IPVI INSIGHTS

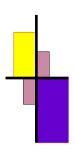
Connecting & Supporting Families Whose Children are Visually Impaired, Including Those with Additional Disabilities

April 2019



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Filiberto Almendarez III



Happy April IPVI families. I would like to share some history that you may or may not know. There was a man in Japan, who in 1965 wanted to help his friend who was losing his sight. Using his own money, he began to work on a way to alert the blind when approaching danger. He developed two designs. One had raised dots that alerted the blind when danger was near like a road crossing. The other had solid bars signaling guidance as a directional aid along a safe path. The different textures allowed a blind/visually impaired individual to feel their way with their shoes, a cane, or with the help of a guide dog. His hope was to help people travel safely through the streets. Another objective was to make sure they could board a train safely. This amazing person is Seiichi Miyake. His creation was unveiled on March 18, 1967. A bumpy pavement, tactile paving, originally known as Tenji blocks. Now, it's the 52nd anniversary of its unveiling on a street near the Okayama School for the Blind in Okayama City, Japan. His ingenious invention was then rolled out across Japan and made mandatory across its railway stations within a decade. The tactile paving is now a feature of cityscapes worldwide helping the blind navigate. The United States picked up the standard in the early 1990s. As for Chicago, the Tenji blocks are all over streets, sidewalks, subway and more. Thank You, Mr. Seiichi Miyake!

It's amazing to have unknown friends all over the world. Helping pave the way to boundless opportunities.

Take care and keep moving forward.



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Our 2019 Annual Meeting is scheduled for

SATURDAY, MAY 4, 2019 10:30AM - Noon

> The Salvation Army 8354 W Foster Norridge, IL 60766 708-456-6220

This will also be the time we will need to fill in our board with a vote of the membership that are present at the meeting. We will also present the fiscal report and offer ideas to what we can and should be doing to keep IPVI going strong. Ideas will require volunteers, so please search your heart to provide these gifts to our children.

Please think about attending as this is a very important meeting.

THANK YOU

Pay Dues

The IPVI Board, per changes to our Constitution and Bylaws, have changed our dues period from January 1st through December 31st. The dues are \$25.00. Please send them to

Illinois Association for Parents of Children with Visual Impairments P. O. Box 316634 Chicago, IL 60631

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Why It's OK to Ask Me About My Special Needs Child By Nicole Feeney

When you see my daughter, please ask questions! I believe it is my role to educate others about being deafblind and how this shapes (but doesn't define) my child. READ MORE at:

wonderbaby.org/articles/ask-me-aboutmy-special-needs-child



Why You Should Hire a Special Needs Parent By Amber Bobnar

Are you good at juggling multiple projects? Do you adapt well to change? You may be a special needs parent! READ MORE at:

wonderbaby.org/articles/why-you-shouldhire-special-needs-parents



Teamwork: The (Special) Needs Family *By John Bateman*

John Bateman writes about the importance of including all your kids in all activities. When you have a child with special needs it may seem appropriate to keep their activities and therapies separate from your typically developing children, but that's just not realistic. READ MORE at:

wonderbaby.org/articles/teamwork



Hopeful Acceptance: Finding the Right Balance as a Special Needs Parent By John Bateman

What are the words of encouragement you wan to hear? One dad shares his balanced approach, advising both hope and acceptance.

READ MORE at:

wonderbaby.org/articles/hopefulacceptance

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Family Resource Center on Disabilities

Parent Training and Information Center



Sharing on behalf of the Arc of Illinois-

Three legislative bills have moved out of committee and are on second reading: HB 3299, Sex Education for Individuals with I/DD, (Representative Will Davis), and HB 2987, Protection of Individuals with Disabilities in the Criminal Justice System Task Force Act, (Representative Rob Martwick). SB 111, Dental Sedation Bill is voted out of the Senate and moves to the House.

