



Illuminations

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January 2011

Southern Dames Support Summer Camp

**By Mary Allen
Director of Vision Services**

The Society of the Palm Beaches, Southern Dames of America, has been extremely supportive of the Lighthouse for many years. Most recently, they have donated money to help support the Summer Camp and also have provided funding to "Stock the Pantry." (More on the Camp - page 2).

The "Stock the Pantry" funds were requested to purchase basic supplies for cooking lessons.

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Pictured above are the Southern Dames with Rachael Trinkowsky and Mary Allen

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Lighthouse instructors provide instruction to blind and visually impaired individuals in how to properly and safely cook and prepare meals. Items needed to initially stock the pantry included; staples, grains, spices, canned goods, dry goods...In addition to the pantry items, petty cash was allocated for perishable items (produce, dairy, meats...) The Southern Dames have donated three years consecutively to replenish items for the pantry. We are most grateful for their generosity and continued support over the years.

Summer Camp



During the Summer of 2009, the Lighthouse held a very successful Summer Camp. We were able to offer the camp since we received partial funding through the Division of Blind Services. However, due to

budget cuts and loss of this funding, we are seeking other sources, so that we could again provide this program in 2011. Eligible participants include students with visual impairments in grades Kindergarten through 12th grade in our 5-county area. Several sessions will be offered daily by experienced, qualified Lighthouse staff and/or guest speakers, introducing topics, such as; Assistive Technology, Keyboarding and Touch Typing Skills, Career Exploration, Orientation and Mobility, Braille/Reading, Home Management, Communication Skills, Low Vision and much more. Field trips will be scheduled and may include locations, such as the Norton Museum, Ft. Lauderdale Museum of Discovery and Science, Bowling...





Diane Salina, Amanda Cary and Genie Salzverg

Rehab 101

Do you have independent living skills questions? Our Vision Rehabilitation Therapists; Diane, Genie and Amanda are ready to provide answers. We encourage readers to submit questions by email, phone or mail. We will respond to your questions in our newsletter. We will provide advice to you about adaptations, aids and appliances, technology, as well as creative and innovative solutions for daily living. Please send questions to: Rehab101@lighthousepalmbeaches.org

Topic: Reading Newspapers and Magazines

Dear Lighthouse:

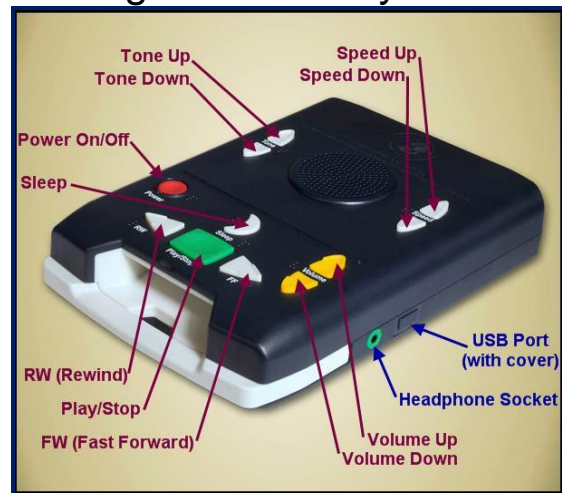
I miss reading the newspaper everyday, but the print is too small. Do you have any suggestions?

Luv2Read



Dear Luv2Read:

We agree that reading the newspaper is an important source of information for current events, local news, sports, financial reports, etc. Magazines provide more in-depth articles that can enrich your knowledge and focus on your specific interests. For access to free newspapers and magazines try out the NFB Newsline 866-504-7300 and the Radio Reading Service - **WLRN** 800-273-6677 (Southern Palm Beach County and South Florida) or **WQCS** 888-286-8936 (Martin and northern counties). Many magazine subscriptions are available free through the Florida Talking Book Library 800-226-6075.



The Talking Book Library is now using new digital machines (pictured above). There are also many other adaptive reading devices, such as closed circuit televisions, scan and read devices and digital audio book players.

