

on Saturday, July 21, 2012. Please arrive at 9:30 am. The registration form is on page 3.

Registration closes on July 8, 2012!

**ATTENTION! ATTENTION!** Brookfield Zoo is BIG and the choices are many—arrive early and plan on spending the entire day. <u>Plan to arrive at 9:30 a.m.; the Zoo opens at 10 a.m.</u> Tons of activities are available throughout your day! Your IPVI T-Shirt will be your exclusive passport into all the action....parking (south lot), admission to Zoo, pizza lunch, the Great Bears' Wilderness, the Seven Seas Dolphin Show (with exclusive after show event), Hamill Family Play Zoo, Children's Petting Zoo, etc.

Our speaker at our luncheon at the Discovery Ballroom, will be Bill Jurek, who has been a consultant with The Chicago Lighthouse since March, 2005 and has been working with the Chicagoland Radio Information Service (CRIS) in various capacities, including show host. Most recently, Bill has begun hosting a weekly radio program, The Beacon, which covers topics related to individuals with disabilities as well as issues related to veterans and seniors.



Prior to joining The Lighthouse, Bill spent the last four decades being heard on Chicago radio and television stations. Since 1975, he has been a staff announcer with NBC and has been heard on Channel 5 as well as WMAQ radio during its country music heyday. Bill's other radio credits include WGN, WLS, and WIND. In the late 1980's, he held the fifth highest rating in Chicago for "morning drive" on FM 100. On WLIT radio, he served as community affairs director as well as show host.

In addition to his broadcast work, Bill was also the voice for such clients as Dads Root Beer, Darvin Furniture, Lazyboy Showcase Shops, Fedders Air Conditioners, Serta Bedding, and

The Baird and Warner Sunday Morning Home Show, which aired on Channel 7 for several years.

Since losing his vision in 1995, Bill has been a spokesman, advocate, and mentor for blind and visually impaired individuals, particularly those interested in the broadcast field. In addition to working with various organizations serving the blind and visually impaired community, Bill is a graduate field representative for Guiding Eyes For The Blind in Yorktown Heights, NY, one of the premier guide dog schools in the United States from which he has obtained his guide dog.

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Since 1997, Bill has been a guest lecturer for the Taxi and Limousine training program at Harold Washington College in Chicago, as well as Harper College in Palatine, IL and Columbia College Chicago. He has also worked with The Chicago Police Department to produce a training video for cadets and officers concerning the use of guide dogs.

Mr. Jurek has recently been appointed to a two-year term on an FCC (Federal Communications Commission) Video Programming and Emergency Access Advisory Committee (VPEAAC). This is an advisory committee to the FCC that is required by the Twentyfirst Century Communications and Video Accessibility Act of 2010.

**Become an IPVI member!** Dues paying members receive free admission and parking at our Members Only Events — Zoo Outing, Holiday Parties, Picnic, etc. — activities intended to provide social and literacy opportunities for children, parents, teachers, professionals and friends.

Paid membership includes newsletters and invitations to Parent Rights, Adaptive Technology, and Advocacy seminars.

If you'd like more information on how to attend the 2012 IPVI Zoo Outing, or how to become a member of the "IPVI Family Network", call Mary Zabelski at the Chicago Lighthouse for the Blind, 312-666-1331 x3675. The registration form is on page 5.

## PLEASE REGISTER BY JULY 8<sup>th</sup>, 2012

Mail Registration Form & your check payable to IPVI to:

Mary Zabelski The Chicago Lighthouse 1850 W. Roosevelt Road Chicago, IL 60608



GREAT BEAR WIIDERNESS

## IPVI's 2012 BROOKFIELD ZOO - MEMBERS ONLY OUTING Saturday July 21<sup>st</sup> Registration & Payment Form

Attendance is restricted to currently paid members of IPVI\*\* (check your address). All attendees must pre-register, purchase a 2012 Zoo T-Shirt and show current identification at the Zoo. Attendees may be required to sign Release of Liability & Use of Photographs Form.

Family Name:	IPVI Current Membership (y/n)
address:	city: zip code:
e-mail:	Home #: ( ) Cell # ( )
1) Name:	Age: T-Shirt: (infant), (small), (med), (large), (X-lg), (XX-lg), (XXX-lg)
2) Name:	Age: T-Shirt: (infant), (small), (med), (large), (X-lg), (XX-lg), (XXX-lg)
3) Name:	Age: T-Shirt: (infant), (small), (med), (large), (X-lg), (XX-lg), (XXX-lg)
4) Name:	Age: T-Shirt: (infant), (small), (med), (large), (X-lg), (XX-lg), (XXX-lg)
5) Name:	Age: T-Shirt: (infant), (small), (med), (large), (X-lg), (XX-lg), (XXX-lg)
6) Name:	Age: T-Shirt: (infant), (small), (med), (large), (X-lg), (XX-lg), (XXX-lg)
7) Name:	Age: T-Shirt: (infant), (small), (med), (large), (X-lg), (XX-lg), (XXX-lg)

The T-Shirt is required & assists Zoo personnel in providing accommodations. Our theme is *"Literacy through Experience at Brookfield Zoo".....ask questions, touch the special exhibits, analyze and enjoy the unique sounds, and textures of the Zoo!* 

Membership Dues (\$15.00/year)		
Total Number of Zoo Admission T-Shirts @ \$9/person		
Donation to IPVI for (IPVI scholarship) or (Zoo costs)		
TOTAL MONEY (included with this form) payable to l	PVI	

## **REGISTRATION CLOSES ON JULY 8<sup>th</sup>, 2012**

**\*\***IPVI is funded from member dues, activity/event participation fees, & private and public donations. IPVI benefits are available to anyone who needs and applies for membership, regardless of their ability to pay. IPVI is an all volunteer organization. We sincerely welcome your participation, support and ideas. We focus on supporting families challenged by visual impairments.



