

in

sight

Fall 2009

The Sight Center of Northwest Ohio

Board of Trustees

Cynthia Roepke, CFP
Chairman

Bruce Davis
Vice Chairman

David Parrish
Treasurer

Nancy Gabalac
Secretary

Sandra Goerlich Alexander

Jim Hinkle

Anthony L. Reams

Jennifer Rozic

Cathy Sheets

Kimberly Snively

Thomas J. Zraik, Esq.

Dawn Christensen

Executive Director

InSight is published periodically

Sarah Krockmalny, Development Director

Mission Statement

The Sight Center of Northwest Ohio provides services that maximize the independence of individuals who are blind or visually impaired and minimize the incidence of blindness through education and prevention.



The Sight Center
of northwest ohio

1002 Garden Lake Parkway
Toledo, Ohio 43614

Phone: 419.720.3937

Toll free: 800.624.8378

Fax: 419.720.3938

www.sightcentertoledo.org

This publication is available in alternate formats.

The Sight Center Holds 2009 Summer Camp



scheduled in the afternoons including trips to a pottery lesson at the 577 Foundation; therapeutic riding session at Serenity Farms in Luckey, Ohio; and dinner at the Spaghetti Warehouse. Evenings were spent honing cooking and cleaning skills, additional lesson work, and going to the recreation center to work out or play a game of goal ball.

The Sight Center of Northwest Ohio held its 2nd annual residential summer camp this past June. The focus of the summer camp, held at the University of Toledo, was to prepare youth ages 14 - 18 for living independently in the future.

The eleven campers who attended came from all over northwest Ohio to spend the week learning new skills, making new friends, and having a great time. The week was packed with activities and learning experiences. Staff and campers stayed at the Horton International House dorm. Each day began with classes including orientation and mobility/white cane training, activities of daily living, and assistive technology training. Field trips were

This summer camp provides an opportunity for intensive instruction and training for students who are preparing to go to college or enter the workplace, giving them additional opportunities to increase and improve skills needed for an independent future. Currently, this is the only summer camp for adolescents who are blind or visually impaired in northwest Ohio.

Both the campers and the staff had a wonderful week and are looking forward to next year. A special thank you goes out to all of the volunteers, staff members, and the St. Marguerite D'Youville Foundation who made this week such a success!

DEAR FRIENDS AND COLLEAGUES..

Every day at The Sight Center we strive towards our mission of maximizing the independence of our clients who are blind or visually impaired. Our staff members spend each day:

Training clients to use proper magnification and lighting.

Introducing safe, new ways to manage daily tasks and encourage independence.

Instructing clients on ways they can travel independently and safely.

Teaching clients how to utilize different software packages and assistive technology devices to remain independent and competitive in the workplace, at school or at home. Equally important, however, is the second aspect of our mission: to minimize the incidence of blindness through education.

According to the American Foundation for the Blind, over 20 million adults in the U.S. have some level of vision impairment. These numbers are just as astounding on the local level. In



The Sight Center's 16 county service area, an estimated 170,430 people are blind or visually impaired. As the baby boom generation ages over the next 30 years, these numbers are expected to double. The need for rehabilitation services to help people maintain their independence after vision loss is growing rapidly, making it more important than ever for us to spread the word about our programs and services.

This is one of the reasons why we are proud to be holding our 2nd Annual White Cane Walk on October 10th. The walk will not only help increase awareness of the issues facing those who are blind or visually impaired and the White Cane Law, which states that a driver must yield the right-of-way to a person carrying a white cane, but will also help raise funds for The Sight Center's programs and services. The event allows participants to walk in the shoes of a person who is blind. For a brief period, they experience life without sight.

Also, we provide public education programs to community organizations, senior groups, and schools. We would be happy to come out to speak to your group. Call Sarah Krockmalny or myself at The Sight Center today at 419-720-3937 to schedule your public education program.

Together we can offer hope and help for continued independence among people of all ages who are blind or visually impaired.

