

# View of Vision Enhancement

Volume 1, View 1

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## News & Events

*Current Info in the Field of Visual Impairment*

### Youth Sports Festival

Each year the United States Association of Blind Athletes (USABA) hosts a National Youth Sports Festival that provides a chance for junior high and high school-aged to hone skills in seven summer sports, including swimming, wrestling, judo, track and field, tandem cycling, goalball and power lifting. ■

*More News and Events on Next Page*

## NOTE

### *An Introduction To a Vital Magazine*

This VIEW is intended to give a taste of the content and quality of *Vision Enhancement*, a quarterly journal for the vision impaired and the caregiver community.

We have included the main “departments” that *Vision Enhancement* covers such as News & Events, Consumer Protection, Education, and Features. You will find it an ideal publication for both technical, emotional and lifestyle issues affecting the vision impaired. The full journal averages 72 pages in length.

Subscription form is on the last page and on our website at <http://www.visionww.org>. Feel free to contact us for more information.

## Feature Excerpt

*Important Issues Concerning Vision Loss*

### From “The Many Visual Problems of Macular Degeneration”

*By Richard L. Windsor, O.D., F.A.A.O.*

Patients are diagnosed daily with macular degeneration but few patients are adequately counseled on how their vision will be affected. Vision loss from macular degeneration is much more than just a loss of visual acuity. It is important that we counsel these patients on the variety of visual problems they will encounter.

DECREASE OF VISUAL ACUITY: The sharpness of my vision is decreasing!”

VISUAL DISTORTION: “I see wavy words, and the letters vary in size and look like they are distorted like in a funhouse mirror...” ■

## **INSIDE THIS VIEW**

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## Catch Saturday Night Features With DVS on TCM

So what are you doing Saturday night? Why not grab a friend and make some popcorn while you enjoy the DVS Showcase on Turner Movie Classics? Each and every Saturday night at 6pm EST, the Turner Classic Movie network makes the world of film accessible through description during the DVS showcase. ■

## Consumer Protection

*Prevention Against Misrepresentation and Fraud*

### Meet the Most

### “User Friendly” Canes!

A common misconception about the canes vision impaired travelers use is that there really isn't much difference since they basically look similar. Seasoned cane users, however, will quickly point out the fallacy of this belief. There definitely are important differences to be considered.

For thousands of cane travelers, the most “user friendly” cane is the Advantage Graphite Cane manufactured by Revolution Enterprises, Inc. of Poway, California. First introduced in 1995, the Advantage Graphite Canes have been acclaimed worldwide as the greatest breakthrough in canes. Users are delighted with these much lighter but stronger, more durable canes that provide significantly greater sensitivity that is transmitted by the graphite fibers. They also enjoy the cane's ability to flex and return to straight—while providing excellent support. Considering all these features plus their most reasonable price, it is understandable why the Advantage Canes have gained significantly in popularity year-after-year. ■

## Living Tips

*Day-to-Day Guides for the Visually Impaired*

### Five Safety Tips for Solo Travelers

- 1) Ask about security when making hotel reservations.
- 2) Request a non-secluded room.
- 3) Register using your last name and first initial only.
- 4) Leave valuable or expensive-looking jewelry or unnecessary credit cards at home.
- 5) Carry a cell phone with you at all times. ■

### Tips for Successful Television Viewing

Television can be a source of entertainment, relaxation, and education and people with low vision want to enjoy this medium like their fully sighted counterparts. Here are four suggestions for making the experience more pleasurable.

- 1) Adjust the lighting in the room. For most people, it is best to watch television in general room lighting. Be cautious of. . .
- 2) Adjust the contrast on the television, experimenting to find what works best....
- 3) Move closer to the television. By moving your chair 10 feet to 5 feet from the screen, it enlarges the. . .
- 4) Use low vision aids to watch television. For the person with considerable residual vision, a screen magnifier that fits over the television may be prescribed. ■

## Achievers

*People Achieving in Spite of Vision Loss*

### Hilliary Bates Achieves Independence In Spite of Being Deaf-Blind

At age fifteen, Hilliary Bates, deaf since birth, began experiencing gradual vision loss. The loss continued to deteriorate until one morning when she awakened she could see nothing. Three subsequent surgeries to repair detached retinas were unsuccessful. Hilliary faced the devastating realization that she was now both deaf and totally blind.

Through the encouragement of her mother, Hilliary began to believe that she could and would maintain an independent lifestyle. She learned Braille, developed excellent computer skills, and learned to sign by touch.

Now at the age of 25, she and her mother have launched a very successful greeting card business appropriately named "My Mind's Eyes." Hilliary uses her computer to create and package the cards, which are designed for both blind and sighted persons.

While "My Mind's Eyes" has been in business for less than a year, it has already gained recognition throughout the state and has earned Hilliary an achievement award from the Business and Professional Women's Association of Indiana. ■

## Education

*Learning Opportunities for the Visually Impaired*

### Word-Smith: Dictionary by E-Mail

Here is a wonderful, easy, and quick direct source to any word you need to look up in the dictionary and it works using e-mail.

Just follow these steps:... ■

### New Distance Education Course on Low-Vision

If you would like to learn more about vision loss, take a more active role in your rehabilitation or that of someone you know, you may want to take advantage of the tuition-free course, available in large print and on cassette, "Introduction to Low Vision."

Based on "Coping with Low Vision" by Flax, Golemiewski, and McCaulley, the course examines low vision in terms of the visual system. It describes the primary age-related eye diseases and the myths that surround them. ■

## Medical/Research

*Diseases, Conditions, and Treatments*

### Coca-Cola for Your Eyes?

The Coca-Cola Company and Procter and Gamble are formulating vitamin-enriched beverages to help combat anemia, blindness and other maladies common to poorer parts of the world. According to *The Wall Street Journal*, the two companies will target middle-and lower-middle-class families who do not live in poverty, yet still lack a healthy diet. ■

*More Medical/Research on Next Page*

## Subscription Form:

To order, complete this form or a facsimile and forward to:

Vision World Wide, Inc. \* 5707 Brockton Drive #302 \* Indianapolis, IN 46220-5481 or call 1.800.431.1739, fax 1.317.251.6588 or e-mail [info@visionww.org](mailto:info@visionww.org).

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## FDA Approves Clinical Testing of Toric Implantable Contact Lens

The U.S. Food & Drug Administration (FDA) has issued conditional approval for an investigational device exemption (IDE) for the Toric Implantable Contact Lens (TICL) to STAAR Surgical, who develops, manufactures, and globally distributes medical devices for use in refractive, cataract and glaucoma surgery. ■

## Resource Directory in Each Issue!

An extremely valuable tool in each issue is our **Resource Directory**. This “ready-reference” provides complete contact information of products and services to facilitate further research. ■



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