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 MBJSF, 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 MBJSF 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 MBJSF 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



Experience the invasion of **Xtreme BUGS**, presented by Dominick's, at Brookfield Zoo beginning Saturday, May 19, and continuing all summer long through September 7. The temporary exhibit of epic proportions will feature everything from Xtra-large animatronic bugs, including a 16-foot-high by 33-foot-long Japanese hornet displayed in the zoo's Roosevelt Fountain, to Xtra-small live insects as part of Harry's Big Adventure: My Bug World! presented by Terminix. The state-of-the art animatronics were created exclusively for Brookfield Zoo, which is where they will be seen for the first time ever!

"Bugs are a major influence in our history because of their extreme effect on the environment, economics, food, medicine, and pop culture," said Andre Copeland, interpretive programs manager for the Chicago Zoological Society. "This entertaining and educational experience will offer our guests an opportunity to imagine living with gigantic bugs while exploring some of the connections between humans and the small animals that carry the weight of the world on their shells."

Xtreme BUGS will take zoo-goers along a winding trail where they will be able to view more than 20 oversized animatronic bugs, from a fluttering monarch butterfly and ladybug to a praying mantis and a giant Madagascar hissing cockroach. Additionally, there will be nearly 130 larger -than-life stationary insects and flora, some grouped in themed action scenes, including bees pollinating, spiders hunting, ants feasting upon a scorpion, and cicadas hatching.

Along the trail, there will be interactive signs and graphics illustrating amazing facts about some of the smallest creatures. Also, junior entomologists can unearth a variety of replica bugs in JULIE, Inc.'s interactive dig box. Kids will also have fun exploring, crawling, climbing, and sliding down the 10-foot by 20-foot spider web climber. And, throughout the summer, guests can discover bugs' importance during Cultural Connections, featuring Zoo Chats, craft activities, and special entertainment.

Cultural Connections is sponsored by the Sara Lee Foundation.

In Harry's Big Adventure: My Bug World!, guests will have an opportunity to see live creepy-crawlies. The exhibit, located in a 5,000-square-foot tent along the Xtreme BUGS pathway, will immerse guests in the world of bugs, taking them on a journey through the habitats of some of the smallest—yet most important—critters. The interactive habitats feature several ecosystems, such as a cropland, forest, meadow, and swamp, as well as a home scene, to show how insects impact their surroundings, the environment, and human lives. Guests will be able to view live bugs such as water beetles, cockroaches, millipedes, crawfish, ants, emperor scorpions, and a praying mantis.

Young insect fans can pretend to be bug detectives and conduct their own pest inspection, take audio and visual trips into the world of bugs, and even take a photo with a 3D praying mantis named Harry through augmented reality technology.

Special programming will give guests more of a chance to see, touch, and even taste some fascinating bugs. There will be roach races featuring Madagascar giant hissing cockroaches; a bug petting zoo that offers guests up-close opportunities to touch such critters like a giant millipede, Chilean rose-haired tarantula, and vinegaroon; and a chef cooking up some tummy-tickling treats that feature bugs as the main ingredients. (Roach races and bug cooking demonstrations will take place on weekends only.)

As guests exit Xtreme BUGS, they will encounter a gigantic ant farm exhibit, presented by Wells Fargo. The approximately 5,000 harvester ants that live in the 8-footwide by 4-foot-high ant farm can be seen digging tunnels.

There is also an Xtreme BUGS call center. Those who have a bug-related myth, rumor, or questionable fact, can call (708) 688-8722, leave their question, and the bug gurus at Brookfield Zoo will expose the Xtreme truth of the matter. Guests can call back periodically to get a variety of debugged messages.

Xtreme BUGS is \$5 for adults and \$3 for children 3-11 and seniors over 65 (half price for Brookfield Zoo members) Children 2 and under are free.



## MS. VIC'S VOLLEYS Victoria Juskie, IPVI Treasurer

## <u>VOLLEY I</u>

Since our last publication, we welcome the following families, individuals, and/or organizations who became members:

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Nakasha Dukes, Chicago Leticia DeLaFuente, Aurora Socorro Cerda, Chicago

## **VOLLEY II**

Congratulations to the Chicago Lighthouse for People Who Are Blind or Visually Impaired and its new satellite location at 222 Waukegan Road, Glenview, IL 60025 Tel. 847-510-6200.

### **VOLLEY III**

As many of our loyal readers know, my son has an eye condition called Aniridia, which is the absence of the iris. This affliction makes him very light sensitive since his pupils do not dilate or, alternatively, contract with exposure to light. The eye remains fully open much like an over-exposed photo lens. It's very painful when in full sunlight and makes him squint We have tried numerous sunprofusely. glasses, which give him some comfort, but still not as good as he hopes for. He also has nystagmus which some call "dancing eyes," where his eyes move constantly and he has no muscle control over them. These two issues with foveal along hypoplasia (underdevelopment of the point of clearest vision) help cause him to be legally blind.

In our never-ending search for some sort of corrective device to help him feel more comfortable in sunlight, we have come across an-

## 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:

<u>pamstern3@gmail.com</u>

<u>JUNE QUESTION</u> Which of the following Expanded Core Curriculum components do you feel your child could use the most help with?