Calendar of Events

Lighthouse Gavel Club



December 2010 Gavel Club

Become a more-effective communicator and listener. Toastmasters International is dedicated to making better communication a worldwide reality. Come to learn about this exciting new club for blind and visually impaired adults. Meets on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays from 1:30 P.M. to 3:00 P.M. Please RSVP to Cathy-Alice Koyanagi via email at: Cakoyanagi@gmail.com or 321-424-0721.

Future Meeting Dates:
January 11 and 25, 2011
February 8 and 22, 2011
March 8 and 22, 2011
April 12 and 26, 2011

Therapeutic Arts and Crafts

Please RSVP to (561) 586-5600. Meets on the third Monday of the month from 10:00 a.m. to noon.

Future Meeting Dates:

January 17, February 21, March 21, April 18.

Focus Group 2011 Speakers

Focus Group provides socialization opportunities, educational speakers and other activities. Meetings are on the 1st Friday of every month from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Here is a list of guest speakers for upcoming meetings:

January 7 - Project Linus (Shirley Markhoff) Handmade blankets for hospitalized children

February 4 - Florida Senior Medicare Patrol (Sandra Colon Ferrer) Empowering seniors to prevent healthcare fraud

March 4 - Credibility (Joseph Moyel) Non profit credit counseling and education

April 1 - Innovative Vision Systems (Gene Rotella) Low vision devices



Focus Group members at the October meeting.

*** For information regarding other events, please contact the Lighthouse.

Ink and Cell Phone Recycling Fundraiser

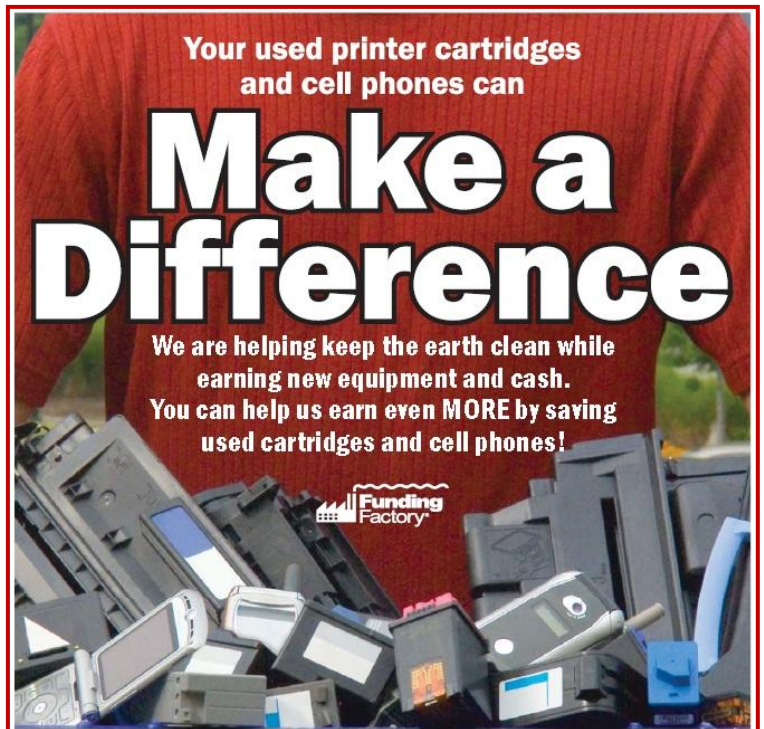
We are participating in an exciting program that will help us acquire FREE technology and/or money to support our programs and services! Through the FundingFactory Recycling Program we are recycling empty printer cartridges and used cell phones and earning funding for Lighthouse programs and services. The program is FREE and easy, but it won't work without your support.

By recycling items you would normally throw away, we are earning points that we can spend on new technology, as well as to earn cash. Not only will we earn points and cash through this program, we will be doing our part to help save the environment!

Let's make this recycling program a huge success by working together to collect as many empty cartridges and used cell phones as we can.

You can donate your cartridges and cell phones at the Lighthouse.

