



VISIONS in Indiana

Spring 2016

Vol. 24, No. 3

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Mark Your Calendars



26-27 May 2016

Multimedia Accessibility in the Digital Classroom. Presenter: Ting Sui. PASS Project, Blumberg Center, Indiana State University. Visit the PASS Project website for more information at <http://www.indstate.edu/education/Blumberg/PASS/BLV-Trainings>.

7-8 June 2016

IMABLE Approach to Braille Literacy. Presenter: Diane Wormsley. PASS Project, Blumberg Center, Indiana State University. Visit the PASS Project website for more information at <http://www.indstate.edu/education/Blumberg/PASS/BLV-Trainings>.

20-21 June 2016

Transition: Starting Early to Plan from Early Childhood to Adult Services. Presenter: Tara Mason. PASS Project, Blumberg Center, Indiana State University. Visit the PASS Project website for more information at <http://www.indstate.edu/education/Blumberg/PASS/BLV-Trainings>.

19 June – 22 July 2016

STEP, Student Training and Employment Program. A summer program that offers students who are blind or visually impaired the opportunity to learn the fundamentals of finding and keeping a job. For questions or more information, please contact Matt Edwards at 317-704-8204 or Debbie Baber at 317-704-8256 or visit www.bosma.org.

11-22 July 2016

ISBVI Summer School. Indiana School for the Blind and Visually Impaired, Indianapolis, IN. For more information, contact: Outreach and Related Services Department, Indiana School for the Blind and Visually Impaired, 317-253-1481, ext. 189, or visit the Outreach website at www.isbvik12.org then search on Outreach and Events.

18-22 July 2016

Expanding Your Horizons (EYH) Summer Day Camp. Indiana School for the Blind and Visually Impaired, Indianapolis, IN. For more information, contact: Outreach and Related Services Department, Indiana School for the Blind and Visually Impaired, 317-253-1481, ext. 189, or visit the Outreach website at www.isbvik12.org then search on Outreach and Events.

11-12 August 2016

Tailoring the Reading Experience to Meet Individual Needs. Libraries Serving Persons with Print Disabilities. A satellite meeting of the IFLA World Library and Information Congress. Galt House Hotel, Louisville, KY. For more information, visit <http://www.aph.org/tailoring-the-reading-experience/>.

6-8 October 2016

The American Printing House for the Blind 148th Annual Meeting. Hyatt Regency, Louisville, Kentucky. Visit www.aph.org/annual-meeting/ for more information.

15 October 2016

Indiana Regional Cane Quest. Indiana School for the Blind and Visually Impaired, Indianapolis, IN. For more information, contact: Outreach and Related Services Department, Indiana School for the Blind and Visually Impaired, 317-253-1481, ext. 189, or visit the Outreach website at www.isbvik12.org then search on Outreach and Events.

19-21 October 2016

Closing the Gap 34th Annual Conference. Minneapolis, Minnesota. For more information visit www.closingthegap.com/conference/.

2-3 November 2016

2016 PATINS State Conference. Crowne Plaza Hotel at Historic Union Station, Downtown Indianapolis. Inspirational keynotes, enlightening breakout sessions, and much more. Visit the PATINS website at <http://www.patinsproject.com> for additional information.

10-11 November 2016

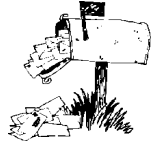
Vision Conference. Indianapolis, IN. PASS Project and Indiana School for the Blind and Visually Impaired. An agenda and more information TBA on the PASS Project website at <http://www.indstate.edu/education/Blumberg/PASS/BLV-Trainings>.



IERC Updates

by

Leslie Durst, Director



Packing List Process is now Online!

We have recently completed and rolled out an online packing slip reporting function on the ICAM web ordering system for items ordered and shipped from the IERC.

A packing slip will still be enclosed in each shipment, but you will no longer be required to sign a copy and return to the IERC. The packing slip receipt process will be done online.

Please make note of this new process and be sure to login to the ICAM as soon as you receive shipments from the IERC and confirm your delivery.

Online Packing Slip Confirm Delivery Process

When you receive a shipment from the IERC, please follow these steps:

- 1) Log into the ICAM
- 2) Click Confirm Delivery (on the left menu under Review Orders)
- 3) Enter the Order ID# from your packing slip
- 4) Enter the First 2 Letters of the student's last name
- 5) Click SUBMIT
- 6) Enter the date the package was received in the field Receive Date
- 7) Click Save

The Message field will state Final Shipment or Partial Shipment.

Visit the IERC webpage for step-by-step instructions at <http://www.patinsproject.com/ierc-policies-and-procedures/packing-slip-delivery-confirmation>.

From Beyond the Walls: Learning From Men and Women in Prison Braille Programs Across the Country

The Miami Accessible Media Project (MAMP), an IERC program located at the Miami Correctional Facility in Bunker Hill, Indiana, was one of three featured national prison braille programs to present at the California Transcribers and Educators for the Blind and Visually Impaired (CTEBVI) March conference via SKYPE. The presentation, "From Beyond the Walls: Learning from Men and Women in Prison Braille Programs Across the Country," showcased the talents of select prison braille programs. Robert Eutz, Director of MAMP and the men of the MAMP program, presented to the national audience, highlighting the various techniques they utilize to manipulate text and publisher files to create braille in a timely manner. MAMP is a collaborative project with the Indiana Department of Education, Indiana School for the Blind and Visually Impaired, the Indiana Educational Resource Center and the Department of Corrections, PEN Industries.