## **Expanded Core Curriculum Subjects and Skills Subjects and Skills**

The following are the subjects and skills that students who are visually impaired are taught to enable them to study the basic educational curriculum along with their sighted classmates:

- Compensatory academics—critical skills that students need to be successful in school, such as concept development, organizational skills, speaking and listening, and communication skills such as Braille or print reading and writing.
- Orientation and mobility—skills to orient children who are visually impaired to their surroundings and travel skills to enable them to move independently and safely in the environment, such as:

• human guide techniques (also known as sighted guide)

• using standard and adaptive

other assistive product I wanted to alert our readership to: Painted contact lenses. Matthew has been experimenting with a pair of these for the past month. They have no power to them as yet because so far it has been determined that the hypoplasia prohibits corrective lens assistance. They are just special contact lenses with hand-painted irises. This painted iris contact lens has been a marvelous tool so far. Matt reports that his comfort level in bright light is markedly improved both indoors and out. He has even gone out in sunlight and feels much less squinting. Additionally, when he has them on, because the lens is painted, he must focus his vision through the small opening and it has cut down somewhat on his nystagmus. He's also excited about the cosmetic value in that he now has visible brown eyes. He also reports less eyestrain at the end of a long day of reading.

I feel these types of lenses might help anyone with photophobic problems such as albinism or colomboma to name a few as well. Ask your ophthalmologist for more information. I must give the spoiler alert, however, that they are a bit pricey -- about \$400. This is due, we are told, because they have to be very carefully hand painted. In our situation at this time in his life, we are hoping that less eye fatigue will allow him to study more easily and gain greater confidence in general. I used to wear contacts as well; and from Matt's reports to me, his getting used to these soft contacts is very similar to any other type of contact lens. They appear a bit thicker than the typical lens as far as I can tell, and you cannot sleep in You also have to follow strict guidethem. lines for the amount of hours they are worn, but the length of wearing time does increase once you get used to them.

So my tip of the day is don't give up investigating the new technologies that are out there for our children. Things change rapidly in the scientific world treating eye conditions, and these achievements are constantly helping our kids with low vision lead more normal lives. I'll keep you updated on our progress.

Now if they just invent something that makes a teenager clean his room without a hassle that would be a miracle, but I digress. Have a great summer!



#### canes

• recognizing cues and landmarks

• moving through space by walking or using a wheelchair

- requesting assistance
- Social interaction—skills needed to respond appropriately and participate actively in social situations, such as

shaking hands

• turning toward others when speaking or being spoken to

• using language to make a request, decline assistance, or express a need

• expressing emotion and affection appropriately

• participating appropriately in conversations in various situations

- Independent living—skills needed to function as independently as possible in school and at home, including personal grooming, time management, cooking, cleaning, clothing care, and money management.
- **Recreation and leisure**—skills to ensure students' enjoyment of physical and leisure-time activities, including

• making choices about how to spend leisure time

• actively participating in physical

#### and social recreational activities

• trying new leisure activities

• following rules in games and activities at an appropriate level

• maintaining safety during leisure activities

- Sensory efficiency—skills that help students use the senses, including any functional vision, hearing, touch, smell (olfactory) and taste (gustatory). Examples of sensory efficiency skills your child may learn include
  - using optical aids

• using **augmentative and alter**native communication devices

• using touch and vision to identify personal items

• using sense of smell to know when nearing the school cafeteria

- **Use of technology**—skills to use devices such as computers or other electronic equipment that make it easier to function effectively in school, at home, and in the work-place.
- **Career education**—skills that enable students who are visually impaired to move toward working as an adult, including

• exploring and expressing preferences about work roles

• assuming work responsibilities at home and school

• understanding concepts of reward for work

• participating in job experiences

• learning about jobs and adult work roles at a developmentally appropriate level

• Self-determination—skills to enable students to become effective advocates for themselves based on their own needs and goals.

Source: FamilyConnect, for parents of children with visual Impairments; brought to you by American Foundation for the Blind and National Association for Parents of Children with Vision Impair ents

### http://www.familyconnect.org/ parentsite.asp? SectionID=72&TopicID=382

## JULY QUESTION

As the first day of summer approaches, please tell us about your vacation or vacation plans and how you are accommodating for your blind/visually impaired child. Also, any book suggestions for all ages either in large print or braille that you recommend

for summer reading?





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

## ASK M@



everyone, Hi, Ι hope you have been doing well this past month. I know I have been extremely busy, and I guess that is a qood thing. It keeps me out of trouble.

This month, I would

really like to talk to you about friendships. Even though finding friends may be difficult, the key is to not just have friends but to choose your friends wisely. This can be very hard, but

I know from experience that it is vital to choose carefully. I have had a couple of friends in my early childhood that I somehow sensed would not be heading in the right direction, so I started just drifting away from them. At first I was lonely, but I felt better off. Now, the interesting thing is that they are getting in trouble in school and are just not the best people to be around.

With this being said, I would like you to try finding the right group of friends that fit your personality. And, yes, that most definitely is hard sometimes because it may feel like you don't always fit in; but that is where you just need to let down your guard and be yourself. You don't always have to be a part of the biggest group. The best suggestion would be to find a group that you can relate to the most, whether this would be some art lovers or people who enjoy music. The key is to ask yourself, what do you love in life and find enjoyable? Then look for some people who also like and enjoy that. Begin mingling with them and soon, friendships will grow.

Now, this month I don't have a quote for you but I do have a very short little story that backs up the fact that you have to just find someone that you can relate to. This was told originally by Steve Jobs.

"I met Woz when I was 13, at a friend's garage. He was about 18. Woz was, like, the first person I met who knew more about electronics than I did at that point. We became good friends because we shared an interest in computers and we had a sense of humor."

This just goes to show that you never know who you might become good friends with. So this month I would just like you to go out feeling confident in what you love to do and to try to find someone whom you can relate to.