With Warm Regards,

Executive Director
Dawn Christensen

"THE SIGHT CENTER HAS CHANGED MY LIFE"

"This is a success story!" Margaret Harrison says herself. She has come a long way in the past couple of years.

Two years ago, Margaret noticed that it was getting more difficult to see clearly. She was having trouble reading recipes, cooking for her family, and writing checks. Not being able to see as she once had was very frustrating. "It affected my personality. I thought I was supposed to be able to do the things I could before," says Margaret.

Wanting more out of life, Margaret made an appointment with her ophthalmologist. It was then that she was diagnosed with Macular Degeneration, a progressive medical condition that results in central vision loss. Margaret's ophthalmologist then referred her to the specialists at Retina Vitreous in Toledo, Ohio.

Margaret was open to the various treatments that were offered to her. To further improve her ability to remain independent and enhance her limited vision, she was referred

to The Sight Center.

"It's been a success ever since!" she says. During her time with The Sight Center, Margaret worked with staff to obtain two low vision devices; a magnifier on a stand to assist with reading the newspaper, mail, and other longer-term reading tasks and a smaller, portable hand held magnifier to assist with reading recipes, dials, and labels at the grocery store. The Sight Center staff also went to Margaret's home to teach her how to mark appliances and cooking utensils so that she can continue to do daily activities such as cooking and cleaning.

Now, Margaret says she enjoys life again. "The Sight Center has changed my life and my attitude."

Though her vision has not improved, with the training and tools from The Sight Center, Margaret says, "I feel like I'm now almost where I was before I lost my eyesight."

To others struggling with their own vision,

Margaret says, "Don't wait. Don't hesitate. Go to The Sight Center."



THANK YOU

Because of the generous support of foundations and trusts, The Sight Center of Northwest Ohio is able to offer quality services to people of all ages who are blind or visually impaired.

We sincerely thank the following for their contributions in January through June of 2009:

Anderson Foundation

\$2,000 for Direct Client Services Support

Center for Nonprofit Resources

\$9,000 for Capacity Building

Clement O. Miniger Memorial Foundation

\$8,000 for Technology and Equipment Support

Ronald McDonald House Charities of Northwest Ohio

\$8,690 for Children's Program

R.A. Stranahan Charitable Trust

\$5,000 for Children's Services

Toledo Rotary Foundation

\$6,000 for Low Vision Equipment Support

Waite-Brand Foundation

\$10,000 for Direct Client Services Support

SPRING OPEN HOUSE HELD TO HIGHLIGHT SERVICES TO COMMUNITY

The Sight Center of Northwest Ohio held a Spring Open House on May 21, 2009. The event highlighted programs and services available for those who are blind or visually impaired and also celebrated the 2nd Anniversary of our new facility.

“We were thrilled to hold our Spring Open House,” says Dawn Christensen, Executive Director of The Sight Center. “The need for rehabilitation services to help people maintain their independence after vision loss is growing rapidly. It’s more important than ever for us to get the word out about The Sight Center’s various services and programs.”

THE SIGHT CENTER OFFERS VISION EDUCATION GROUPS THROUGHOUT LUCAS COUNTY

The Sight Center has received generous support from the Area Office on Aging of Northwestern Ohio to hold Vision Education Groups for seniors throughout Lucas County. The focus of each 8 week group is to learn techniques for greater independence and how vision loss impacts daily life.

If you are interested in more information, please contact Bonnie Schefdore, Case Manager, at 419-720-3937 extension 114.

CAMPER PROFILE



Meagan (center) and Becca (left) look at different types of magnifications devices that can help them with their schoolwork.

Name: Meagan

Nickname: Meg

Age: 19

School: 2009 Graduate of Eastwood High School; Starting at Bowling Green State University this fall

College Major: Integrated Language Arts Education

Hobbies: Rollerblading, Dancing, Reading, Playing the Tenor Saxophone and Bass Guitar

Favorite Food: Bar-b-que Beef Sandwiches

Favorite School Subject: English Literature

Favorite Part of Camp: Walking together as a group. We each took turns being the leader.

Who's Your Hero: Jimmy (a fellow camper) – He could lead our group the BEST with the least amount of vision.