IERC Website Updated

Please visit the revised IERC webpage located on the recently redesigned PATINS Project website at <http://www.patinsproject.com/icam/ierc>. You will find News and Updates regarding IERC happenings, training news, current news trending in the vision field as well as IERC and VI resources. Check us out!

Annual Inventory

The *IERC Annual Inventory Recall/Reallocation* process started mid-March and will run through end of May. This annual process provides a mechanism for school corporations to report and account for all materials ordered and currently on loan and in use through the IERC. BLV teachers/DRMS can renew and reassign borrowed materials online via the ICAM web renewal and reassign function. Users who placed original orders can login and see all the materials they have borrowed and then renew for the same student for another school year or reassign to another student for the next school year. For teachers and DRMS who did not place original orders, the IERC has contacted these individuals via email with a set of special instructions on how to complete the annual inventory process for their school corporation/s.

Please remember that professional library books, the VisioBook and the Perkins SmartBraille cannot be renewed, but must be returned at the end of the school year. When returning the VisioBooks and Perkins Smartbrailers to the IERC, please be sure to account for all contents in the original

shipment, i.e. cords, manuals, etc., and return the items using a trackable mail service (i.e. UPS, FedEx or USPS) insured for their replacement value. The VisioBooks and SmartBrailers may be requested again for the following year via the ICAM.

New this Year...

There have been an increasing number of school corporations that have pulled out or will pull out of a Cooperative or Interlocal, and as a result the ordering teachers/DRMs have changed or will be changing. Therefore, to assist the IERC in effectively tracking inventory, if your school corporation will no longer be part of a Cooperative or Interlocal at the beginning of the 2016-2017 school year, and the teacher/DRM will be changing, we are requesting that ALL items currently on loan from the IERC to the respective school corporation/s, be returned to the IERC by June 15, 2016. The newly designated teacher/DRM will need to reorder materials on the ICAM for students.

Duplicate Student Error Message

If you have a student who has moved into your system and has already been registered in the ICAM, do not attempt to reregister the student. Instead, log into the ICAM and update the student information using the Edit Student function. If you attempt to reregister a student already in the system, you will receive a “Duplicate Student” error message.

IERC ICAM Updates

Book Orders

Please submit book orders for braille and large print textbooks and specialized aids and equipment for next school year. As we continue our transition over to the UEB, our priority will be on the transcription of instructional materials that have not been previously transcribed into UEB. There are limited transcribers who are producing UEB at this time, so the sooner we can process orders the better. Our staff will contact ordering districts if print books are needed for braille transcription or for large print production after we review submitted orders from the ICAM system.

Course Syllabi for Original Braille Transcriptions. Be sure to send a course syllabus to the IERC for braille orders that require original transcription. Please include the sequence in which the chapters will be taught by the classroom teacher and the dates they will be taught. This will assist the braille transcriber and the IERC staff to disseminate needed instructional content to the student on a timely basis.

Placing a Special Request

If you search the ICAM for an item and your results are unsuccessful, you may place a *Special Request* for that item. To place a special request, log in to the ICAM. On the main page, select Special Request and enter data or after you have searched the ICAM with the APH catalog number, you will have the option to place a "Special Request."

Need Assistance?

If you need additional assistance or information, do not hesitate to contact the IERC staff at 800-833-2198 at IERCemail@isbvik12.org. Please contact Kim Burcham directly for Order assistance at kburcham@isbvik12.org or Martha LaBounty at mlabounty@isbvik12.org for Student Registration and Special Request assistance.

SUMMER HOURS

The IERC staff would like to wish all of you a fun-filled summer. We would also like to thank all of you for your cooperation and support throughout this school year. It was a good year for us and we are looking forward to another great year in 2016-2017.

The IERC will be open Monday-Friday during the summer months, from 8:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. Please feel free to call the Center during this time if you have any questions or need information.

**HAVE A WONDERFUL and
RELAXING SUMMER!**



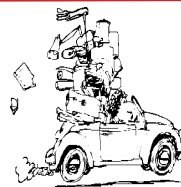
“EYE-DEAS”

by Toni Hughes

Director

Outreach and Related Services

Indiana School for the Blind and Visually Impaired



STEP Program 2016: A STEP towards Success

STEP, Student Training and Employment Program, is an exciting summer program that offers students who are blind or visually impaired the opportunity to learn the fundamentals of finding and keeping a job. Operated in partnership between the Indiana School for the Blind and Visually Impaired and Bosma Enterprises, this four-week program provides a well-balanced schedule of classroom learning, job placement to gain real-world work experience and fun recreational activities.

2016 STEP sessions dates: June 19-July 22. The week of July 4th STEP will be an off week. For questions or more information, please contact Matt Edwards at 317-704-8204 or Debbie Baber at 317-704-8256 or visit their website at <http://www.bosma.org>.