Thank you in advance for your support!

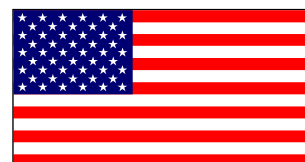


Blinded Veterans Association

The BVA meets on the 3rd Wednesday of each month from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the West Palm Beach Veterans Administration Hospital in Room 3-B-260.

10 a.m. to 11 a.m. Support Group
11 a.m. to 12 p.m. BVA Meeting

For information on the Blinded Veterans Association (BVA), please contact Bill at: mmimcd@att.net or 772-287-2105.



Please join us for West Palm Beach Vision Awareness Day

Sponsored by:

Freedom Scientific

When?

Friday, January 21, 2011

Time: 9 AM - 4 PM

Where?



Lighthouse for the Blind
of the Palm Beaches

Lighthouse for the Blind of the Palm Beaches
1710 Tiffany Drive East
West Palm Beach, FL 33407

Topics

Blindness Awareness

Learn about technology solutions for the blind: JAWS® screen reading software, the PAC Mate™ accessible Pocket

PC, braille displays, scanning and reading - and more!

Low Vision Awareness

Discover the benefits of video magnifiers, computer screen magnification software, technology that reads books, bills, and mail aloud - and more!

Three Easy Ways to Register

By Phone: 1-800-336-5658

By e-mail:

seminars@FreedomScientific.com

Online:

www.FreedomScientific.com/Seminars

**Early registration is encouraged!
Seating is limited.**



USED EQUIPMENT DONATION PROGRAM

In 2010, the Lighthouse for the Blind of the Palm Beaches was able to grant approximately \$16,000.00 worth of used devices through our technology grant program, in addition to a significant number of Closed Circuit Televisions (CCTVs). This program is available because of your generous equipment donations.

The Lighthouse will give used equipment, when available, to individuals who express a need for such items, but do not have the financial ability to pay for them.

Upon request for consideration of equipment, the Lighthouse may inquire about the individual's financial status to determine need for this service. The Lighthouse will then evaluate the individual's ability to operate the requested equipment.

Criteria for donated equipment:

1. We accept equipment and software, such as Closed Circuit Televisions (CCTVs) or other magnification devices, computers,

Braille devices and other equipment designed for use by people with visual impairments.

2. We can only accept equipment in working order.

3. Computers must have a minimum of 512 MB RAM, as well as a 1.5 GHz Processor (Pentium 4 equivalent or better).

4. Donations are tax deductible, but we cannot estimate the value. A donation letter will be provided if requested.



**Visit the Lighthouse for
the Blind of the Palm
Beaches Online!**

www.lighthousepalmbeaches.org

Facebook

[Lighthouse for the Blind of the
Palm Beaches](#)

Twitter

www.twitter.com/LighthousePB

The “**Florida a State of Vision**” license plate helps blind and visually impaired residents in our 5-county area. Lighthouse for the Blind of the Palm Beaches will receive \$25.00 for each tag purchased in Palm Beach, Martin, Indian River, St. Lucie and Okeechobee counties.



Contact the tax collectors office in your area to get your own STATE OF VISION license plate or ask about purchasing it as a gift.

GoodSearch



Lighthouse for the Blind of the Palm Beaches

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- Allen Preston**
- Maurice Jacobson**
- E. William Quinette, Ed.D.**

Illuminations is a publication from the Lighthouse for the Blind of the Palm Beaches and is edited by Mary Allen and Rachael Trinkowsky.

What if Lighthouse earned a penny every time you searched the Internet? Well, now we can! GoodSearch.com is a new search engine that donates half its revenue, about a penny per search, to the charities its users designate. You use it just as you would any search engine, and it's powered by Yahoo!, so you get great results. Just go to <http://www.goodsearch.com> and be sure to enter Lighthouse for the Blind - Palm Beaches as the charity you want to support. Just 500 of us searching four times a day will raise about \$7,300 in a year without anyone spending a dime! And, be sure to spread the word!