When I Grow Up: I want to be either an English teacher, book editor or author.

Interesting Fact About Me: I'm in the BGSU marching band.



Meagan, Joe and David (left to right) at the 577 Foundation.



Meagan horseback riding at Serenity Farms.

2ND ANNUAL WHITE CANE WALK

Put on your walkin' shoes! The Sight Center's 2nd Annual White Cane Walk will take place on Saturday, October 10, 2009 from 10am until 2pm at The Sight Center.

This event will not only increase awareness of the White Cane Law and issues facing those who are blind or visually impaired, but will also raise funds for The Sight Center's programs and services.

Join us for a day of fun, awareness, and opportunities!
For More Information Visit:
www.toledowhitecaneWalk.kintera.org

Thank You to Our 2009 Sponsors:
The Eye Institute of Northwestern Ohio
Quality Family Eye Care
The Andersons
Anonymous
Area Office on Aging of Northwestern Ohio



Brooks Insurance Agency
Fifth Third Bank
Findley Davies
Huntington
Toledo Optical Laboratory
Vision Associates

If you are interested in event sponsorship information please contact Sarah Krockmalny at 419-720-3937, extension 105.

ONLINE DONATIONS ARE NOW ACCEPTED

Visit www.sightcentertoledo.org today!

"WHERE THERE'S A WILL THERE'S A WAY"

Remember The Sight Center in Your Will

For more information on making a planned gift to The Sight Center of Northwest Ohio Please contact Sarah Krockmalny at 419-720-3937, ext. 105.

REMEMBER THE SIGHT CENTER DURING THE United Way Campaign



If you wish to designate your United Way contribution to The Sight Center, please choose Option C on your pledge card and write in **The Sight Center of Northwest Ohio** and the appropriate

amount. Thank you for your support!

DOES YOUR EMPLOYER MATCH CHARITABLE GIFTS?

Many employers sponsor matching gift programs and will match charitable contributions made by their employees to eligible institutions. If your company has a matching gift program, request a matching gift form from your employer, and send it completed and signed with your gift. We will do the rest. The impact of your gift to The Sight Center may be doubled or possibly tripled! Some companies even match gifts made by retirees and/or spouses.

ADDITIONAL PHOTOS

Thank you to Kane Anderson, Chris Barrow, Lucas Tolar, and Ryan Huster from Central Catholic High School who volunteered for the day at The Sight Center. They spent the afternoon cleaning up our grounds. Great job!



MORE SUMMER CAMP FUN



Campers enjoyed a fun afternoon at the 577 Foundation in Perrysburg where they took a pottery workshop and had a tour of the facility.

**2nd WHITE CANE WALK
Participant Registration**



Location of Walk: The Sight Center of Northwest Ohio

Date: Saturday, October 10, 2009

Time: 10:00am – 2:00pm

Rain or Shine

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Day Telephone: _____ Email: _____

Age: _____

Individual Registration \$15

Family Registration \$30

Admission for Family of 4

(Minors must be accompanied by an adult)

Payment Method:

Cash Enclosed: \$ _____

Check Enclosed: \$ _____ *(Payable to The Sight Center of Northwest Ohio)*

Credit Card

MC/VISA #: _____ Exp Date: _____

Signature: _____

Unfortunately, I cannot participate in the **WHITE CANE WALK** but please accept my fully tax deductible donation of \$ _____ to support The Sight Center.

I, the undersigned, for myself, my heirs, executors, administrators and assigns, do hereby release, and discharge The Sight Center of Northwest Ohio and sponsors from any and all claims, demands, actions, and causes of any kind or character for injuries sustained by me arising from my participation in this event. I verify that I am sufficiently physically fit to participate in this event, and that I have no medical condition that prevents me from safely participating herein. I agree that any photos or other images of my likeness are the sole property of the photographer and The Sight Center of Northwest Ohio.

Signature of walker.

If under 18, a parent signature is also required.

The Sight Center of Northwest Ohio is a 501(c)3 organization.