The Indiana Regional Braille Challenge

The *Indiana Regional Braille Challenge* was held at the Indiana School for the Blind and Visually Impaired on Saturday, February 20, 2016, with 25 students competing in 5 age groups. The theme for this year’s challenge was “Braille is Out of This World”. We had an exciting day of competition and events for families. This year, Daniel McNulty and Kelli Suding from PATINS joined the Challenge event to network with parents regarding the PATINS Project statewide services and assistive technology supports (including OPHI) to local school districts.

Winners at this year’s regional challenge were as follows:

APPRENTICE

- 1st Trenton Wheatley – Fairland, IN
- 2nd Matthias Vescelus – Noblesville, IN
- 3rd Kaylei Carie – Dubois, IN

FRESHMAN

- 1st Ian Receveur – Georgetown, IN
- 2nd Eleanor Habecker – Goshen, IN
- 3rd Mattix Garrett – Warsaw, IN

SOPHOMORE

- 1st Drew Meece – Huntingburg, IN
- 2nd Nate Taylor – Noblesville, IN
- 3rd Kaitlyn Overshiner – Bainbridge, IN

JUNIOR VARSITY

- 1st Mitchell Bridwell – Pittsboro, IN
- 2nd Marie Villaneda – Richmond, IN
- 3rd Jessea Vaughan – Ft. Branch, IN

VARSITY

- 1st Mikaela Smith – Valparaiso, IN
- 2nd Juan Pablo Paniagua – Kouts, IN
- 3rd Christian Arnold – Indianapolis, IN

The Braille Institute recently announced the national finalists from the regional challenges around the country. Indiana had three winners! *Ian Receveur*, *Mitchell Bridwell*, and *Mikaela Smith* will be going to the national competition in Los Angeles, CA in June. Congratulations to Ian, Mitchell, and Mikaela and congratulations to all of our Indiana Regional Braille Challenge winners.

The Braille Challenge, an event of the Braille Institute of America, is the only national reading and writing contest in braille for students who are blind and visually impaired. Contests include reading comprehension, braille speed and accuracy, proofreading, spelling and reading tactile charts and graphs. 60 national contestants, representing the 12 top-ranking scores from each of the 5 age groups (grades 1-12), are invited to the finals in Los Angeles, California based on regional preliminaries. More than 1000 school-age students across the country participate in the preliminary contests.

For more information on the Braille Institute's Braille Challenge, visit:
<http://www.brailleinstitute.org/braille-challenge-homepage.html>.

The Indiana Cane Quest

The *Second Annual Indiana Regional Cane Quest*, a fun, new annual orientation and mobility contest through the Braille Institute of America, will take place at the Indiana School for the Blind and Visually Impaired on October 15, 2016. Cane Quest is not a race, but more of a rally, and is open to eligible blind and visually impaired youth in grades 3-12. It is a great way for O&M Specialists and parents to motivate students to sharpen their skills. Grade categories include: Scouts (grades 3-6); Explorers (grades 7-8); and Trailblazers (grades 9-12). Free of charge. Stay tuned for more information.

Other Upcoming Events:

Expanding Your Horizons (EYH) Summer Day Camp

July 18-22, 2016 – Indiana School for the Blind and Visually Impaired, Indianapolis, IN. EYH is an adventurous camp experience for Indiana students between the ages of 10 and 12 who are blind or visually impaired. This week long camp includes activities such as tandem bike riding, hiking, canoeing, and overnight camping experience. Come join the fun. Cost: \$50.00 registration fee. Visit the ISBVI Outreach website for more information or to access registration forms at <http://www.isbvik12.org> then search on “Outreach and Events” or contact the Outreach Office at 317-253-1481, ext. 189.

ISBVI Summer Enrichment 2016

A summer enrichment program will be held at the Indiana School for the Blind and Visually Impaired for students going into grades 5-9, Monday through Friday, July 11th – July 22nd, 2016. The areas of study will include braille, assistive technology, math, Nemeth, and daily living skills. The program will provide direct instruction to students in the areas of math, Nemeth, braille, and assistive technology. This program is available to students throughout the state of Indiana who are blind or have low vision. Dorms are available to students who live outside the metropolitan areas. Priority will be given to students who can attend both weeks. For more information, contact Jay Wilson, MS/HS Principal, Education Office, Indiana School for the Blind and Visually Impaired, 7725 North College Avenue, Indianapolis, IN 46240-2504; p: 317-253-1481, ext. 138; email: jwilson@isbvik12.org.

Vision Conference

Mark Your Calendars! The Indiana State PASS Project, in conjunction with the Indiana School for the Blind and Visually Impaired, Outreach Department, will host a *Vision Conference* on November 10 & 11, 2016. This conference is for teachers of students who are blind/low vision, paraprofessionals, parents of children who are blind/low vision, and early interventionists. The agenda will be announced soon. Certificates of Attendance for contact hours will be available for participants. Please keep checking the PASS Project website at <http://www.indstate.edu/education/Blumberg/PASS/BLV-Trainings> for more information. You won't want to miss this event!



State Library Updates

by Laura Williams

Librarian

Indiana State Library
Special Services Division



Get in the Game with Summer Reading!