Until next month, have a good one. M@

## CONFERENCES



The conference will feature valuable sessions geared specifically toward individuals affected by retinal degenerative diseases. Science and information sessions will focus on the latest advancements in research, new and exciting treatment options, current and upcoming clinical trials, and practical skills for living and coping with vision loss. In addition, you will have the chance to ask some of the world's best retinal researchers and clinicians your own questions in "The Doctor Is In" sessions.

VISIONS 2012 also offers you the opportunity to meet and network with individuals from around the country, and even the world, who are affected by similar diseases. And you can discover the latest low vision products, services and resources from the vendors in our Exhibit Hall.

#### What's New in 2012

Since VISIONS is all about you, our guests, we've added some features based on past attendee feedback. Here's what's new in 2012:

- Extended Exhibit Hall Hours
- Beginner & Advanced Level Research Sessions
- Sessions for Adolescents & Young Adults
- More Networking Sessions
- Closing Research Session on Sunday Morning
- Mall of America Bus Trip

Learn more about these exciting new features on the <u>VISIONS 2012</u> website and in our future e-blasts! **www.FightBlindness.org** 

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





July 27-29, 2012, Boston, MA

An international conference covering all aspects of raising a child with a visual impairment, the 2012 Families Connecting with Families Conference will include:

- Interactive sessions and panel discussions to address parents' most pressing interests
- Networking with other families and professionals
- FREE daycare program for children, and activities designed especially for teens
- Fun for the whole family with special receptions and events

The opening general session for the conference begins on July 27, Friday early evening and ends at noon on Sunday, July 29. The NAPVI Board will also be hosting a parent leadership seminar for NAPVI Affiliate parent leaders on Friday during the day, July 27.

The 2012 Conference will be held at:

Boston Marriott Newton, 2345 Commonwealth Avenue, Newton, Massachusetts 02466

This beautiful hotel is also an ideal family vacation destination, featuring special discounted hotel rates for the Families Connecting with Families Conference.

#### Contact NAPVI, www.familyconnect.org

Pam Stern **Region 3 Representative** NAPVI 847-433-0809 pamstern3@gmail.com

**Update on the Great Activities for Children at the Families Connecting** with Families Conference 2012

By Susan LaVenture, NAPVI, Executive Director

We know that when parents are considering attending a conference for families of children with visual impairments, the very first consideration is: "How will I make sure that my kids are happy, occupied, and well cared for?"

We are very excited to report on the excellent childcare arrangements as well as sports and leisure activities planned for the upcoming 2012 Families Connecting with Families Conference in Boston, MA. Many thanks go to our wonderful Children's Programs Committee Chairs, Mike Pecorella and Lauren Lieberman.

Your infants will be thoroughly cuddled and cared for in two spacious suites. Infant and toddler games and activities will be offered throughout the day to keep your child at play with their individual "pace" in mind.

Through a special collaboration between Perkins School for the Blind, The College at Brockport-Camp Abilities, and The United States Association of Blind Athletes (USABA), your school-age children and teens have an opportunity to experience and participate in blind-specific sports and leisure activities such as:

- Beep Baseball
- Goalball

- Track and field events
- Rowing
- Horseback riding
- Bocce
- Balance games
- Obstacle courses
- And more!

Once we have received your Child Background Information Form, we will contact you to ensure that we have all the information we need to provide the best possible care for your child. In the coming months we will be providing you with additional details regarding our Children's Programs. We are looking forward to a great conference and lots of great fun and new experiences for your child.

See you in July!



## Characteristics of Visually Impaired Children

By Tami Hand, eHow Contributor

Il visually impaired children are not created equal. Although they share the inability to see normally, noticeable characteristics of a visually impaired child may differ due to varying conditions, degrees of severity and individual adaptations. Despite the differences, similar traits may be apparent in children with temporary or permanent visual impairments.

### **Physical Indications**

Some visually impaired children exhibit few or no physical indications of their condition. Without previous knowledge of the child's impairment, you may be unable to tell that the child sees differently. Children with visual impairments often wear eyeglasses to help them see. Many visual conditions cause sensitivity to light, so children may wear dark glasses to block out the light when they're outside or in brightly lit environments. You may also notice your child blinking, squinting and unable to find small toys or objects.

## **Mobility Delays**

Large motor skills are often delayed in visually impaired children. Children may require a walking stick to help them maneuver independently at school to avoid falling or bumping into obstacles or other people. Playing popular childhood games like dodge ball, basketball or football may be difficult for visually impaired children because some eye conditions may inhibit depth perception.

### **Color Deficiency**

Many visually impaired children experience varying degrees of color deficiency. An eye condition called Achromatopsia often causes complete color vision loss. Children may not recognize colors like other children their age, may not be interested in coloring books and often require large-print labels on their crayons, markers and clothing to help them distinguish the proper colors when necessary for dressing or performing color-related school assignments.

### References

National Dissemination Center for Children with Disabilities

American Academy of Optometry: Optometry & Vision Science

Read more: Characteristics of Visually Impaired Children

eHow.com http://www.ehow.com/ list\_6779849\_characteristics-visuallyimpaired-children.html#ixzzlvKxyNHAH



## **Pre-School Enrichment Program**

## Summer 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!

Program Dates:	Tuesdays, Wednesdays & Thursdays
	Starting June 26-August 16
Program Time:	1:30-3:00
Program Location:	The Chicago Lighthouse
	Children's Development Center
	1850 W. Roosevelt Rd.
	Chicago, IL 60608