Please email, fax or mail completed form to: Sarah Krockmalny, Development Director, The Sight Center,
1002 Garden Lake Pkwy, Toledo, Ohio 43614 Phone: 419.720.3937, ext. 105. Fax: 419.720.3938

Email: skrockmalny@sightcentertoledo.org

For More Information Visit: www.toledowhitecanewalk.kintera.org

ANNUAL PARENTS APPRECIATION LUNCHEON HELD



Dani Moran, The Sight Center's Certified Vision Rehabilitation Therapist, and students who participate in the Daily Living Skills training program at The Sight Center held their annual Parents Appreciation Celebration on May 29th. Students utilized skills they developed throughout the life skills class to prepare a celebratory banquet, including designing an invitation, setting up and decorating a room, preparing a luncheon, and baking desserts. The students were able to showcase their skills for their parents and take pride in the completion of the school year. During the program, each student was presented with an

award that captured his or her unique contribution.

The Sight Center has been a part of their educational plan by integrating skills such as math/measuring, planning, problem solving, use of technology, and adaptive skill development into everyday situations including: cooking, cleaning, shopping, and socialization. The students range from Kindergarten to 6th Grade. The students take great pride in the tasks they complete and they are truly excited to share a meal which demonstrates their various accomplishments.



It was a wonderful end to a fantastic school year!

SYLVANIA SENIOR CENTER VISION EDUCATION GROUP CONTINUES

The Vision Education Program held at the Sylvania Senior Center this past spring was a huge success. Group members attended 8 weekly sessions during April and May to share information about resources for those who are visually impaired and also to share their stories and support one another.



The Sylvania Senior Center has volunteered to continue to hold monthly group meetings. Also, a member of the group is continuing with monthly meetings held at the Holland Branch Library on the first Wednesday of every month.

Thank you to the Area Office on Aging of Northwestern Ohio for making this Vision Education Group possible.

VISION EDUCATION GROUP CORNER

Here are the groups that are meeting around town:
Pelham Manor: Last Friday every Month: 1:00 to 2:30

Frog Town Low Vision Group: Holland Library: 10:00 to 11:00 1st Wednesday of every month

Sylvania Senior Center: 1st Tuesday every month: 10:00 to 11:00

Currently running Vision Education Programs:

Maumee Senior Center: Every Tuesday: 10:00 to 11:30. July 14th through September 1st.

West Park Place: Every Tuesday: 3:00 to 4:30. August 4th through September 22nd.

Woodlands at Sunset House: Every Tuesday: 10:00 to 11:30. October 6th though November 24th.

GIVE A GIFT OF TIME

For more information on Volunteer Opportunities at The Sight Center visit www.sightcentertoledo.org or call Rebecca Lugo at 419-720-3937, extension 102.

IN APPRECIATION

Donations

January 1 through June 30, 2009

\$1,000 and above

Maumee Lions Club
MLM Charitable Foundation
Van Buren Lions Club

\$500 to \$999

Delta Gamma Alumnae Chapter
of Toledo
Dentsply Foundation
Ms. Cynthia Roepke
Ms. Catherine Sheets

\$250 to \$499

ITW Foundation Matching Gift
Program
Mr. & Mrs. Alan J. Libbe
Mr. Robert Peddicord
Mr. & Mrs. Larry Peterson
Woman's Educational Club, Inc.

\$100 to \$249

American Business Women's
Association
Mr. Stephen L. Banks
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Baranoski
Drs. Thomas E. Bauer & Diane
Dible
Bryan Lions Club Foundation
Bryan Lioness Club
Capital Tire
Mr. & Mrs. James Chidester
Mr. & Mrs. Darrell H. Fox
Deshler Lions Club
Mrs. Katherine F. Haley
Mr. & Mrs. Scott Hamner
Ms. Ruth Haylett
Jewish Friendship Center
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas P. Kennedy
Ms. Sarah M. Krockmalny
Lima Westside Lions Club
Dr. & Mrs. Thomas Mehelas
Mr. & Mrs. Peter R. Orser
Perrysburg Lions Club
Perrysburg Senior Citizens Club
Ms. Jennifer L. Rozic
L. E. Savory Tree & Lawn Service
Ms. Nancy L. Smythe
Mr. & Mrs. Donald L. Solomon
Takeda Pharmaceuticals Employee
Giving Campaign
Dr. & Mrs. Aron Wajskol
Ms. Betty Wade
William Vaughan Company
Dr. John Wood
Mr. Daniel L. Van Ness
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas L. Young
Ms. Irene Zunkiewicz