The library will be hosting a summer reading program from May 30th-August 15th. Our theme for elementary and middle school students will be “On Your Mark, Get Set, Read!” and our theme for young adults will be “Get in the Game, Read.” Any braille, audio, or large print book borrowed from the library within the time frame will count toward a participant’s total. In addition to borrowing physical copies of books, participants can also download digital audio books from BARD at <http://nlsbard.loc.gov>, or use the BARD Mobile app available from the iTunes app store, the Google Play store, or the Amazon App Store. Students with refreshable braille displays can also download braille books through either the app or the website. To learn more about BARD and BARD Mobile, please visit in.gov/library/3811.htm.

Prizes will be awarded based on number of books read. We will again be offering an iPod Touch to our top readers. All books borrowed from the library must be returned before prizes can be awarded. Only books borrowed or downloaded from the library will count towards a reader’s total. Talking book patrons between the ages of 4 and 21 are eligible for the summer reading program. Please direct any questions regarding the summer reading program to Laura Williams at lawilliams1@library.in.gov or 317-232-0609/1-800-622-4970.

Vision Expo—10th Anniversary Edition

Help us celebrate the tenth anniversary of Vision Expo! This year’s Expo will take place on Saturday, September 24th, from 10am-2 pm. Stay tuned for more information about vendors and presenters at in.gov/library/indianavisionexpo.htm.

New Book Recommendations

Last Stop on Market Street by Matt de la Peña (BR 21056)

A young boy, CJ, rides the bus across town with his grandmother and learns to appreciate the beauty in everyday things. Print/Braille. Winner of the 2016 Newberry Medal. For grades K-3. 2015.

Soar by Joan Bauer (DB 83449)

When his adoptive father accepts a temporary job in Hillcrest, Ohio, twelve-year-old Jeremiah is determined to coach his middle school's baseball team. As a heart transplant recipient, he can't play, but Jeremiah doesn't let that slow him down in pursuing his coaching dreams.. For grades 5-8. 2016.

Stella by Starlight by Sharon M. Draper (DB 82165, BR 20950)

When a burning cross, set by the Klan causes panic and fear in 1932 Bumblebee, North Carolina, fifth-grader Stella must face prejudice and find the strength to demand change in her segregated town. For grades 4-7. 2015.

The Story of Diva and Flea by Mo Wilems (BR 21250, DB 83134)

In the bustling city of Paris, a small, brave dog called Diva and an adventurous cat named Flea become unlikely friends. Uncontracted braille. For grades 2-4. 2015.





by Marcee Wilburn
Project Coordinator

The PASS Project provides professional development that will improve instructional quality and promote academic achievement for students with sensory loss. PASS is funded by the Indiana Department of Education, Office of Special Education through the Blumberg Center at Indiana State University (ISU). The PASS Project provides professional development opportunities for teachers, educational interpreters, paraprofessionals, administrators, related services personnel, and families to improve the educational outcomes for students who are blind or have low vision, deaf or hard of hearing, or deaf-blind. The following information is specific to those who serve students who are blind or have low vision.

Professional Development Activities

The PASS Project, in collaboration with the Indiana Deaf-Blind Services Project, conducted a training titled, *Active Learning: Promoting Independence and Skill Development in Individuals with Multiple Special Needs*. Within this presentation, Patty Obrzut expressed that when given the opportunity, any child can learn! Active Learning, an innovative approach developed by Dr. Lilli Nielsen, focuses on establishing motivating learning environments for children with multiple special needs. This training helped professionals and parents understand the theories of Active Learning, to facilitate simple ways to change the environment, and to create programming that fosters independent and appropriate developmental learning. Participants provided the following comments regarding this professional development opportunity:

“So helpful, great presenter.”

“Very pertinent and useful info.”

“Hands on! Ability to see, touch and try materials. Loved the videos - AWESOME conference!”

“Excellent! Informational!”

If you were unable to attend the training, but are interested in learning more about Active Learning, visit <http://activelearningspace.org/>.

May 2016

Savvy technology use in the classroom is critical to ensure students with visual impairments access to educational materials. On May 26 & 27, Dr. Ting Siu will present *Strategies for Facilitating Access to Instruction in the Modern Classroom*. This training includes two days of interactive learning and discussion of critical issues regarding (assistive) technology for students with visual impairments.

June 2016

Diane Wormsley will present *The Individualized Meaning-centered Approach to Braille Literacy Education (I-M-ABLE)* on June 7 & 8. This two-day training will introduce teachers of children with visual impairments to the I-M-ABLE, and also provide background information on various aspects of teaching braille reading. The materials are designed for those who work with children who are not making progress in braille reading, particularly those with additional cognitive impairments from mild to moderate to severe. The workshop will provide for hands-on teaching and learning experience with the braille code utilizing the various components of the I-M-ABLE.

On June 20 & 21, Tara Mason will present *Transition: Starting Early to Plan from Early Childhood to Adult Services*. The workshop is designed to facilitate participant growth in transition planning and implementation of transition programming for students who are blind, visually impaired, and/or multiply impaired. The workshop will provide resources across the transdisciplinary team related to components of transition progressively built from early childhood needs to adult services.

For more details and registration information for these trainings, visit <http://www.indstate.edu/education/Blumberg/PASS/BLV-Trainings>.

VI Distance Education Training Program

The Educator of Exceptional Needs: Visual Impairment Licensure Program at ISU certifies teachers to educate students who are blind or have low vision. Currently, 21 students are working toward certification.