Fee: \$350

For enrollment information contact Mary Zabelski (312) 997-3675 by June 15



















Develop a summer reading program for all ages using DCMP's accessible media



## Literature

Why Mosquitoes Buzz in People's Ears (Grades K-3) The Tortoise & the Hare (Grades K-4) Little Men (Grades 4-8) Adventures of Huckleberry Finn (Grades 9-12) The Monkey's Paw (Grades 10-12) The Gold Bug (Grades 10-12)





## rammar

The Island of Confusing Words (Grades 3-6) Word Parts (Grades 3-6) End Punctuation (Grades 5-9) Sentences (Grades 5-9) Pronouns (Grades 5-9) Adverbs (Grades 5-9) Adjectives (Grades 5-9) The Split-Infinitive World of English Grammar: Program 1-6 (Grades 8-12) **English Idioms** (Parent Training/Teacher Training)

Between the Lions: The Fox and the Crow (Grades Ps-6) Into the Book Episodes 1-9 (Grades 1-4) Lights, Camera, Antonyms (and Synonyms Too)! (Grades 3-6) Night of the Context Clues Grades 3-6) (Grades 9-12) Futures with Jaime Escalante (Grades 9-12)

DESCRIBED AND CAPTIONED MEDIA PROGRAM

dcmp.org





twitter.com/dcmp tweets



facebook.com/the.dcmp

#180 - May 2012 • The DCMP is funded by the U.S. Department of Education and administered by the National Association of the Deaf.

**June 2012** 

## WORKSHOPS

### **FRCD JUNE 2012 WORKSHOPS**

Sessions

(10:00 AM-1:00 PM) 20 E. Jackson Blvd. Room 300 Chicago, IL 60604

#### **Phone Trainings**

- 6/12 **Procedural Safeguards of IDEA**
- 6/19 **Dispute Resolution**
- 6/26 Effective Parent Advocacy

(For your convenience we are holding 1 hour training sessions over the phone) (12:00 Noon-1:00 PM)

#### Sessions

(10:00 AM-1:00 PM) 20 E. Jackson Blvd. Room 300 Chicago, IL 60604

#### 6/23 Six Principles of IDEA

6/30 **Transition for Children with Mental Health Needs** Guest Speaker from National Association of Mental Illness

You must register in advance in order to get your materials in the mail.

Please call us at **312-939-3513** or You may register online at:

#### www.frcd.org

To view the training calendar go to **www.frcd.org** and click on Events/Training-Upcoming Events. To register for FRCD's Upcoming Trainings, contact us by phone at 312-939-3513, Monday-Friday, 9am -5pm, or drop us an email at <u>info@frcd.org</u>.



## CAMPS

## CAMP WaKONDA

With the National Camp for Blind Children/ Adults We have had Summer camps for the blind since 1967.

We have had a winter camp for the blind in February for the last 14 years in Grayling Michigan.

Now we are looking forward to summer. In Oxford, Wisconsin we are reopening Camp WaKonda. We hope to have a bus load come from the Chicago area and another bus load come from Milwaukee. **Camp Wakonda dates are July 1-8, 2012**.

## BLIND BIKERS AND RECREATION CAMP

From **August 7-12, 2012** we will have Blind Bikers and Recreation camp at Cedar Lake, Mi. This year we hope to have other activity's for Blind people who don't want to bike. We will have the bikers ride out to an activity, then bike back to camp. The other campers will hike or walk the same amount of time that it takes the bikers to ride to the activity. After that we will drive them to the activity and back to camp.

If you know a blind person that would like to go to camp contact me at 248-634-4379 or cell 248-459-3165.

Thank You so much

Larry Hubbell District Director, National camps for Blind Children / Adults





The Chicago Lighthouse Vision Rehabilitation Center welcomes Dr. Cary Supalo Ph.D. Inorganic Chemistry, Penn State University

Saturday, June 9, 12:30pm - 4:30pm 222 Waukegan Road Glenview, Illinois 60025







"My experience with developing these access technologies has taught me that blindness need not be a barrier in the pursuit of one's ambitions to achieve whatever goals he or she aspires to achieve."

Founder of Independence Science, Cary Supalo Ph.D. is developing access technology to empower a new vision for students with visual impairments in the science laboratory. Since his research at Penn State University and the ILSAB (Independent Laboratory Access for the Blind) project, he has assembled the Talking LabQuest and Talking Logger Pro Lab Solutions that are breaking down barriers in science education for the blind. Learn more at

#### www.IndependenceScience.com

RSVP is required for this FREE progam By Monday, June 4, 2012 Pam Stern, Manager of Youth Programs 847–510-2054 or pam.stern@chicagolighthouse.org



## SPORTS

The Chicago Lighthouse NORTH The Chicago Lighthouse Vision Rehabilitation Center proudly offers Kayaking and Tandem Cycling at the Skokie Lagoon

- June 19: Kayaking 3pm-4pm Tandem Cycling 5pm-7pm July 24: Kayaking 3pm-4pm Tandem Cycling 5pm-7pm
- **Aug. 7**: Kayaking 2pm-3pm Tandem Cycling 5pm-7pm
- FEE\*: \$6 Kayaking, \$8 Tandem Cycling \$12 for both \*Fee is per session





Registration is required by: June 8 for June 19 session July 13 got July 24 session July 31 for August 7 session

Pam Stern, Manager of Youth/Senior Programs 847-510-2054 pam.stern@chicago.lighthouse.org

The Skokie Lagoons Boat Launch Entrance is on Tower Road approximately 100 yards east of the Edens Expressway.

In partnership with Great Lakes Adaptive Sports Association and Adaptive Adventures





June 2012



Please Join the Foundation Fighting Blindness for the

## **11th Annual Artistry of Wine - Perfect Pairings**

Food & Wine Tasting

Thursday, June 14, 2012 6:30 – 9:30 p.m.