\$99 and under

Mr. James W. Adams, Sr.
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas J. Allen
Arlington Lions Club
Mrs. Louise N. Bankey
Ms. Susan Bedra
Mrs. Sandra L. Bowdle
Ms. Joyce L. Bowman-Carney
Ms. Patricia M. Budner
Ms. Stacey Butts
Mr. & Mrs. John Burton
Mr. Joe Carron & Ms. Sally Marti
Ms. Maureen Clayton
Mr. John K. Clement, Sr.
Mrs. Geraldine V. Coppus
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Conroy
Miss Helen M. Dickman
Mrs. Marguerite E. Faulkner
Ms. Evelyn R. Finke
Mr. & Mrs. Donald R. Fraser
Glandorf Lions Club
Mr. Albert Lee Graham
Mrs. Marcella Haas
Mr. & Mrs. Melvin Hammond
Mr. & Mrs. Henry W. Hauenstein
Mr. & Mrs. James Holzemer
Dr. Robert J. Huss
Mrs. Toshi Kadowaki
Dr. William R. Kegerize
Mr. & Mrs. Edward L. Kelley
Mr. Dennis J. Kornos
Ms. Dejah Krajcar
Mr. Joseph E. Lawless
Dr. & Mrs. Robert C. Layman
Mrs. Margaret Luzader
Mr. Joseph G. Messinger
Mrs. Deloris Moore
Mr. & Mrs. John Morris
Paulding Lions Club
Ms. Ellen Petrillo
Mr. & Mrs. Paul W. Pierce
Mr. John W. Potter
Mr. John David Richards
Judge & Mrs. Reno R. Riley, Jr.
Mr. Edward G. Rutherford
Mr. Mitcheal Salem
Samagama Club of Presidents
Mr. & Mrs. Lewis W. Saxby, Jr.
Ms. Joanne Schreiner
Mr. & Mrs. Charles W. Sears
Mrs. Marian E. Sluhan
Dr. & Mrs. James Stahl
Mr. & Mrs. Floyd Stewart
Mrs. Eleanor Stokes
TAP Community Giving
Campaign
Mr. Barton Wagenman

Ms. Shelly Wandtke
Waterford Bank
Ms. Mary Welch
Mr. Harry Willoughby
Mrs. Marilyn M. Wright
Mrs. Leona R. Zalecki

In Memory Of

Mr. James E. Allen
Mr. Marshall B. Donaldson

Dr. Douglas Austin
Dr. and Mrs. Thomas A. Klein

Mr. Frank Comte
Mr. and Mrs. Michael J Aubry
Mr. and Mrs. Carl Bachmayer
Comte Construction Company
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Comte
Mr. and Mrs. Tom and Amy
Davis

Mr. Henry Elfring
The Fred Christen and Sons
Company
Ms. Laura Grandt
Mr. and Mrs. Jay Lowenstein
Ohio Concrete Sawing &
Drilling, Inc.
Ms. Mae Jo Ritchie
Ms. Dorothy Sweeney

Dr. Jerry Draheim
Dr. and Mrs. Richard N. Draheim

Lula Grames
Mr. and Mrs. Peggy and Michael
Holewinski
Mr. and Mrs. Kenny and Julie
Leist

Mr. Stephen J. Helfrich
Mr. and Mrs. James S. Helfrich

Mr. Robert Huebner
Mrs. Posey Huebner

Mr. Raymond Ketzer
Mr. and Mrs. Michael J Aubry
Mr. and Mrs. Lee and Dixie
Baranowski
Ms. Angela M. Csehi
Mr. and Mrs. James Dixon
Mr. William C. Ellis
Mr. and Mrs. Terry Furlong
Mr. and Mrs. Rosemary A.
Hepfinger