Applications are now being accepted for the 2017 Cohort which will begin in January. For more information regarding the *Educator of Exceptional Needs: Visual Impairment Licensure Program* and the application process refer to the website - <http://www.indstate.edu/education/Blumberg/PASS/BLV-Distance-Education>.

The American Foundation for the Blind (AFB) offers the *Delta Gamma Foundation Graduate Student Fellowship Award*. With generous support from the Delta Gamma Foundation, AFB selects up to twelve students enrolled in graduate programs that lead to work with people who are living with vision loss from universities nationwide. Laura Knoke, a student enrolled in the “Educator of Exceptional Needs: Visual Impairment Licensure Program” at ISU, and a teacher for the Northeast Indiana Special Education Cooperative (NEISEC), was selected to be a 2016 Delta Gamma Fellow. Laura and her instructor, Lynda Blaising, had the opportunity to attend the 2016 AFB Leadership Conference held in Washington D.C. The AFB Leadership Conference attracts established and emerging leaders. The conference covers the most pressing and relevant topics in the field of blindness and offers many opportunities to learn from the best and brightest minds in the field. Congratulations, Laura!



Laura Knoke is seated on the far left.

ListServ Requests

The PASS Project supports three Listservs for professionals who serve students who are blind or have low vision – The Blind/Low Vision Discussion Listserv for Indiana teachers and the Training Listserv for all professionals serving students who are blind or have low vision. In addition, the UEB Ready? Listserv was created to support professionals who serve students using braille as their literacy mode.

The *Blind/Low Vision Discussion Listserv* is a closed email discussion list designed for Indiana teachers of students who are blind or have low vision. This listserv provides a forum to ask questions, share resources and strategies, and discuss important issues with other educators who support students who are blind, have low vision, or who are deaf-blind.

The *Training Listserv* is a forum to share information regarding upcoming trainings specific to professionals working with students who are blind or have low vision will be disseminated via this listserv.

The *UEB Ready? Listserv* is a closed e-mail discussion list designed for transcribers, teachers, paraprofessionals, and other professionals in Indiana who work with students who utilize braille as their literacy mode. This listserv provides a forum to ask questions, share resources and strategies, and discuss important issues specific to the implementation of Unified English Braille (UEB).

If you are interested in joining these listservs, send an e-mail including the listserv of interest, your name, school district or professional organization, and e-mail address to Marcee Wilburn at Marcee.Wilburn@indstate.edu.

If you are a current subscriber and your email address has changed, please contact Marcee Wilburn to update the ListServ.



For Your Information



The Hadley School for the Blind is now the Hadley Institute for the Blind and Visually Impaired. To learn more about Hadley and check out their new website, visit <http://www.hadley.edu/>.

Perkins eLearning has announced a new webcast. *Ensuring a Successful Eye Exam for Individuals with Ocular Visual Impairments*, presented by Dr. Barry Kran, O.D., FAAOD will cover the challenges of providing a successful eye exam for students with disabilities. Dr. Kran provides practical information related to finding an eye care professional and preparing the student for a successful exam. In addition, he talks about adaptive approaches that have been used. Visit <http://www.perkinselearning.org/videos/webcast>. Additional information about eye examinations can be found at this website. Check out additional onsite and online professional development learning opportunities from Perkins eLearning throughout the months of May, June and July by visiting <http://www.perkinselearning.org/>. Topics include Cortical Visual Impairment, Accessible Literacy for Early Readers, Assistive Technology Solutions, and Autism and Visual Impairments.

The *Paths to Technology* website was recently launched by the Perkins School for the Blind. The new website from Perkins eLearning will help teachers, parents and students understand and use the best new technology. To visit the website, go to <http://www.perkinselearning.org/technology>. While there, register for a live 60-minute webinar on May 25th from 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. with Diane Brauner as she provides an overview of the Paths to Technology website. For webinar information visit <http://www.perkinselearning.org/videos/webinar/paths-to-technology>. Also available from Perkins is the *Accessible Science* website that provides teachers with activities and resources for teaching science to students who are blind or have low vision. Check out their website at <http://www.perkinselearning.org/accessible-science>.

Freedom Scientific and Optelec announced that the two companies have merged. These two companies have a long history of providing technology solutions for persons who are blind or have low vision. The combined company will continue to provide customers with the range of technology they are known for, including video magnifiers, scanning and reading solutions, refreshable Braille displays, and screen reading software. Both companies were acquired by Vector Capital, a San Francisco based firm that invests in market leading global technology companies. The combined holding company will retain the individual Freedom Scientific and Optelec brands and product portfolio.

CTIA, the Wireless Association, and the wireless industry, created the *Access Wireless.org* website designed to help people with disabilities, seniors and their families to find a cell phone and service to meet their needs. For more information, visit <http://www.accesswireless.org/Home.aspx>.

Need accessibility support from Apple? Visit <https://support.apple.com/en-us/HT201232> to contact Apple for support and service. Users can call 1-877-204-3930 for direct access to Apple representatives who are trained in providing support using accessibility services.

