impact on children with visual impairments and their families.

Check one:

☐ Parent/Guardian Membership: \$15 per year.

Child(ren)'s Names: _____

Birthdate(s) of my visually impaired child(ren): _____

My child(ren)'s eye condition: _____

☐ I give my permission to release my name to other parents.

☐ Group/Agency Membership \$50 per year.

☐ Extended Family/Friend Assoc. Membership \$15/year.

☐ Medical Specialist \$50 per year.

☐ Scholarship Fund \$10.00

☐ Donation: \$_____ (tax deductible)

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Name: _____

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**Have questions or need
more information?**

**Call us at
1-877-411-IPVI (4784)**

**Illinois Association for Parents of
Children with Visual Impairments**
P. O. Box 2947
Naperville, IL 60567-2947

**FREE MATTER FOR THE BLIND
or PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED**

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

**THE TOP LINE... of your address
label indicates whether your dues
are "Paid" or if they are "Due."
Please send your annual dues in
each year.**

IPVI CALENDAR

▶ April 9	TCL & IPVI "Infant Massage" Parent Meeting	Chicago
▶ April 13	FFB Vision Walk Luncheon	Schaumburg
▶ 4/16-6/6	TCL Preschooler Enrichment Program	Chicago
▶ April 17	Lighthouse North presents: Entering the Workforce	Glenview
▶ 4/23-5/28	Lighthouse North Cooking with Chef Laura Martinez	Glenview
▶ April 28	Fundraiser - Helen Keller Walk	Oak Lawn
▶ May 10 & 11	NFB "Dare to Make a Difference" Seminar	Chicago
▶ May 16	TCL "Seeing What's Possible Dinner"	Chicago
▶ June 5-8	ISVI Parent Infant Institute	Jacksonville
▶ 6/14-7/19	Chicago Lighthouse North Day Camp	Glenview
▶ June 13	FFB 12th Annual Artistry of Wine	Northbrook
▶ July 22-30	Lighthouse Away Southwest Expedition	Southwestern USA

Please call
1-877-411-IPVI
for any questions, concerns,
or comments that IPVI can
help you with.

**Newsletter Deadline for
MAY is APRIL 10th**



**Check Out
www.ipvi.org**

Calendar of Events!
News and Updates!
Useful Links to Web Sites!
And more...