Ms. Lucy Hornyak
Ms. Beatrice Rang
Mr. and Mrs. Don Reau
Turner Electric Company
Mr. and Mrs. David J. Turner
Ms. Karen Wehman
Ms. Kathy Wielinski

Mr. John P. Lynch
Mr. and Mrs. Neil L. Horn

Margaret McCarthy
Ms. Deborah J. Dobrak
Mr. and Mrs. Adam and Erin Keel
Mr. and Mrs. Mary and Edward
Lazur
Ms. Mary Beth Shoemaker

Mrs Margaret Pasco
Mr. and Mrs. Steve and Phyllis
Kloos

Mr. Ralph Reeves
Mr. and Mrs. Craig and Tanya Bell
Ms. April Tritschler

Ms. Jenny Sawicki
Ms. Mary Frances Meekison
Ms. Angela B. Ruth
Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Sawicki, III
Mr. and Mrs. Edwin R. Wheeler

Mr. Donald L. Terrell
Ms. Nora L. Reagan



The Sight Center
of northwest ohio

1002 Garden Lake Parkway
Toledo, Ohio 43614

www.sightcentertoledo.org

Non Profit Org.
U.S Postage
PAID
Permit #338
Toledo, OH

Serving the following counties:

<i>Allen</i>	<i>Ottawa</i>
<i>Defiance</i>	<i>Paulding</i>
<i>Erie</i>	<i>Putnam</i>
<i>Fulton</i>	<i>Sandusky</i>
<i>Hancock</i>	<i>Seneca</i>
<i>Henry</i>	<i>Williams</i>
<i>Huron</i>	<i>Wood</i>
<i>Lucas</i>	<i>Wyandot</i>

From low vision to independence.™



EPIC ROCKS FASHION

LEVIS COMMONS
presents

epicrocksfashion

a collision of culture and couture
an outdoor media event that fuses fashion and the arts

Are you a fashionista with a soft spot for great causes? Levis Commons and EPIC are going to blow your mind with the city's premier fashion event.

EPIC Rocks Fashion - Culture and Couture is an outdoor multimedia event that fuses fashion and the arts.

Presented by Levis Commons and EPIC (engaging people, inspiring change), the EPIC Rocks Fashion Show will take place on September 26, 2009 at the Entertainment District of Levis Commons from 8 p.m. to Midnight.

The runway will rock designs by national designers, New York designers, London designers, as well as local fashions from Bella Brie, C Sterling Jewelers,

Elegant Rags, Red Envy Boutique, Michael David and more.

Tickets can be purchased at www.epicrocksfashion.com.

A percentage of proceeds from the event will benefit The Sight Center of Northwest Ohio.

**Please note: this is a responsible, adult event. Guests should be 21 years of age or older.*

VIP tickets: \$150 per person
Culture Seating: \$50 per person

Couture Standing Room Only: \$25 per person
EPIC Toledo pricing: \$15 per person

THIRD PARTY FUNDRAISING AND IDEAS...

One of the many ways to support The Sight Center is by planning an event to raise funds for the organization. This kind of activity is called a "third-party" fundraiser.

A group or individual can host a fundraiser and name The Sight Center as the beneficiary. The following ideas would make great third-party fundraisers this fall!

- Lemonade Stand – fun for all ages!
- Garage Sale – clean out your house and donate a portion of the sales.
- Bake Sale – make your favorite treats to sell and donate the proceeds.
- Car Wash – set up in a local parking lot and wash cars for a donation.

For more information, please contact Sarah Krockmalny at 419-720-3937 extension 105.

SHOPPING FOR CHARITY DAY A SUCCESS

Thank you to all who came out to support us at The Andersons Market on June 4, 2009. The Sight Center's Shopping for Charity day raised over \$200 that will go towards programs and services.

A special thank you to Jim Hinkle, Sight Center Trustee, for all of his work in making this event possible.