Google.org has awarded the Perkins School for the Blind a \$750,000 grant, through their *Google Impact Challenge: Disabilities*, to fund the development of a mobile app that helps users independently locate bus stops and other specific locations through micro navigation. Perkins will be designing, developing and testing the app over the next year. The goal of the Perkins app is to pick up where commercial GPS leaves off, giving users detailed navigation clues that bring them within a white cane's length or less of bus stops and eventually other transportation markers like taxi stands and crosswalk signals. Perkins plans to utilize crowdsourcing to gather information on bus stops in and around Boston. The Google Impact Challenge: Disabilities supports nonprofits with creative ideas that utilize technology to expand opportunity and independence for people with disabilities.

Information about the *Teach Access* initiative or "Teaching Accessibility", developed in 2015, can be found at <http://teachaccess.org>. This initiative's goal is to broaden the knowledge and understanding of accessibility in higher education and across key technology discipline like engineering, research and designing to ensure future technologies are inclusive. Some of the biggest names in technology, including Facebook, Dropbox, Adobe, Yahoo and Microsoft, have joined this effort to make their products more accessible for people with disabilities and to address the lack of awareness and understanding of basic accessibility issues, concepts and best practices.

For a more information about the accessibility initiatives at Facebook, check out *Facebook Accessibility for Users with Visual Impairments: What Facebook Wants You to Know* in the April 2015 issue of *AccessWorld*, at <https://www.afb.org/afbpress/pub.asp?DocID=aw160402>.



Publications



Seedlings Braille Books for Children has expanded its *Book Angel Program* for 2016. Every blind or visually impaired child (ages 0-21) in the U.S. and Canada may now get three free books instead of one. The program was originally called “Anna’s Book Angel Project”, in memory of its Director’s 19-year-old daughter who was killed by a drunk driver in 2001. Each year, every blind child registered received one free book in Anna’s name, but thanks to Seedlings’ generous donors, that number is now three. Visit <http://www.seedlings.org/bkangel2009.php> to register your child or student online to receive these books.

iOS in the Classroom: A Guide for Teaching Students with Visual Impairments, iOS 9 Edition, written by Larry L. Lewis, Jr., is an illustrated and easy-to-read guide that explores the extensive accessibility options available in iOS, where to find them, and how to configure them. It was created with the goal of allowing students with visual impairments to use an iPad to complete the same classroom activities as their sighted peers. The book discusses a variety of tasks and features that promote both efficiency and independence. It is available from AFB Press, in paperback (\$29.95), online (\$17.95), e-book (ePub format) (\$20.95), or e-book (Kindle format) for \$20.95. Visit <http://www.afb.org/store/> for more information.

Anyone Can Play: Accessible Games for the iPhone, iPad and iPod Touch, edited by Judy Dixon, is available from the National Braille Press. The book describes 41 accessible games in seven categories that can be played on an Apple iOS device. The book is divided into seven chapters that include: competitive games, word games, card games, adventure games, strategy games, role-playing games, and sports games. Cost: \$12.00. For more information visit the National Braille Press at <http://www.nbp.org/>. It is available in braille, eBraille, DAISY, electronic publication or Word file format.

The Educator Series is a monthly email newsletter from Perkins eLearning that offers information about upcoming professional development opportunities and resources for educators of students with visual impairment and additional disabilities. To sign up to receive the monthly newsletter visit <http://www.perkinselearning.org/user/register>. Visit <http://www.perkinselearning.org/> for more information about Perkins eLearning opportunities.

NFB-Newsline Online is a free service to those who cannot read regular newsprint. It provides access to your favorite content via the Web, downloaded to a digital talking book player or to a portable MP3 player, or to a computer and now is available on the iPhone. Anyone who cannot read printed newspapers due to vision loss, dyslexia, or a physical disability is eligible to receive NFB-Newsline. Eligible users can register by calling the National Federation of the Blind toll-free at 1-866-504-7300 to request and application or visit the National Federation of the Blind’s website at <http://nfbnewslineonline.org/>.

Getting Started with the iPhone and iOS 9: Step-by-Step Instructions for Blind Users is available from the National Braille Press. It is available in ASCII text, Braille, DAISY, eBraille, Electronic Publication and Word formats. Cost: \$24. For more information, visit <http://www.nbp.org/ic/nbp/IPHONE-IOS9.html>.

New Products



Humanware has announced the *BrailleNote Touch*, an 18 or 32 braille cell note taker that combines the benefits of KeySoft and the accessibility of a note taker with the power and efficiency of a modern smartphone or tablet. It is the first certified braille tablet providing Play Store access and supports Google Play store for accessible third party apps. It supports braille translation in contracted or uncontracted braille, including UEB and multiple languages. TouchBraille allows the user to type braille on a touchscreen, while also providing a smart keyboard cover to allow for 6-key access. Cost: \$5,495.00. For more information, visit www.humanware.com; phone: 1-800-722-3393; or email: info@humanware.com.

The *Tactile Caliper* is an easy to use, accurate low-cost measuring ruler for the blind and visually impaired that provides a braille output to 1/16th of an inch. It was developed by Squirrel Devices (past winner of the Louis Braille Touch of Genius Award). The caliper allows its user to measure with accuracy and speed and displays reading directly in braille. It is a simple mechanical instrument that can be used anywhere by people of all ages. Cost: \$18.00. For more information, visit the National Braille Press website at <http://www.nbp.org/ic/nbp/CALIPER.html?id=uK3obnfZ>.



