



New Vision News

April 17, 2009

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Check us out on the web at www.n-v-i.org



"Vision Impairment Services In Our Neighborhood"

Lake-Sumter Community College

9501 US Hwy 441

Leesburg, FL 34788

Welcome to our New Vision Rehabilitation Therapist

Jeanne Pals joined the staff at New Vision on February 16th. She has a Master's Degree in Visual Rehabilitation Teaching from Florida State University. Since 2003, she has been involved in all aspects of rehabilitation from teaching assistant to supervising the teaching staff. Formerly she was employed with CITE and Lighthouse of Central Florida, most recently working in their Villages outreach program.

Jeanne has been busy teaching Independent Living Skills in the Sumter county, Tavares, Leesburg outreach centers as well as itinerant teaching to several students in their homes. Health Fairs, visiting VIP groups, teaching at the National Training Center, speaking engagements, and explaining our services to residents of a rehab center have kept her busy when not teaching. Then there is the never ending job of organizing supplies and curriculum.....

We are glad to have Jeanne join us and hope you will make her feel welcome when you meet her!

Thank You!

New Vision is extremely grateful to Lake-Sumter Community College for accommodating our growing needs.

We also appreciate the generosity of Pastor John Barham and the United Methodist Church of Tavares, Pastor - Daniel Richwine and the First Assembly of God Church of Sumterville, and the Leesburg Senior Center for allowing us to use their facilities for our Independent Living Skills classes. The staff at these locations have always been very helpful and supportive.

We would like to recognize and thank our funders: Division of Blind Services, United Way of Lake and Sumter counties, The FISH Foundation, Lake County Department of Community Services, Community Foundation of South

Congratulations!

to our recently graduated ILS students. March 18th was a very special day! In the morning a Family Workshop and Graduation was held in Sumter county for Dorothy Barbos, Marian Bigler, Wink Clark, Elsie Darling, Pat Hjort, Nancy Miner, JoAnne Morgan, and Delta Pryor. The celebrations were repeated again in the afternoon in Lake county for Dorothy Hall, Ethel Kornhaus, Billy Osborne, Gordon Pierce, Joanne Seagle, Virginia Welneck, and Lucia White. We hope to see you all at the VIP meetings!

Our Mission Statement

New Vision for Independence is committed to excellence in providing rehabilitation, community education, and support service for people with low vision or blindness, and their families, to promote independence, acceptance, and self-confidence.

Mount Dora Historical Society Ghost Walk - the first

of its kind. Ghost Walks for people with low vision or blindness are a collaboration of the Mount Dora Historical Society, the Mount Dora Lions Club and New Vision for Independence and is an evolving program to bring history and mystery to all. The Ghost Walk includes a tour of the Mount Dora Museum, an interactive theatrical venue, and a 45 minute walk through the streets and back alleys of Mount Dora. Guide and service dogs are allowed. Sighted guide will be provided by the Mount Dora Lions Leo Club and New Vision. Scheduled events are April 25th with additional dates to be announced. There will be 2 tours each night and space is limited. For reservations or more information call Mary Pezzo at 352-735-9629 or e-mail her at mpezzo@embarqmail.com.



VIP Support Groups

Clermont

4th Friday each month at 1 pm
Meets at Asbury House, 949 7th St,
Clermont. Call Florence 429-3030

Hawthorne—residents only

1st Thursday each month at 10 am
Meets at the Recreation Center. Call
Bob or Betty 326-3903

Lake Port Square—Leesburg

2nd Wednesday each month at 12
pm. Meets in the Auxiliary Dining
Room, East Bldg. Public is welcome,
call Ruth at 315-0362 to reserve a
seat.