Although there are many bills that will move the next two weeks, this year, the Senate has created a Medicaid subcommittee/workgroup where all bills impacting healthcare. They will be costing out and holding onto many bills until closer to the end of session when the budget will be discussed. This includes SB2021, the Protect Our Care Coalition efforts around improving medicaid re-determination. In addition, there is Subcommittee on Special Issues set up to move all bills that are expected to have a significant fiscal impact. Many of these ordinarily would move to the Human Services Committee but are being redirected and a fiscal impact estimated before they move into this subcommittee. It is an effort to coordinate and think broadly about the bills that the Senate will move with budget impact. Senator Steans is leading this effort. Our bill SB2086, around non-Medicaid Certified Homes will potentially wind up in this subcommittee among other bills. In addition, right now SB2055, which deals with PUNs transparency, communication and update also is being held there.

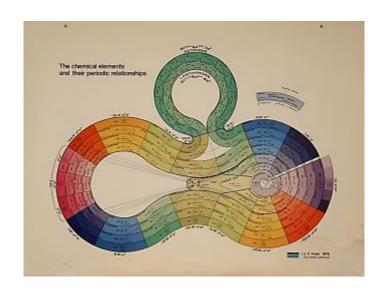
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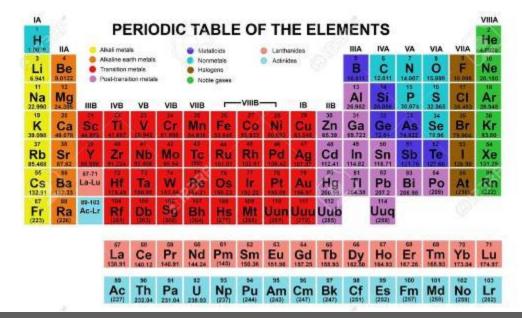


Did you know 2019 is the International Year of the Periodic Table?

A staple of STEM and featured in all chemistry and most biology textbooks, the periodic table was devised by the Russian chemist Dmitri Mendeleev in 1869. This rectangular chart presented the 63 elements known at the time in a way that organized them according to shared properties and predicted the existence of elements not yet discovered. In the 150 years since its creation, 55 elements have been added and all 118 elements now reside in their proper places on the chart. While Mendeleev's periodic table is the most wellknown presentation of the elements, in the years since its inception, other arrangements of the elements have been devised including spirals, helices, and zigzags.



An easier periodic table to read:



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IPVI

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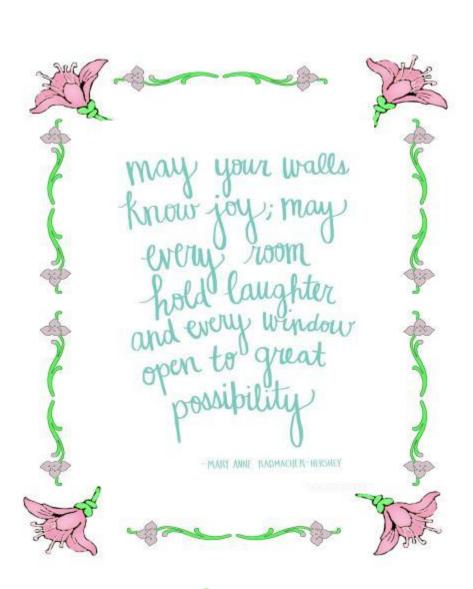
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Join IPVI or renew your membership today!

The Illinois Association for **P**arents of Children with **V**isual 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.

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)
☐ New Membership ☐ Renewal
Name:
Address:
City: State: Zip:
Phone: ()
Email:
Please enclose this form along with your payment by check to: IPVI • P.O.Box 316634 • Chicago, IL 60631

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.

Have questions or need more information? Call us at 1-773-882-1331 Illinois Association for Parents of Children with Visual Impairments P. O. Box 316634 Chicago, IL 60631

IPVI CALENDAR

ANNUAL MEETING SATURDAY, MAY 4, 2019 NORRIDGE

Please call
1-773-882-1331
for any questions, concerns,
or comments that IPVI can
help you with.

Newsletter Deadline for May 2019 is April 15, 2019



Check Out www.ipvi.org

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