The American Printing House for the Blind (APH) has announced the release of *JAWS and MAGic Software Student Edition* for K-12 students. These special JAWS and MAGic software subscriptions will be sold exclusively by APH and will allow students to install full versions of JAWS and/ or MAGic on any computer they access (up to three machines). This will allow students to have 24 hour, 365 days-a-year access to their computers at both school and home. Visit the APH website at <http://www.aph.org> for more details on these annual subscriptions and how to order them on Quota or contract APH's customer service department at 1-800-223-1839.

Freedom Scientific has released *JAWS version 17 Screen Reading Software*. For more information about the updated version visit <http://www.freedomscientific.com/downloads/JAWS/JAWSWhatsNew>.

MAGic version 13.1 is now available from Freedom Scientific. MAGic is a screen magnification and screen reading solution for low vision computer users. Visit <http://www.freedomscientific.com/Products/LowVision/MAGic> for more information about the updated version and improvements.

Read about *Blindfold Games: iOS Games for the Visually Impaired*, numerous games created and adapted for persons who are blind or have low vision, at <http://blindfoldgames.com>.

Nvaccess has announced the availability of *NVDA 2016.1*, the latest release of its screen reading software. NVDA (NonVisual Desktop Access) is a free screen reader which enables blind and vision impaired people to use computers. It reads the text on the screen in a computerized voice. Users control what is read by moving the cursor to the relevant area of text with a mouse or the arrows on a keyboard. NVDA can also convert the text into braille for use on a braille display. The highlights of the 2016.1 release include: the ability to optionally lower the volume of other sounds; improvement to braille output and braille display support; several significant fixes to Microsoft Office support; and fixes to browse mode in iTunes. To read more about what's new in NVDA 2016.1 visit http://www.nvaccess.org/files/nvda/releases/2016.1/nvda_2016.1_changes.html. NVDA can be downloaded at <http://www.nvaccess.org/download/>.

Ai Squared recently announced the availability of *Window-Eyes version 9.4*. This updated version includes numerous stability and performance enhancements for the web, Microsoft Office, JAVA, upcoming Windows 10 releases, and more. Visit <http://gwmicro.com> for additional information. Ai Squared offers a free version of Window-Eyes for anyone who has a valid license of Microsoft Office 2010 or higher at <http://www.WindowEyesForOffice.com>. Users who do not have Office 2010 or newer installed on their PC, can obtain a free 60-day evaluation of Window-Eyes at <http://www.gwmicro.com/Window-Eyes/Demo/>.

AiSquared has released a new update to *Zoomtext*, version 10.11.3. This updated version now supports MS Office 2016 and improves numerous reported issues within MS Office 2016 as well as better support for multiple monitors, Windows 10 fixes with the Start Menu, and much more. Visit <http://www.zoomtext.com/help/releasenotes/> for additional information.

Dolphin Computer Access has released version 15 of *SuperNova* screen magnifier/screen reader that now allows users to get a close-up view of a presenter's smart board or computer screen. The new feature uses standard virtual network computing (VNC) to connect a SuperNova user to the computer that is controlling a classroom smart board. The user will see their computer screen as usual, along with a window containing the smart board's contents. The new feature will be part of all three SuperNova versions, and is a free update for current users. For more information, visit <http://yourdolphin.com/products?id=1>. (*AFB AccessWorld Magazine*, March 2016, Volume 17, Number 3).

Color-ID is a free app available for download on iTunes. Color Identifier is an augmented reality app that uses the camera on your iPhone or iPod touch to speak the names of colors in real-time. For more information, visit <https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/color-id-free/id402233600?mt=8>.

Visit the AppleVis website to learn more about what is new in Accessible Apps at <http://www.applevis.com/apps>. (*Top Tech Tidbits*, Volume 559)

Send To Braille is a free tool from the American Printing House for the Blind to create a quick and dirty braille file. It adds a shortcut to your Send To folder, so you can point at a file, right click and pick Braille. It creates a braille version of the file with minimal formatting in the same folder with .brl appended to the end of the original file's name. It keeps the original extension to help you see the original file's source, so if you translate test.doc, you end up with test.doc.brl. Send To Braille is a translation only, much like you get from screen reader output. It is not formatted in any way except to try to preserve paragraphs. Headings and list items are generally on their own lines, but exact results depend on the original file. Pandoc, a universal document converter, converts the file into plain text before sending it to the Liblouis translator. Correct braille transcription depends on a human to make several decisions and provide additional value to titles that are not generally accessible in some way. Some documents, however, may have enough information without the additional attention to justify a quick and dirty translation. Instructions are available for Installation, How to Use, How it Works, and Customization Tables. To read more and access the instructions, go to <http://tech.aph.org/lt/>.

F123 Access is software which reformats website pages so that the pages are more accessible to blind people. *F123 Access* is a web-browser "extension" which is installed in your Mozilla Firefox or (soon) Google Chrome browser. *F123 Access* improves the formatting of pages for those with a visual impairment who use screen-reader software. It is compatible with a wide variety of screen-readers, including JAWS, NVDA, Orca, VoiceOver, and Window Eyes. To read more and access the download app, go to <http://f123access.com/what-is-f123-access/>.