Green Acres Country Club 916 Dundee Road Northbrook, IL

Sample delicious signature dishes prepared by Chicagoland's premier chefs and perfectly paired with a selection of wine and spirits. We also invite you to participate in our silent auction, featuring items from our generous local and national in-kind supporters.

Participating Restaurants Include: Bridie McKenna's Francesca's North Whole Foods Market Wildfire Carnivale Bluegrass Restaurant M Cake Bite Girl The Cooking Chicks Chicago

For sponsorship information, tickets or additional event information, please contact Kristi Snuttjer at (847) 680-0100 or KSnuttjer@fightblindness.org.

# Arlington Park Day

Sunday, July 8, 2012 - 11:15am - 6:00pm

Admission \$8 with \$5 back to the Lighthouse for all Lighthouse guests. Gates open at 11:15 and first post is 1:00 pm.

Sunday Family Days at Arlington Park brought to you by Pepsi and the Daily Herald — are now bigger and better than ever with the addition of the new Junior Jockey Zone including FREE pony rides, a petting zoo, face painting, and hands on activities from 12 p.m. - 4 p.m. Plus, our winning jockeys will be giving out two pairs of signed goggles after every race! Guests are welcome to cheer for goggles outside of the Winner's Circle.

Children 17 and under receive FREE admission when accompanied by an adult.



## Specialized Education Services for Children Who Are Blind or Visually Impaired

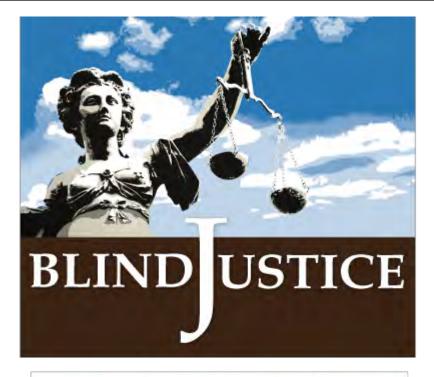
## Who are our nation's blind and visually impaired children?

Federal and state estimates used for planning educational services do not adequately account for the number of children in the United States who are blind or visually impaired. For example, 24,877 children with visual impairments are reported by the U.S. Department of Education (U.S. Department of Education, 1996). However, a recent study indicates that this figure fails to account for as many as 80% of these students (Corn, Ferrell, Spungin, & Zimmerman, 1996).

In some cases, only students who are legally blind are reported, ignoring those who have difficulty seeing but do not qualify as "legally" blind. In other instances, children who are visually impaired and have other disabilities -such as mental retardation--are not counted as visually impaired because they are reported in other federally defined categories, such as "multiple disabilities" or "mental retardation." Tragically, because many professionals lack the specialized skills necessary to recognize and address vision loss, there are also children with visual and multiple impairments whose vision loss remains undiagnosed throughout their school experience (Erin, Daugherty, Dignan, & Pearson, 1990). The inadequate count of visually impaired children means that our nation lacks critical information about the need for specialized services for these children, and cannot correctly allocate the specialized resources and personnel required. Consequently, many children do not receive the appropriate specialized educational services they need (Pogrund, Fazzi, & Lampert, eds., 1992).

## What skills do visually impaired students need to learn?

Visual impairments change the way children obtain information about the world in which they grow and function, and limit opportunities to learn through observation of visual elements in the school curriculum and the people around them. This means that, in addition to their regular classroom studies, children who are blind or visually impaired need to learn specialized skills from teachers and others who are specially trained to teach these skills, such as certified teachers of visually impaired children and orientation and mobility specialists. The specialized skills visually impaired



## Justice is blind...and visually impaired

The Chicago Lighthouse cordially invites you to attend a benefit cocktail party for the Arthur and Esther Kane Legal Clinic. Blind Justice supports the only program in the nation providing pro-bono legal assistance exclusively to the blind and visually impaired

> community. Wednesday, June 20, 2012 6pm-8pm Sidebar Grille | 221 North LaSalle | Chicago

Tickets: \$100 advance tickets; \$120 at the door Ticket price includes cocktails and appetizers. For information about the event and sponsorship opportunities, contact Special Events at events@chicagolighthouse.org or call (312) 997-3679. Click button above to purchase tickets.

Y Because there is **still** hope.™

The Chicago Lighthouse N TH

The Chicago Lighthouse Vision Rehabilitation Center proudly offers

#### **KOOL KIDZ Art Classes**

THURSDAYS May 31-July 19, 2012 4:00pm-5:00pm, Grades 1-4 5:30pm-6:30pm, Grades 5-8 222 Waukegan Road Glenview, IL 60025

The classes consist of eight 1-hour weekly sessions \*\* of guided art directives, in both individual and group contexts. Through the introduction of beginner (and intermediate, for Grades 5-8) art-making processes, each activity will aim to promote creative development, social development, and verbal/ nonverbal communication skills development.

- Sample Art Task for Grades 1-4: Puppetmaking
- Sample Art Task for Grades 5-8: 3dimensional fabric portraits

Cost: \$80 (which includes all supplies) \*\* If a student is unable to attend all eight weeks, single sessions are available.

<u>Also available</u> One-to-One Art Sessions MONDAYS 12:30-3:30, in hourly increments Cost: \$25 Register ASAP! Classes start soon!

Pam Stern, Manager of Senior and Youth Programs 847-510-2054 pam.stern@chicagolighthouse.org Chicago Lighthouse N&RTH

The

The Chicago Lighthouse Vision Rehabilitation Center proudly offers

#### **TEEN SCENE Art Expression**

MONDAYS 4:00m-5:30pm June 4-July 23, 2012 222 Waukegan Road Glenview, IL 60025

This class consists of eight 1-1/2 hour weekly sessions<sup>\*\*</sup> of directed art tasks, in both individual and group contexts. Through the introduction of beginner, intermediate, and advanced art-making processes and theory, activities will address the needs of each student, while promoting creative development, socialization, and the development of analytical and divergent problem-solving skills. Students will also participate in a guided tour of the Art Institute of Chicago, featuring tactile diagrams and a "touch tour" of selected works.