Lake View Terrace—Altoona

Public welcome. Meeting times vary.
Call Chris 669-2133 x 257

Triangle Group

1st Wednesday each month at 1 pm
Meets at Sandpiper Mobile Home
Park Clubhouse. Call Ursula 589-
1209

Mount Dora

1st Wednesday each month at 6:30
pm. Meets at St. Edward's at 5th and
Grandview. Sponsored by the Mount
Dora Lions Club. Call Sandy at 455-
9300

New Dimension

2nd Friday each month at 11:30 am.
Meets at Taste Tempters Restaurant,
2310 W Main St. Leesburg. Call Har-
old or Jennie at 352-753-2018

Your Help Is Needed

As state funding is cut back, dona-
tions from private individuals and
fundraising becomes more important.
There are 2 ways you can help. One
way is to **volunteer**.

Volunteers are needed to assist with
the planning of the Walk scheduled
for October. Meetings are held dur-
ing the day at the Leesburg campus
of Lake-Sumter Community College.
Call if interested for the time and date
of the next planning meeting.

The other is "Just Ten"

A letter writing campaign in support
of New Vision. We are asking every-
one who would like to help, to write
"Just Ten" letters to family and
friends. Tell them about how you
have benefitted from our services
and ask for either direct financial sup-

port or as a supporter of our upcom-
ing Walk. We have sample letters
available and more information will
be forthcoming at future VIP meet-
ings. Call 352-435-5040 for more
information.

Florida Council for the Blind's 56th
Annual Convention will be held June
4th-7th. For information call Sally
Benjamin at 800-267-4448 or visit
their website at www.fcb.org

Changing Lives, One Pair at a Time

New Vision has also partnered with
the Lions Club to collect used
glasses. In just about any dresser
drawer, one can find a pair of eye-
glasses that are no longer being
used. That same pair of eyeglasses
can change another person's life.

Throughout the year, volunteers
clean, sort by prescription strength
and package the glasses. Most of
the recycled glasses are distributed
to people in need in developing
countries where they will have the
greatest impact.

Lions accept prescription and read-
ing glasses, sunglasses and plastic
and metal frames. Children's
glasses are particularly needed. For
more information call: 352-435-5040

Computers for the Visually Impaired

Texas Center for the Physically Im-
paired provides computers, free of
charge (with a \$100 donation) to
visually impaired persons. (Note:
This service is available to residents
of the United States and Canada.)
The donated computers are refur-
nished by volunteers.

For more information about Com-
puters for the Blind or to make a tax-
deductible contribution, please con-
tact:

Robert Langford Ph.D., President
Texas Center for the Physically Im-
paired
11330 Quail Run
Dallas, Texas 75238
Tel: (214) 340 6328
Fax: (214) 340 0870
E-mail: boolang@airmail.net

YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

In these tough economic times non-
profit organizations are also facing
drastic cuts in budgets. No non-profit
is secure from funding losses. If you
are fortunate enough to be in a position
to offer financial assistance, here are
some ways you can help make a posi-
tive difference:

Send a donation today. To send a
contribution of any type or amount,
please use the following mailing ad-
dress: New Vision for Independence,
9501 US Highway 441, Leesburg, FL
34788.

Make an Honor or Memorial gift.
Honor a friend, relative, or even a pet
(in honor of dog guides for the blind) –
we will send cards of celebration or
sympathy in your name.

**Take Advantage of IRA Rollover Be-
fore End of Year.** If you are age 70 ½
or older, new legislation now allows
you to make cash gifts totaling up to
\$100,000 a year from your IRA to
qualified charities like New Vision with-
out incurring income tax on the with-
drawal. The provision is effective for
tax year 2009 only.

**Remember New Vision in your es-
tate planning.** Make a lasting commit-
ment by naming New Vision in your
will. You would have a legacy of pro-
viding independence for individuals
with low vision or blindness.

Items for Sale:

Large Print Greeting Cards 12/\$10.00

2008 New Vision Walk for Independ-
ence T-shirt: reduced to \$10 (size
Large only)

Used Video Eye and CCTV's: call to
arrange to see them and for the price.
Magnifier for TV
New Vision tote bag—\$4

We have a small store with vision aids
at Lake-Sumter Community College.
Hours Monday - Thursday 8 am - 5 pm

Correction:
Freedom Scientific (800) 444-4443