OrCam MyEye is an intuitive, portable device with a smart camera mounted on the frames of eyeglasses. The device responds to a simple intuitive gesture – a point of a finger or the press of a single button. *OrCam MyEye* recognizes texts, products and faces, and speaks to the user through a mini earpiece, responding instantly, without the need to learn new software or use other tools. For more information, visit <http://www.orcam.com/>.





New APH Products

The American Printing House for the Blind (APH) has announced the release of *JAWS and MAGic Software Student Edition* for K-12 students. These special JAWS and MAGic software subscriptions will be sold exclusively by APH and will allow students to install full versions of JAWS and/ or MAGic on ANY computer they access (up to three machines). This will allow students to have 24 hour, 365 days-a-year access to their computers at both school and home. Visit the APH website at <http://www.aph.org> for more details on these annual subscriptions and how to order them on Quota or contract APH's customer service department at 1-800-223-1839.

Building on Patterns: Second Grade, Unit 5, It's a Natural Thing and Unit 7, Celebrate Books are now UEB compliant. The student materials and posttest have been updated for the Unified English Braille and the teacher supplements have been created to inform the teacher about UEB changes. Note: You do NOT need to buy new Teacher Editions. Just download the free-of-charge supplements at <http://www.aph.org/manuals/> and use them to mark up your existing Teacher's Editions.

Building on Patterns: Second Grade: Posttest Materials, UEB has been released. Unlike the Unit Check-ups, included in the student's textbooks, the posttest is a separate item that assesses the concepts and skills covered throughout the second grade level program. A set of consumable forms are provided in braille for use by the student and in print and braille for use by the teachers in a separate package. The teacher's manuals, available in both print and braille (sold separately), give complete instructions for administering and scoring the tests and analyzing the results. An answer key is provided in the back for quick checking. Results can be recorded in an accompanying graph showing target scores for each subtest. This sheet makes it easy to see areas where the student excels as well as areas where remediation may be needed. Teacher's Posttest Manual: Print: Cat.# 8-78572-00, Cost: \$15.00; Braille Cat.#: 6-78572-00, Cost: \$32.00. Posttest Consumables Pack (teacher's forms in print and braille, student's forms in braille): Cat.# 8-78575-00, Cost: \$35.00.

Orientation & Mobility for Wheelchair Users with Visual Impairment or Blindness is a web-based publication that helps O&M instructors learn how to train students who are wheelchair users to travel safely and effectively. The website shares techniques and strategies that are proven successful with clients/students in the rehabilitation setting. It includes 12-chapters with Q&A, True Story sidebars, plus 197 demonstration video clips. Catalog #: D-03490-ED. Cost: \$4.99. For more information, call the APH Customer Service Department at 1-800-223-1839.

All Aboard! The Sight word Activity Express can be used for instruction and assessment of a student's recognition of sight ("high frequency") words – the most commonly used words in the English language. The words are categorized accordingly to grade level: pre-primer, primer, first, second, and third. The kit includes print/braille magnetic labels of sight words and common nouns in contracted and uncontracted braille/print magnetic word labels, as well as a magnetic/dry-erase board, activity suggestions, and a sight word assessment checklist. This product is UEB Compliant. Catalog#: 1-03558-00. Cost: \$268.00.

The *Read Write Mini* is a bright red, smaller version of the ReadWrite stand used for both reading and writing by students who are visually impaired. It measures 10 x 11-1/2 inches and can be positioned in four distinct angles – 5 degrees (at rest), 15 degrees, 30 degrees, and 45 degrees. It weighs approximately 1-1/2 lbs. and has a built-in handle for convenient portability. Its solid, sturdy surface accommodates both reading and writing tasks. It features a low-profile clip that secures reading/writing materials (e.g. worksheets) to the stand during use. An LED book light is provided that can be positioned by the user along with upper edge of the stand. Recommended ages: 5 years and up. Cat.#: 1-03207-00. Cost: \$103.00

APH has worked with Orbit Research to produce the *Orbit Reader 2.0*, a 20 cell portable, refreshable braille device. APH anticipates the availability of the new Orbit Reader 2.0 in late 2016. For more information, visit <http://www.aph.org/orbit-reader-20/>.

Check out APH's redesigned *Physical Education, Recreation, and Health* web page at <http://www.aph.org/physical-education/>. A new addition to the web page is the "Common Core through Recreational Physical Activities and Poetry."

The NIMAC has a redesigned website that went live in April. Check out the changes at <http://www.nimac.us>.

APH's *Tactile Graphic Image Library (TGIL)* is now searchable in Louis Plus, located in the Louis database, NIMAC and Bookshare. TGIL contains over 1,200 tactile graphic images templates that can be downloaded free of charge, requiring only that the user first registers an account on the website at <http://www.aph.org/tgil/>.

For more information on the products listed above or other APH Products, contact the American Printing House for the Blind, 1839 Frankfort Avenue, Louisville, KY 40206-0085; Phone: 502-895-2405; Toll-free: 800-223-1839; Fax: 502-899-2274; Email: info@aph.org; Web site: www.aph.org



VISIONS IN INDIANA

Volume 24, Number 3



Compiled/Edited/Typeset by:

Leslie Durst , Director
Indiana Educational Resource Center (IERC)
Indiana School for the Blind and
Visually Impaired