**Cost: \$96 (which includes all supplies)** 

\*\* If a student is unable to attend all eight weeks, single sessions are available.

One-to-One Art Sessions MONDAYS 12:30-3:30, in hourly increments Cost: \$25

#### **Register ASAP! Classes start soon!**

Pam Stern, Manager of Senior and Youth Programs 847-510-2054 pam.stern@chicagolighthouse.org

June 2012

## **PDF Summer+Music+Program+1**

children must learn include: Technology and computer proficiency--using computer and telecommunication equipment and software adapted for blind or visually impaired people. Literacy--reading and writing with braille, large print, optical devices, or training in effective use of available vision. Safe and independent mobility--using specific orientation and mobility techniques, long canes, or other mobility tools. Social interaction skills-understanding body language and other visual concepts. Personal management and independent living skills--learning specialized techniques for personal grooming, food preparation, money management, and other tasks.

## Where do visually impaired students receive their education?

Children with visual impairments receive educational services from an array of options that includes residential and special schools specifically designed for blind and multiply disabled children, and special classes, resource rooms, and itinerant teaching services in regular education classrooms in the child's community--where most visually impaired children are educated. Based upon the individual needs of children and input from their parents and educators, specialized schools, or classes are appropriate educational options for certain students. In addition, special schools frequently provide outreach support and technical assistance to public schools in their states.

## What are the challenges facing visually impaired children?

Although many school programs provide the specialized instruction needed by students who are visually impaired, there is much room for improvement. Too many visually impaired students leave school without having mastered the skills or knowledge essential for further education, gainful employment, and independent living at home and in their communities.

There is a severe shortage of orientation and mobility specialists and qualified teachers of visually impaired students, which restricts access to the specialized skills these children need. This means that students with visual impairments frequently receive instruction from personnel who are not qualified to teach critical skills such as braille, cane and other travel skills, and effective use of available vision. This problem is even more alarming in rural communities, where shortages of qualified personnel are most acute.

Equally detrimental is the continued perception by many that residential and special schools for blind and visually impaired children are too costly, or, because most visually impaired children are educated in regular education classrooms, unnecessary. This fallacy persists despite the fact that education experts agree that for some children, special schools are the best placement option, and that the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act passed by the U.S. Congress makes access to all educational placement options, including special schools, every child's right.

## What can you do to help visually impaired children reach their potential?

• Support a full array of options in each state to assure appropriate placement for all students. These options must include residential and special schools, as well as special classes, resource rooms, and itinerant teaching services in regular education classes.

• Provide sufficient funding to prepare an adequate number of teachers in all educational settings who are qualified to provide the specialized communication, literacy, academic, mobility, daily living, social, and career education skills that visually impaired children need.

• Provide access to the latest technology so every blind or visually impaired student benefits from computer-based educational programs, such as those delivered via the Inter-

net or multimedia educational software.

• Assure that parents and families of children who are blind or visually impaired are provided with the information they need to determine the best educational option for their child.

#### References

Corn, A., Ferrell, K.A., Spungin, S.J., & Zimmerman, G. What We Know About Teacher Preparation Programs in Blindness and Visual Impairment (Report prepared for the National NASDE Policy Forum: Training Educators to Work with Students Who Are Blind or Visually Impaired). Washington, DC: Authors, September 1996.

Erin, J.N., Daugherty, W., Dignan, K., & Pearson, N. "Teachers of Visually Handicapped Students with Multiple Disabilities: Perceptions of Adequacy." Journal of Visual Impairment & Blindness, January 1990, pp.16-20.

Pogrund, R., Fazzi, D.L., & Lampert, J.S., eds. Early Focus: Working with Young Blind and Visually Impaired Children and Their Families.New York: American Foundation for the Blind, 1992.

U.S. Department of Education. Eighteenth Annual Report to Congress on the Implementation of the Individuals with Disabilities Act, Washington, DC: Author, 1996.



Expanding possibilities for people with vision loss

# Parents can promote inclusion at family gatherings this summer

The picnic basket is ready, the Frisbee<sup>®</sup> is in the car, the camera is loaded...your're off to the family reunion. Before you go, however, you might also want to bring along some tips on including children with disabilities at family events.

Amid all the fun and love when relatives gather, there sometimes can be tension when a child with disabilities is part of the clan. Some family members may not understand your child's special needs and what kinds of accommodations are needed. Others may have questions about the disability but be uncomfortable asking them. Still others may even be afraid. The result can be unintentional hurtfulness.

Carolyn Anderson, Virginia Richardson and Sao Xiong know first-hand what it's like. All three PACER advocates have grown children with disabilities and remember well the challenges they faces in the early years when family would gather.

If you would like a three-step plan for creating an inclusive family environment for your child, take a CUE from them. Communicate, Understand, Educate.

### Communicate

No matter how much they love you and your child, relatives are not mind readers. They need you to share information about your child's skills and interests, his or her disability, accommodations you may need, realistic expectations for what your child can do, and your expectations for the family. They also need to know whether it's okay to ask questions about your child's disability.

Richardson puts it this way: "I expect my family to be supportive. But I have to give them enough information to be supportive in the way I want them to be." For her, that meant letting people know that her daughter Deborah's seizures weren't life threatening. "I didn't want them to be afraid of her or to think

that she was so fragile that every seizure was a Code Blue," she recalls.

She also made sure that they knew who Deborah was as a person. "I let people know what she was doing in school, that Deborah was participating in gymnastics," she says.

"I was still crying my way through the world at that time," she adds, so she enlisted her sister, Jessie, to be her spokesperson. "I wanted to give factual information about Deborah's disability, and I wanted people to know what we were working on at the moment so they could ask," she explains. "I was interested in the right information being conveyed. I wanted them to ask the family and not be afraid they were going to hurt anyone's feelings."

These days, families could consider referring people to recommended websites with information about their child's disability, Richardson says.

Xiong, whose daughter Tsai has an intellectual disability, notes that when it comes to talking about a child's disability, keep in mind that there may be cultural differences in how and when such communication occurs.

"In the Hmong community, for example, even though the parent is open to discussion, people aren't likely to come forward publicly and ask a direst question about the child," Xiong says. "Instead, they might indirectly ask how the child is doing. That might lead to a more direct private conversation."

## Understand

Even in the most loving, well-intentioned families, there are bound to be times when someone does or says something insensitive to your child. Anderson remembers family gatherings where no one communicated with her son Matthew, who is deaf. If people learned any sign language, it was for words like "no" or "stop"-negative things.

"You do the best you can," she says, noting that she tried to teach family members some sign language and show them how to speak to Matthew so he could read their lips. "Just try not to be judgmental," she says.

"Remember, if it wasn't your child, you might be acting the same way. You have the opportunity to inform others."

## **Educate**

Family members won't automatically know the right ways to interact with your child with a disability. You, however, can help them learn skills and attitudes by modeling them yourself.

"We talked about Matthew's deafness openly," Anderson explains. "We had a positive attitude toward the disability. We also modeled good communication rather than just telling people what to do. For example, we would tap Matthew on the shoulder to catch his attention before we talked with him."

Xiong encourages parents to help other family members to find ways for the child with disabilities to participate. "Parents may need to say, 'I want my child to play. Let her join.' They might need to point out specific things the child needs in order to participate, like asking the other children not to chase her too fast in a running game."

At the heart of all these CUEs is a philosophy of belonging. As Xiong says with a smile, "Any family gathering is a time to include the children."

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## Brand New ONYX PORTABLE/ VIDEO MAGNIFIER W/ CAMERA

Easy to use & delivers magnification in 3 distinct viewing modes, distance view, document view & mirror- image self-view.

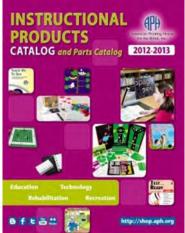
Includes a 19 inch flat panel monitor which has a camera mounted to it that rotates 360 degrees as well as the unique telescopic arm allowing the ability to look in any direction for ultimate flexibility. It also comes with a durable carrying case on wheels which makes it easy & convenient for transporting.

So if you want to make seeing printed type, pictures, handwriting or just small details easier, then this device is exactly what you need! If you are interested, please feel free to contact Michelle @ 630-210-6223.

## APH NEWS

## New Instructional Products Catalog Available!

The new Instructional Products Catalog 2012-2013 is now available! Over 20 major new products or product series are featured in this catalog, which is a complete listing of APH products other than textbooks. Find new products in the areas of orientation & mobility. mathematics.



early childhood, early literacy, assistive technology, and more. To request your free print catalog with the bright purple cover, please email catalogs@aph.org or call 1-800-223-1839 M-F, 8am to 4:30pm EST.

Accessible editions of this catalog will be posted on our website soon. All products listed in the catalog are available for purchase on our shopping site.

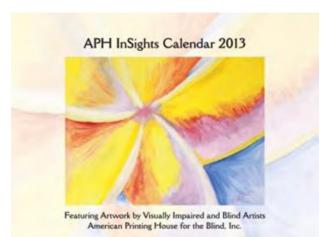
## New APH InSights Art Calendar: 2013

## <u>5-18971-13</u> -- \$7.00

This beautiful full-color calendar features the artwork of visually impaired artists, suitable for low vision or blind students and adults, or anyone who enjoys unique artwork.

Months, days, holidays, and moon phases appear in both braille and large print. This calendar can be used at a desk or hung on a wall and is ring bound to allow pages to be folded over easily.

**Note:** A special version of this calendar can be custom-printed with your organization's name for fund-raising purposes. Please click the link below for more information.



## IPVI

## P.O. Box 2947, Naperville, IL 60567-2947

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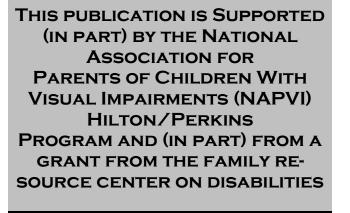


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> 600 Ravinia Place Orland Park, IL 60462 708.873.0088

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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, nonprofit 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 of	one:
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□ 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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Please enclose this form along with your payment by check to: IPVI • P.O.Box 2947 • Naperville, IL 60567-2947

## 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 1-877-411-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

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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

► 6/28-7/1 VISIONS2012

- ► 6/30-7/5 Braille Monitor Convention/Scholarships Available
- ▶ 7-16-27
- 27 TCLN Summer Music Program
- ► 7/26-8/15 TCL Summer Enrichment Program
- ► 7/21/12 IPVI ZOO Outing
- ► July 27-29 Families Connecting Families Conference

Minneapolis Dallas, TX Glenview Chicago Brookfield Boston, MA

## Please call 1-877-411-IPVI

for any questions, concerns, or comments that IPVI can help you with.

Newsletter Deadline for JULY is JUNE 10<sup>th</sup>



## Check Out www.ipvi.org

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